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Putting them in the hands of God: a successful Christian school in Australia



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Description

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Abstract

This research is a single case study based on one successful Australian Christian school, Sandford Christian College. The research objectives were, firstly to quantify the degree of success of Sandford Christian College's education by applying the School Development Review methodology of the Office of Review of the Victorian Department of Education. Secondly, to describe an exemplary Christian school and finally, to describe the impact of Sandford Christian College on the lives of the students. The significance of the research was to understand the central meaning and essence of one school community in the context of these three research objectives. (For complete abstract open document)

Keywords

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They were told that sinning would lead them directly to hell where they would rot. Jonathan Edwards was a very dynamic preacher of his time and his mission was to convert and persuade his audience of sinners. He ensured this through his authoritative sermons with "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" being one of his most famous sermons. In "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," Edwards uses several rhetorical devices that contribute to the effectiveness of his sermon. These choices of words and his use of such vivid images are mostly successful in their intent, to scare and put fear into his audience. Edwards held his audience locked up with his promises of eternal damnation if proper steps were not taken. God expects you, as a Christian parent, to plant and nurture His Word in the hearts and minds of your children. This is best accomplished in settings where home, church and school all send the same message, teaching God's truth with clarity, conviction and consistency. And while the benefits of such a commitment are often realized much later, here's one you'll notice in relatively short order. Simply put, Christian schools are a safer place for your children to receive an education. While. Because Christian school students perform at a higher level in the classroom than their public school counterparts, it only makes sense that their options upon graduation are more abundant. Therefore, they are more likely to be better prepared to handle the rigors of higher education. The Christian footprint in Australian society and culture remains broad, particularly in areas of social welfare and education provision and in the marking of festivals such as Easter and Christmas. Though the Australian Constitution of 1901 protects freedom of religion and separation of church and state, the Church of England held legal privileges in the early colonial period, when Catholicism in particular was suppressed, and sectarianism was a feature of Australian politics well into the 20th century, as was collaboration by Church and State in seeking the conversion of the indigenous popul... One-tenth of all the convicts who came to Australia on the First Fleet were Catholic and at least half of them were born in Ireland.[14] A small proportion of British marines were also Catholic.



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