



Summary of 2008 Independent Evaluation of Together for Humanity programmes

Programs operated by *Together for Humanity* have been educationally successful: this was the conclusion of Queensland educator and researcher **Dr Jenny Nayler** who carried out an independent evaluation of the school programs in 2008.

Dr Nayler evaluated 3 key programs: the Workshop, Service Together and Leadership Programs which were funded by Multicultural Affairs, Queensland, and the Dept of Immigration and Citizenship. She concluded that 'the programs have been successful educationally'. She based this conclusion 'on a range of data from a variety of sources', including feedback from students and teachers. She also examined the programs 'through the lens of the **Productive Pedagogies framework**' (Queensland School Reform Longitudinal Study, 2001), which sets out four teaching dimensions. Dr Nayler's conclusions (below) relate to the Workshops.

- **Connectedness to the world and to student lives:** The program 'challenges narrow views of Australian identity. The clear program themes of appreciation and empathy with people from diverse groups support students to understand the range of identities that are associated with being Australian.' She added: 'The issue of belonging or not belonging...is part of the lived experience of students....'
- **Recognition and valuing of difference:** She wrote, 'The Workshop Program has worked very successfully' in respect of this dimension. She also provided valuable suggestions.
- **Intellectual quality:** She advised, 'A key element of building intellectual quality is for students to construct knowledge for themselves but also to critique their own and others' knowledge. She cited as one example of success, 'The program was successful not only in challenging the student's view of the world and the people in it, but in motivating her to share this reflection with her teacher.'
- **Supportive classroom environment:** Dr Nayler concluded, 'It is clear from observations of the Workshop Program, and listening to focus group discussion that...[this...dimension]...has been achieved by presenters in their 2008 work'.

The table summarises data collected after Dr. Nayler's report. It reflects ***Changing Negative Attitudes Towards The 'Other'***, as expressed in surveys of students drawn from two communities which are generally hostile to each other, and measures attitudes before and 7 months after the interactive school programs.

(Numbers indicate the % of students agreeing with the descriptor in relation to the 'other' group.)

Dates data collected	7 August 2008	11 June 2009	Change
Different from me	78.57	57.14	-21.43
Are caring about others	7.14	42.86	+35.71
Steal other people's lands	64.29	57.14	-7.14
Are humble	7.14	21.43	+14.29
Do not respect women	78.57	35.71	-42.86
Dislike people from other groups	100	57.14	-42.86
Have no morals	78.57	42.86	-35.71
Are friendly	7.14	42.86	+35.71