

The Blumenfeld Education Letter

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." HOSEA 4:6

Vol. 7, No. 11 (Letter # 63)

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November 1991

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide knowledge for parents and educators who want to save the children of America from the destructive forces that endanger them. Our children in the public schools are at grave risk in 4 ways: academically, spiritually, morally, and physically — and only a well-informed public will be able to reduce these risks.

"Without vision, the people perish."

In Search of "Whole Language" in Australia

Australia is like a second America. Its island continent is the size of the United States. It is a fascinating land of discovery, colonization, settlement and immigrants. Its heritage and language is English, like ours, and for the most part we share the same religion and read the same Bible. Although for many years Australia limited its immigration to people from the United Kingdom, it has in recent years adopted a more open-door policy. The result is the kind of ethnic variety similar to that in the United States.

So it is a country that Americans can easily identify with and feel comfortable in. But there are differences. In Australia they drive on the left side of the road as in England. This may seem like a trivial difference until you decide to rent a car. Not too long ago some Americans attending a Rotary convention in Brisbane rented a car and were killed in a head-on crash because they were on the wrong side of the road.

I was invited to Australia by people who had read my books and newsletters and thought that I could help them in their struggle against their own education system which, as I discovered, is every bit as bad as

ours. It took two years for the arrangements to be made. I left Boston on July 30, 1991 and arrived in Sydney on August 1st. You lose a day when you cross the dateline in the middle of the Pacific. The nonstop flight on United from Los Angeles to Sydney was supposed to take 17 hours but we had an unscheduled fuel stop in Fiji which stretched the flight to 19 hours.

At Sydney I went through immigration and passport control. They had misspelled my name on the visa — you need a visa to get into Australia — so I was delayed as they made their checks on their computers. Eventually I got through but by then I had missed my 8:50 a.m. connection to Brisbane. I took the bus to the domestic terminal of Australian Airlines. On getting to the bus I had to go outside where I got a taste of fresh Australian air. This was supposed to be winter, but it was more like a mild spring day.

At Brisbane I was met at the airport by Rona Joyner and her husband Harry, an activist Christian couple in their 70s. Rona, who had planned my tour of Australia, is the founder and director of Stop and Care, a conservative, Christian organization that has been fighting pornography, abortion, sex

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