

Studies of Religion

Section I (continued)

Attempt Question 11

Answer the question in the space provided.

Question 11 (5 marks)

'The churches should act together in all matters except those in which deep differences of conviction compel them to act separately.'

Conference on Faith and Order, 1952

Using the above statement and your own knowledge, describe the impact of Christian ecumenical movements in Australia.

Christian ecumenical movements in Australia have combined many of the denominations together on specific issues so as to come to a common agreement.

The most important and successful ecumenical movement is the creation of the Uniting Church of Australia which combines many values and now holds over 1.3 million adherents.

The above statement enforces what the churches of separate denominations within Christianity have always done. Where an agreement can be reached, it should be made, some differences in the separate denominations, however are too diverse, for example abortion, divorce, homosexuality and contraception.

The importance of the values and beliefs placed on each of these topics varies too greatly to come to an agreement.