



EVALUATING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MATERIALS

As well as the obvious issue of cost, other factors should be considered when decisions are made concerning religious education material. The questions that follow are taken from the Qld Education Department document, “The Co-operative Religious Education Option”, which was prepared by the Religious Education Advisory Committee. These questions provide a good framework for assessing the worth of material on sound grounds.

- 1. Do the materials acknowledge diversity in religious beliefs, interpretations of scriptures and practices?*
- 2. Are the materials written in ways which reflect respect for a range of religious beliefs and practices?*
- 3. Are the materials written in ways which do not make assumptions about any student’s beliefs, attitudes, race, gender, or religious alliance?*
- 4. Are the materials written in ways which acknowledge different approaches to controversial moral, social, political, or religious issues?*
- 5. Are the topics and issues dealt with in the materials relevant to the interests of the students and their current educational and personal needs?*
- 6. Do the materials avoid the use of religious jargon that may have little appeal or meaning to the majority of students?*
- 7. Do the materials embody appropriate and educationally-sound learning activities for students at different ages and stages of development?*
- 8. Do the materials maintain a balance between dealing with current life issues and traditional religious beliefs and practices?*

