

A Century of Influence

The Australian Student Christian Movement, 1896-1996

Renate Howe

classification >

Religious History / Australian History

With Prime Ministers Robert Menzies and Bob Hawke, High Court judges Ronald Wilson, Garfield Barwick and HV Evatt, and educators David Penington and Leonie Kramer all members, the Australian Student Christian Movement has provided a forum for exploring spirituality and social issues in the nation's universities for over a century. Described as a 'university within a university' the ASCM has had a national and international influence and has inspired leading academics, politicians, public servants, business leaders and clergy to put their faith into action.

Renate Howe draws on a rich range of material from libraries, private collections and oral histories. She tells the inspiring story of the progressive ASCM, a movement whose influence has extended well beyond its formal membership.

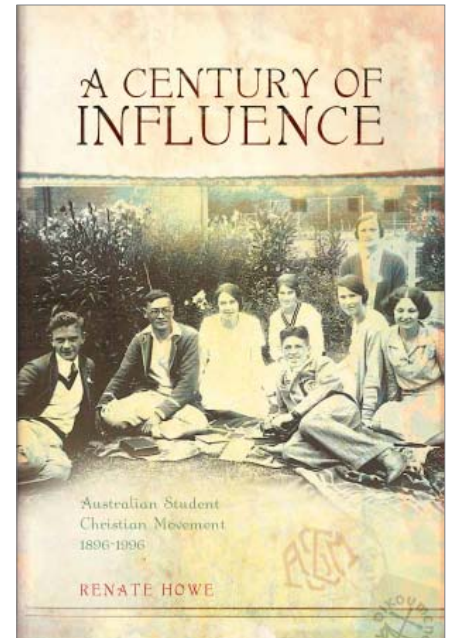
About the Author

Renate Howe is the author of books and articles exploring the intersection of Australia's social and religious history. She has contributed articles on the Australian Student Christian Movement to *The Spirit of Australia: Religion in Citizenship and National Life* (2003) and on 'Australian Student Christian Movement and Women's Activism in the Asia-Pacific Region' to the *Journal of Women's History* (2001). She also authored the entry on 'Student Movements' in the *Oxford Companion to Australian Politics* (2007). She is an Honorary Fellow in the School of Heritage and Society at Deakin University.

Endorsements

"Renate Howe makes a major contribution to Australia's religious, intellectual and social history through her rigorous analysis, perceptive insights and graceful writing. She illuminates the ASCM's ambitious foundations; its theological and political struggles and strengths; the evolution towards gender equality; the movement's remarkable influence; and reasons for its decline. She tells an inspiring story of committed discipleship; and of the search for the common good in universities, schools and churches and for Australian and international society."

– John Langmore, Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne



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9781921410956, July 2009, UNSW Press, 448pp, 234x153mm, PB, AU\$69.95

www.unswpress.com.au/isbn/9781921410956.htm

