

Meeting with Youth Group

On 1st August, we had a dinner buffet with a youth group in Sizzler in Brisbane city. There were sixteen youth who are Christians. They all belong to the same church - Brisbane City Church. They included University students, nurses, musician, salesmen and teachers.

At first, we were all very excited and nervous. However, we soon broke the ice and began to chat louder and louder! The atmosphere was friendly and warm.

We talked about different topics, including their families, career, travel experience leisure activities, economy, the Hong Kong Handover, as well as customs and cultures.

Education

We found that studying in Australia requires more thinking than memorizing. In Australia, every state has its own system of education. In Brisbane, there are two kinds of schools - the private and the public one, which are owned by the Government. There is no minimum requirement for entrance to these universities.

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Leisure Activities

Going outdoors, doing volunteer work, go shopping, watching movies, going to disco and singing karaoke are the typical activities that Australian youngsters would like to do at their leisure time.

Youth Problem

The crime rate of the youth group is not high. It may be the cause of low unemployment rate in Australia. Teens can find their jobs easily so that they spend their time on working instead of committing crimes. But they do have some problems, such as drug abuse.

Our feelings:

"Marvellous, fruitful, meaningful and surprising are the best adjectives, I think, to describe the meeting with the Australian youth group. Through the non-stop exchange of our views and idea within countable hours, it provided a chance for me to think of our own strengths and weaknesses and it has been what I looked for since the trip started." Maggie

"I really learned much from this meaningful night. And we can chat on Internet later because I have their e-mail addresses!!"
Rita

"We have discussed about the shapes and signs of Chinese words. I think this can help introduce some of our Chinese cultures. I am really happy about it!" Yvonne

