

## THE FORUM

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### **Moral Education at the Logos Christian School and Education Society**

The Logos Christian School, which is an alternative program within the Calgary Board of Education, and the Logos Education Society are located at 536 Sonora Avenue S. W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The general goal of the Logos Education Society and Logos Christian School is to "create an educational community in which the Christian influence permeates all aspects of the individual's growth"; that is, both aim to promote Christian moral education in Alberta.

The Logos Society takes an unequivocal Christian position on moral education and advances this position in several ways. Not only does the Logos Society advertise the work of the Logos School, but it also provides financial support for it. The Society sends information about itself and its work to all parts of North America. It visits other centres in Alberta where communities indicate interest, sponsors information nights for interested people, and works on expansion proposals for Logos schools. Also, the Logos Society represents parents interested in Christian moral education at political forums and sponsors community activities for Logos School parents as well as other interested parties.

As for the Logos Christian School, its basic purposes, in agreement with the Calgary Board of Education, include the following. The School, which presently ranges from kindergarten to grade six, aims to establish an interdenominational community concerned with moral and religious education. This community is comprised of conscientious adults, students, parents, and teachers united by ideals of mutual honesty of both the intellectual and emotional kind, Christian principles of living, and academic diligence. In this community concerned with moral and religious education, involvement with Jesus Christ permeates all aspects of the students' education. The Logos School tries to assist students through their relationship with God to reach their full potential in every aspect of personal development and education - namely, the emotional, physical, social, intellectual, spiritual, and moral.

While teaching curricular areas the Minister of Education and Calgary Board of Education require, the Logos School endeavours to teach this curriculum from a Christian perspective of the human race, its moral and social functions, and its relationship with God. Since the School is set up to complement the teachings of home and church rather than replace them, a Christian lifestyle receives emphasis over Christian indoctrination. In special classes, Bible studies are presented as the written record of God's revelation of Himself and His purposes for human beings. The Logos School fosters a community of moral education with Jesus Christ as its head and love as its setting. It aspires to the Biblical notion of a community sensitive to Christian love and justice, and it has an earnest desire to

follow God's will to serve others and, subsequently although paradoxically, one's self. In order to make the Gospel a living reality, the Logos School aims to embody the values and beliefs of its Christian program of moral and religious education. It strives to achieve this through its staff in the daily operation of the school. This involves the practice of Christian attitudes, behaviors, and rituals in such areas as common meals, service, welcoming, disciplining, honoring, authority, and celebration.

In October of 1977, the Logos Education Society hoped to start the Logos Christian School with "not less than one hundred pupils and to expand eventually to two schools ... with double that number of pupils." In September of 1980, its enrollments had risen to 375 pupils. By April of 1981, there were 550 children on the waiting list for the School. The Society hopes to see another Logos School operating by the latter part of 1981. In short, it is working well and growing steadily. The Logos School demonstrates that moral education lives in practice as well as in principle, that moral education is real as well as conceptual, and that the human need for moral education has a valuable supply house in Calgary.

Just as moral education must be explained and clarified in the abstract, it must also be applied and developed in the concrete. The articles in this special issue of *THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION THOUGHT* on "Moral Education" improve the conceptual framework of moral education and suggest additional ways of making moral education work.

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