THE INFLUENCE OF CONFIRMATION WORK ON THE COMMITMENT TO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP IN HUNGARY – SOME CONCLUSIONS OF THE SECOND EUROPEAN CONFIRMATION STUDY

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NUMBER OF 13-14-YEAR-OLD PROTESTANTS AND PROTESTANT CONFIRMANDS

- Estimated number of 14-year-old Reformed Calvinists
- Reformed confirmands (children)
- Estimated number of 14-year-old Lutherans
- Evangelical-Lutheran confirmands (<18)
## Overall Satisfaction in Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>DE</th>
<th>AT</th>
<th>CH</th>
<th>DK</th>
<th>FI</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>PL</th>
<th>HU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole confirmation time</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Had a lot of fun</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>68%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience community in the group</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal contact with leaders</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interesting sermons</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>61%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Regard church membership as important</td>
<td>Share of members of this Church in the country</td>
<td>Parents interested in religion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>66 (Lutheran)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>78 (Lutheran)</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>75 (Lutheran)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>75 (Lutheran)</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>30 (Reformed)</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>Germany EKD</td>
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<td>31 (EKD)</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12 (Reformed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>&lt;1 (Lutheran)</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany EmK</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>&lt;1 (Methodist)</td>
<td>77</td>
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</table>
"I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN A CHRISTIAN YOUTH GROUP AFTER CONFIRMATION."
Hungarian results
PRIOR RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCES OF CONFIRMANDS

N(total) = 866
PERSONAL PURPOSES OF CONFIRMANDS

- Learn more about God: 88%
- Strengthen my faith: 85%
- Come to decision about my faith: 74%
- Make an important step in growing up: 84%
- Experience community: 83%
- Beautiful celebration on the day of my confirmation: 77%
- Get money or presents at the end: 28%

N(total) = 238
EXPERIENCES FROM CONFIRMATION WORK

- I made new friends within the group: 78%
- In our parish I feel welcome and accepted: 72%
- I got to know people who really try to live their faith: 69%
- It makes sense to me to learn Christian texts by heart: 66%
- I was given the chance to try out voluntary work: 34%
- I found it hard to learn texts by heart during confirmation training: 33%
- What I learnt in confirmation training has little to do with my...: 28%
- Taking part in confirmation training was stressful for me: 17%

N(total) = 315
INTEREST OF CONFIRMANDS IN TOPICS OF CONFIRMATION WORK

- Friendship: 91.93%
- God: 85.87%
- Jesus Christ: 84.86%
- The meaning of life: 78%
- The bible: 81%
- Resurrection: 79%
- The Lord's Supper: 75%
- The social mission of the Church: 71%
- Course and meaning of Sunday services: 65%
- Your own parish: 52%
- Death: 45%
- Love and sexuality: 36%
- Other Christian denominations (e.g. Catholics): 27%
- Other religions: 34%
- Drug abuse and criminal behaviour: 12%

N(total) = 238
BELIEF OF CONFIRMANDS

N(total) = 238
SERVICES OF AND BELONGING TO THE CHURCH
IMPLICATIONS

• confirmation work moves away from the school-type to the youth-work-type
• it is time now to focus on the renewal of confirmation work and youth work in general
• need a curriculum for church based activities
Thank you very much for your attention!

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