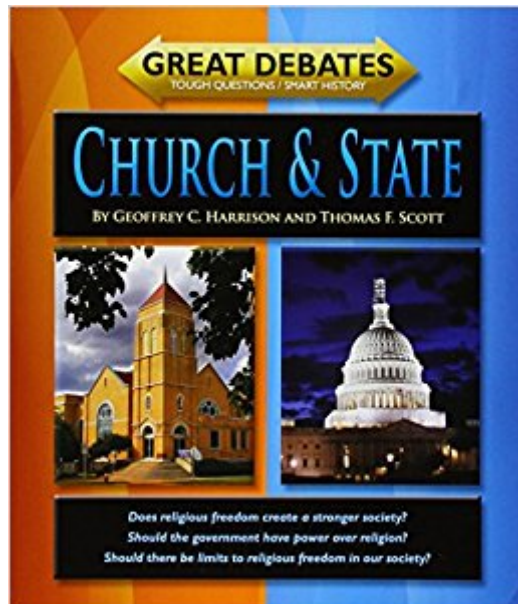




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Church & State (Great Debates)



Synopsis

Among the basic principles upon which America is based is the freedom of each person to worship as he or she pleases. That has made the United States a magnet for religious refugees for more than two centuries. However, it has done little to eliminate conflict and controversy over religious differences. "Church and State" examines the influence of religion on government and government on religion stopping at key moments along the way to examine the great debates in a nation founded on the idea of keeping them apart. Young readers will discover that the arguments taking place today are amazingly similar to the ones that have fanned the flames of passion for generations. "Church and State" engages young readers and provides them with the context and history needed to join the debate on these issues...and ultimately issues the challenge to Find Your Voice. Aligns with Common Core Language Arts Anchor Standards for Reading Informational Text and Speaking and Listening. Text contains critical thinking components in regards to social issues and history.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1080L (What's this?)

Series: Great Debates

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Norwood House Press (January 15, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1603576037

ISBN-13: 978-1603576031

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 0.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #761,177 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #243 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Government #5312 in Books > Children's Books > Religions

Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 5 - 8

Customer Reviews

Gr 5-7-This series asks readers to consider contemporary and historical debates in America, from immigration to the use of firearms to the relationship between church and state. The authors craft both sides of their arguments with care. Chapters are introduced as questions, such as "Is the freedom of others worth fighting for?" The "Affirmative" and "Negative" sides of the debate are

presented in boxes at the bottom of the page. Questions set apart in bold font throughout the texts encourage critical thinking. Unfortunately, the large summary boxes are distracting on pages that already contain graphics, texts, and photos. There should be a hierarchy of emphasis on the dated design elements; instead, every visual competes for attention. There is a dated textbook quality to the boxes with arrows that point up and down. These books are well written and carefully researched, but the clunky design could be a deal-breaker. (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journal. LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

This short (48 pages) book was written for a young audience, perhaps a high school student. It explores the relationship of "church and state" in the American governmental system, in a "debate" style format. The book is broken down into different chapters, each asking a question regarding the role of religion (or non-role) in American government. One example is: should there be limits to religious freedom in our society? Another is: should the government have power over religion? The authors do a good job of setting up the debate, starting with the beginnings of our country, and into what the founding members said or didn't say in developing the constitution. Each question is dealt with fairly and with balance, presenting both sides of the question. The only thing that I did not like in the book was the use of confusing graphics throughout. Perhaps, because this was an ebook, the graphics would be more useful in an actual printed book. This book could be an important tool in our children's educational growth, especially today, with the current furor around immigration and religion. I would hope that parents would allow it to be used in the classroom, because it does provide an informed and thoughtful approach. Sadly, with the country so divided currently, I'm afraid that it would be shouted down by parents with their own agendas to push. I received a copy of this book from NetGalley in exchange for a fair review.

I wonder if this book would be a wonderful book for the junior high setting that gives a history of the separation of church and state. I definitely like the debate style layout. This book is only 48 pages, but is one of the most inspired books on the subject. Thank you Norwood House Press and NetGalley for the digital ARC of this book, which made this honest review possible.

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