



Gender and Leadership Issues in the Australian Church: Leadership Effectiveness – Men versus Women

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Abstract

Do men or women make better church leaders? This is the key question explored in this study. Much of the debate about female church leadership is based on anecdotal views on the relative effectiveness of males and females in church leadership, as well as on differences in the interpretation of scripture regarding gender roles in church leadership. This study draws on one of the most comprehensive surveys of church leaders in the world, the Australian National Church Life Survey of church leaders in 2006. Information in this survey was gathered directly from over 9000 church leaders across 22 denominations. This

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data was interrogated using appropriate statistical analysis leading to surprising conclusions.

