

THE THIN RED LINE

BETWEEN
FUN AND
CATASTROPHE



DR BRUCE ROBINSON



The
Smith Lecture
2016

THE THIN RED LINE BETWEEN FUN AND CATASTROPHE

Teenagers of today face dramatically increased risks compared to their parents' generation - there is now a 'thin red line' between having fun and suffering the consequences of substance abuse, depression, suicide, feelings of worthlessness, one-punch violence, brain-damaging binge drinking, addiction to degrading pornography and other destructive behaviour. Boys lack powerful male role models and girls often feel unattractive, lack confidence and exhibit reduced capacity for genuine intimacy in relationships with lifelong consequences.

Dr. Bruce Robinson, who has written a number of best-selling fathering books and who founded the award-winning Fathering Project at the University of Western Australia, talks about simple but powerful strategies that have been demonstrated to be effective at reducing these problems. These issues are of importance to anyone who cares about children and about the future of our society. The strategies he describes represent 'best practice' today and they will change the future of our sons and daughters. Interestingly, he has since found that most of these ideas were actually written in the Bible thousands of years ago. He wonders why he, and many in society, have missed seeing them for so long and what else we might be missing.

Thursday 20th October

**Doltone House
Darling Island North Wharf
48 Pirrama Road
Pyrmont**

6:00pm drinks for 7:00pm lecture

**RSVP by Friday 14th October at
smithlecture.org**

Contact: peter.kaldor@citybibleforum.org

About The Smith Lecture



The death of Bruce Smith of leukemia in 2001 deprived Australia of one of its most erudite and inspiring theologians, public speakers and teachers. A prominent Anglican spokesman on ethics and religion during the late 1960s and early '70s, Smith was active in the public media, taught classics, philosophy and theology, and had a lifelong interest in poetry, painting and music.

Bruce Smith left a legacy of engagement with society in its political, ethical and cultural dimensions. He believed in the broad significance of the Christian message of reconciliation with God through the person and work of Jesus Christ. The Smith Lecture programme intends to develop further this work of engagement. It provides an opportunity for an eminent Christian public figure to present his or her perspective on a subject relevant to the life of our nation.