

## National Boys' Education Conference K-12

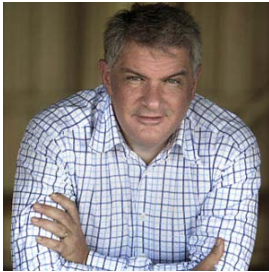
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### Boosting boys' achievements

#### The *Prince Bastardface Syndrome* - The common errors in parenting boys in 2010

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In medicine and psychology, a syndrome is the association of several clinically recognizable features, signs, symptoms, phenomena or characteristics that often occur together. In 2006, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg wrote a best-selling book called the *Princess Bitchface Syndrome*, arguing that some Australian parents had lost the parenting plot and were surrendering their authority and allowing their daughters to be fast-tracked into pseudo-adulthood.

In this presentation, Michael argues that, in some Australian boys' schools, a very similar syndrome is beginning to emerge. He describes the different parenting styles currently being exhibited, and describes, through a series of case studies, the key characteristics of the syndrome and makes some suggestions as to how boys' schools might actively address this problem.

#### BioNote

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is a tireless researcher and psychologist. He has contributed an enormous body of work in the area of adolescent mental health and in parenting adolescents. Michael has been the Consultant Psychologist to the Victorian Secondary School Principals' Association, Australian Boarding Staff Association, Australian Ballet School, St Catherine's School, and Melbourne Girls' College. In 2003, he was one of the founding members of the *National Coalition Against Bullying* and became one of their national spokespersons. He also served on the advisory committee for the Federal Government's Boys' Education Lighthouse School Programme.

Selected publications from Dr Carr-Gregg include: *Real wired child*, *When to worry*, *Princess Bitchface Syndrome*, *Surviving Year 12 : A sanity kit for students and their parents*