Inquiry into Geographical Differences in the Rate in which Victorian Students Participate in Higher Education

Online Submission

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Students in our area are less likely to apply for university due to a lack of encouragement to attend university. Trades and apprenticeships are much more accessible and considered the norm.
Geographic location plays a big role in the reasoning why students don't attend university. The closest university is Monash University - Gippsland Campus, which is approximately an hour away. Otherwise students must take residence in Melbourne to attend university.
To attend university in Melbourne means a student must leave their family and friends, sporting communities, and other forms of extra-curricular and after school activities. In short, they must leave everything familiar behind which many students in our area find difficult.
To address the issues mentioned above, a better understanding of the career opportunities and pathways a university degree can open to students is required. Programs which allow students to see what university is like both at a social and educational level may be useful. Also, providing for adequate support for students who have to move away from home may be a good way of encouraging students to remain at university once they've been accepted.

Thank-you

Jamin Heppell and Michelle Gordon