

With <u>westward expansion</u> and settlement in Utah during mid-19th century under Brigham Young's leadership, practical modifications were made due to economic challenges faced by this frontier community. The new system called United Order was introduced where instead of complete pooling of resources, families maintained personal ownership but cooperated in mutual support and sharing surplus goods. Over time this communitarian model gave way to more mainstream capitalist practices influenced by America's industrializing economy while still upholding strong emphasis on self-reliance, thriftiness and welfare assistance within their community.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: A Business Empire

These enterprises are not just profitable but also serve to promote the values and principles held by Mormons. The revenues generated from these ventures fund various religious activities like missionary work or construction of temples while also providing employment opportunities to their members thus reinforcing self-reliance principle within their community. As a result they have created an economic ecosystem where faith-based values permeate into everyday business practices creating unique blending between spiritual commitment and commercial success.

The Influence of Mormon Economic Ethics on Individual Businesses

The principle of self-reliance preached within the LDS community encourages entrepreneurship and innovation among its followers which results into diverse range of ventures from small family-owned businesses to multinational corporations. Many successful companies like Marriott International Inc., JetBlue Airways Corp., or Huntsman Corporation were founded by people who grew up in Mormon households where they learned about persistence, frugality and giving back to community- values that later shaped their business philosophies and strategies leading them towards their commercial successes.

Mormons and Entrepreneurship: A Statistical Analysis

In Utah, where over half of the state's residents identify as Mormon, there are approximately six startups for every thousand private-sector business employees, which far exceeds the national average. The state's capital city Salt Lake City was even ranked as one of America's top five emerging entrepreneurial hubs by Forbes due to high concentration of technology start-ups and venture capital investments in recent years. Many attribute this economic dynamism within Utah to its large LDS population who uphold strong work ethics rooted in their religious teachings along with emphasis on education and community service.

Case Studies: Successful Mormon-Owned Businesses and Their

Impact on Society

Another example is the Huntsman Corporation, an international chemical manufacturer led by Jon Huntsman Sr., also raised in Mormon faith. He not only built a successful multi-billion dollar corporation but also donated substantial portions of his wealth to cancer research through the Huntsman Cancer Institute, embodying the principle of philanthropy central to Mormon teachings. These companies serve as practical manifestations of how LDS principles can shape businesses leading them towards commercial success while having profound positive impacts on broader society.

Criticisms and Controversies Surrounding Mormon Business Practices

Further controversy surrounds the transparency of church's finances. The LDS Church, like other religious organizations, is exempt from federal income taxes and isn't required to disclose its financial statements publicly. Critics argue this lack of transparency can lead to misuse or misallocation of funds generated by its vast portfolio of businesses. Despite these controversies, however, it's important to note that such criticisms are not unique to Mormons but apply broadly across various faith-based enterprises globally.

Conclusions: The Future of Mormon Influence in the Business World

The growing reputation of Mormons as hard-working, honest and reliable individuals often gives them an edge in commercial relationships. As companies become more socially conscious, these faith-based business practices will be more appealing not only because they make good business sense but also due to increasing demand by consumers who prefer companies that align with their values. Hence it is safe to predict that impact of Mormonism on economy and businesses globally will persist if not strengthen in coming years.