

PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

Grace Godfrey

Omega Graduate School

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Professor

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Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Asynchronous Cores 2 and 4: Create a 350-word original discussion paper.

(With cited sources) during the first week of the term. Post this discussion in DIAL.

Discussion Forum. Then, provide two peer responses of 100 words each (total of 200 words) in the Discussion Forum.

b. Professor will check for the quality of content and word count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

Course Essential Element

Christianity's Influence on Society

Introduction

Mookgo Solomon Kgatle in his paper on Nigerian Pentecostal churches said that in most parts of Africa there is the assumption that if Christianity dominates a community and overrules the traditional laws, ethics, and norms with her model principles of life, it is believed that such community will be transparent in politics, policy formulation, and implementation of public programs and projects. In other words, in a community where there is a considerable influence of Christianity, there should be less of social vices because Christian teachings and doctrines are aimed at transforming individual lives, re-branding the society, such that there will be political stability, economic prosperity, social and moral sanity, a reduced rate. It is pertinent to understand the role that religion plays in social change and the activities of certain revolutionary movements. Churches and all faith institutions in a religious society like Africa, in particular, are expected to play a very important role in motivating and influencing the social-political and economic life of the people within their community. As has been stated at the beginning of this article, religion goes further and beyond its role in strengthening the social fabric. Religion exerts a cultural influence so deep that it has in effect become a defining factor of the world's major civilizations. Despite the shortcomings of some of the Pentecostal churches, especially in their emphasis on the health and wealth gospel, their contribution to nation-building cannot be overlooked as their contribution is significantly remarkable, bridging the gap where the government of the day is lacking behind, especially in the area of qualitative education. In this way, religion, Pentecostalism, in particular, does influence society.



The church plays an important role in the life of the people who attend and the society around it. Its foundations develop morals that guide and guard individual followers and society. Therefore, the church must touch on all aspects of life for it to remain whole without blemish. A paper on the influence of the church in the community studies in the Kenyan church stated that the purpose of this study was to examine the influence of stakeholders' role on church growth in Kenya: a case of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa in Milimani South, Nairobi County. This paper has not been cited as it is very current, but I felt the need as it is Kenya my mother country that's being addressed. The paper by Nganga also addressed three theories of which I will look to research in my next project which is the study adopted as three theories: Wagner's Church Growth Theory, Family Systems Theory, and Natural Church Development (NCD) Theory.

In her paper, *Jo Renee Formicola, Ph.D.* on the Catholic church. Finally, church organization and the way it has influenced the universe by reaching out to the less fortunate is an amazing adventure. If all church organizations would join in changing the world, the world would be a great place for all. The Catholic Church and its relations with civil states by examining events, treaties, laws, religious documents, political movements, and other sources as needed. This variety of approaches will serve to provide a broad palette of articles to identify, synthesize, and analyze Church–State policies and trends that reflect these shifts. It will also enable discussions of their power consequences, and the ability of the Church to serve as a moral advocate and viable partner in social, economic, and political issues around the globe.

Work Cited

1. Adamsky, D. (2019). Russian nuclear orthodoxy: ~~religion~~, politics, and strategy. Stanford University Press.
2. Akanbi, S. O., & Beyers, J. (2019). The church as a catalyst for transformation in society. HTS Theological Studies, 73(4), 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.4102/hts.v73i4.4635>
3. G W S Barrow. (2003). The kingdom of the Scots: government, church and society from the eleventh to the fourteenth century. Edinburgh University Press.
4. Kgatle, M. S. (2020). The Relationship between the Economic Strand of Contemporary Pentecostalism and Neo-Liberalism in Post-1994 South Africa. Religions, 11(4), 156. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel11040156>
5. Ng'ang'a, R. W. K. (2023, March 1). The influence of stakeholders on church growth in Kenya: A case of Presbyterian Church of East Africa in Milimani South Presbytery, Nairobi. Repository.anu.ac.ke. <http://repository.anu.ac.ke/handle/123456789/932>
6. Owen, J. (1652). [The Advantage of the Kingdome of Christ in the Shaking of the Kingdoms of the World In a sermon [on Ezek. xvii. 24] preached to the Parliament, Oct. 24, 1651, a solemne day of thanksgiving for the destruction of the Scots Army at Worcester, with sundry other mercies.]. Leith.
7. Papkova, I. (2019). The Orthodox Church and Russian politics. Woodrow Wilson Center Press; New York. Rider, P. E., & McNabb, H. (2006). A kingdom of the mind: how the Scots helped make Canada. McGill-Queen's University Press.