PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

Omega Graduate School

February 23, 2025

Professor

Dr. Ward

Assignment

**Create Developmental Readings from seminal sources and scholarly peer-reviewed**

**journal articles. Review instructions for Assignment #3, the course essential elements,**

**and course readings to identify selections of books and journals to create entries.**

**Regina , great job on your developmental reading log for PHI 815-22! You chose relevant sources that aligned with the most important parts and included complementary and different readings. Your selected readings are from appropriate and current scholarly sources. You effectively integrated concepts across courses to support your academic and professional goals in your profession in education. Your source and reading selections aligned with the course's essential elements of Christian influence on Society, as well as on Religion and Society Integration Models, and reflect your professional interests as an educator. Your reflections show thoughtful engagement with the course content for PHI 815-22. It looks like you chose relevant sources, but consider balancing complementary (additive) and contrasting (variant) readings. Your contextualizations were good, but try to include some specific applications of ideas from your selected readings to your personal, church, professional, or community involvement. Your APA is generally good, but keep refining APA format for your Works Cited, especially in putting Journal Titles and Volume #s in italics. See my suggestions on the Ilesanmi (2023) and Tisby (2020) entries. Please reach out with any questions. -- Dr. David Ward**

**Grade: A**

**Source:** Schmidt, A. J. (2004). *How Christianity changed the world*. Zondervan.

 **Comment 1:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** With the increasing secularization of society and the current emphasis on multiculturalism-especially in matters religious-massive impact that Christianity has had on civilization is often overlooked, obscured, or even denied.

**Essential Element:** This comment is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This comment is an additive to my belief that Christianity underpins many concepts today.

**Contextualization:**  This quote states that although we live in a highly secular society, Christianity still has a strong foundation in our world, even though it is not attributed to Christian perspectives. Our culture oftentimes uses many ideologies from Christianity but fails to credit them to Christianity itself.

**Comment Two:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Through them, “Christianity became for the first time a defining factor in the culture of the world.”

**Essential Element:** This comment is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This comment is an additive to my understanding of how the strong influence of Christianity has impacted the world.

**Contextualization:** This quote lends to understanding how Christianity transitioned from being a regional or localized influence to impacting other influential areas, including art and philosophy. This allowed me to understand how Christianity began to infiltrate society.

**Comment Three:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Hence, co-education appears to be another product of Jesus Christ’s wholesome influence.

**Essential Element:** This quote is associated with Religion and Society Integration Model

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This quote was an additive to my knowledge and thoughts about education.

**Contextualization:** This quote illustrates how the original idea of public education and the coeducation of both genders weren’t common until Christ started teaching openly to everyone. This is a notion I never contemplated, even though I have spent years reading the Bible about the Sermon on the Mount.

**Comment Four:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The situation changed, however, with the rise of Constatine. Almost overnight Christians went from being mistrusted to being favored.

**Essential Element:** This quote is associated with Christianity’s Influence on Society

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This quote is an additive to my understanding of the history of Christianity.

**Contextualization:** This quote helps us understand that, for a time, Christians and their morals were seen as alien to society. However, once a leader emerged who embraced Christianity and began to emphasize its values, Christians gained acceptance and trust among the people. This was an eye-opening concept forme, as I had never considered how Christians might be perceived as mistrusted.

**Source Two:** Ilesanmi, D. A. (2023). Christianity and globalisation: An impact review. Mature Journal of International Institute of Theologians, Scholars, and Professionals, 1(1), 1–17.

**Comment** **Five:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Globalization is a biblical concept, a theological phenomenon, and a divine idea from the beginning of the world.

**Essential Element:** This quote is associated with Religion and Society Integration Models

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This is an additive to my understanding of the impact of the bible globally.

**Contextualization:** This quote clearly tells us that the original author of globalization was Christ, who, through the Great Commission, instructed his disciples to preach the gospel to everyone, whether they were Jews, Greeks, or foreigners.

**Comment Six**: PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** They asserted that the effect of globalization on religion (Christianity) arises from pluralism, which is an ideological point that emerged from the transformation of the societies of the world.

**Essential Element:** This quote is associated with Religion and Society Integration Models

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This is an additive to my understanding of the integration of Christianity

**Contextualization:** This quote explains how globalization has influenced Christianity by incorporating pluralism, which allows diverse beliefs and cultures to coexist collectively. This leads to a transformation in our societal norms and values.

**Source Three:** Presley, S. (2021). Living by a higher authority. Christian History Magazine, (141).

**Comment 7:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Following the examples of Joseph and Daniel and the exhortations of Peter and Paul, Christian pastors and theologians regularly taught the faithful to be loyal and respectful to the state (even when ruled by evil emperors), pay all taxes, and live peacefully among all people.

**Essential Element:** This comment is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society

**Additive/Variant Analysis**: This is an additive to my understanding of the impact of Christian morals.

**Contextualization**: This quote embodies how Christianity teaches strong moral principles. Those who follow the teachings of the Bible become good citizens and live in an honorable manner that adds value to the society in which they coexist. This reminds me that our testimony as believers must align with the Word of God; therefore, it will serve as our witness to the world.

**Source Four:** Robert, D. L. (2009). How Christianity became a world religion. Wiley-Blackwell.

**Comment 8:**PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:**The geographic range, cultural diversity, and organizational variety of Christianity surpass those of the other great world religions.

**Essential Element:** This comment is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This is a variant of my understanding of the spread of Christianity, as it states that it surpasses other religions.

**Contextualization:** This quote illustrates Christianity's influence and its widespread impact compared to other religious sects. I think we often concentrate on the denominations of Christianity rather than on its core belief in Christ. Because of this central belief, Christianity is more widespread than other religions.

**Source 5:**Tisby, J. (2020). Christians and public education: A matter of biblical justice. *Christian Research Institute.* <https://www.equip.org/articles/christians-and-public-education-a-matter-of-biblical-justice/>

**Comment** **9:** PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:**Scripture compels believers to intervene on behalf of society’s most vulnerable, and this certainly includes children

**Essential Element:** This comment is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This is an additive to my understanding of faith and its integration into society.

**Contextualization**: This quote once again allows us to observe how Christianity has positively impacted society. As followers of the Christian faith, we are expected to protect and nurture others, particularly children, who remain our most vulnerable creation. As an educator, this resides with me deeply, as I remain in the public educational system with this focus.

**Source 6:**Popa, C.-M. (2024). Christianity - An integral part of European culture and identity. RAIS Journal for Social Sciences, 8(1). https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11242739

**Comment 10:**PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:**Christianity was never intended to be a state religion, encompassing only one nation and one language, but in His plan, God had in mind people of every nation and language, thus reaching all spheres of humanity.

**Essential Element:** This quote is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**This quote is an additive to my understanding of the intention of Christianity.

**Contextualization:**  This quote reminds us that God never intended to politicize or establish a religion for just one group, but for everyone. It transcends culture and societal norms to reach all of humanity.

**Comment 11:**PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The challenge of the present time is built around concepts that, although they bear Christian undertones, are global influences.

**Essential Element:** This is associated with the essential element of Christianity’s Influence on Society.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This is an additive to my understanding of the impact of Christian influence.

**Contextualization:** This quote explains how, although Christianity served as the foundation for many of our cultural structures, it has lost its fidelity; therefore, conflicts have arisen from within. Our money still states, "In God We Trust," and we continue to use the Holy Bible when a president is sworn in. However, those who recite our pledge or lead our country may not agree with the very principles outlined in our Bible.

**Source 7:** Cochran, R. F., Jr. (2020). "Christian traditions, culture, and law": An update and a few reflections. *Pepperdine Law Review*, 47(2), 563–600. <https://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/plr/vol47/iss2/19/>

**Comment 12:**PHI-815 History of the Integration of Religion & Society

**Quote/Paraphrase:**There has also been a new interest in how Christians should approach law in other parts of the world, as the spread of Christianity in the Global South is giving some Christians influence they have never had before, and persecution of Christians in other countries is driving Christians away from the prevailing culture.

**Essential Element:** This is connected to the essential element of Christian Influence on Society.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** This is a variant to my understanding of Christian influence on Society, as I am seeking to further understand the connection between law and Christianity.

**Contextualization:** This quote discusses how Christianity will either influence the legal system or come into direct conflict with it. Our society has not consistently prevailed legally in accordance with Christian values, and this situation persists. Christians have been embraced, or at times highly persecuted.

**Works Cited**

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