

Carla Dedier-Woney

Dr. Maret

PSY 253 OA

November 15, 2021

Unit 6 Essays - Antagonistic Models & Confession

4. Holders of the Enemies model believe that psychology and theology are incongruent with each other. It is the case of human reasoning vs religious authority or “secular combatants” vs “christian combatants,” and never the two shall meet (Entwistle, 2011). Secular combatants regard theology as mystical “mumbo jumbo” and Christian combatants see psychology as faulty human logic.

Those who adhere to the Spies model are only interested in the benefits of either theology or psychology. If someone is committed to the study of theology, they will garner enough information from psychology to support their perspective and the one who studies psychology will seek out the good in a particular religion and disregard its doctrine.

Holders of the Colonialists model take for their own use aspects of psychology for the purpose of supporting their religious standards. They are not interested in the integration of both theology and psychology. They pursue information from psychology and try to make it suitable for theological exercise.

Those who support the Rebuilders model intend on revamping the empirical study of the human mind from the perspective of Christianity, as it pertains to our creation, our fallen humanity, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and our ultimate divine purpose. They seek to have psychologists see things from their vantage point.

The Neutral Parties model is upheld by those who are not interested in obliterating, taking away basics or forcing the other discipline to conform to its standard. Theology respects psychology as a separate entity and vice versa. Each study carries its own distinction, so that there is no cross-contamination of ideas or values.

The Allies model is endorsed by persons who believe that theology and psychology are legitimate practices and desire integration because they are God's truth about humanity and our behavior. He made both disciplines for His divine purpose.

5. Rebuilders are different from Colonialists in that they desire to reconstruct psychology in such a way that it works hand in hand with Christianity (i.e Christian psychology), our creation, fallenness and redemption through Jesus Christ. They do not intend on taking the fundamentals of psychology to make it their own, as is the case of the Colonialists.

6. The Spy is different from the Colonialist in that he/she does not commit to a particular doctrine, but will search for the psychological perks of the religion to use for mental health reasons. The Colonialist will be loyal to their faith, but force aspects of psychology to bend to their doctrinal system. The Spy is similar to the Colonialist in that they both think that psychology plays a part in religion.

16. If more people who are mentally ill commit suicide, or harm themselves, while in the care of their pastors or other clergymen, the government may try to step in, assess their ability to counsel and pass laws that can override our amendment right to freedom of religion in order to save lives. Those in charge of our country may try to find loopholes in the law that separate church from state to police doctrine, the Bible and how every congregant is counseled by clergy. Places of worship may be shut down and members forced to see counselors who are certified by the government.

No, I do not think that there should be a legal standard to evaluate the competence of pastoral counseling. “Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Mark 12: 17). Just as psychologists, psychiatrists and psychotherapists are supervised by and seek the advice of those more experienced to fine-tune their craft without the mandate of laws, pastors and others in clergy should have that same privilege. Scripture hints at such a concept in Proverbs 11: 14 when it says, “Where *there is* no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors *there is* safety.” Some may argue that mental health professionals have laws that they must uphold, but so do Christians - God’s law.

**17.** In my education, I have not encountered any versions of the Enemies model. But in my personal life, I have. I am against medication for any physical or emotional ills. Healing is God’s territory and with Him, there are no negative side effects. Doctors diagnose conditions on the basis of empirical studies or what seems common in the world of symptoms and illnesses. But, what about the exception? There is no flaw in God’s touch and no harm in eating foods from God’s green Earth for proper nourishment.

**19.** Psychology presents the idea that scientific studies have many answers based upon what is common for mental disorders, but what they fail to realize is that mankind is not just a dichotomy, but trichotomy - a spirit, soul and body. Some mental illnesses are not cured by mere psychotherapy alone, but there are times when spiritual warfare is needed. Demonic possession is real. Not every mental illness is a chemical imbalance or scientifically explainable.

While the Bible is the absolute truth, man’s exegesis of God’s truth can be wrong. Cult leaders like Jim Jones had knowledge of the Bible, but it was dreadfully warped! The Bible is open to any man’s interpretation. So, who is right? And who should I allow to counsel me as a Christian?

Reference

Entwistle, D. (2015). *Integrative Approaches to Psychology and Christianity* (Third Edition).

Cascade Books.