



Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice (Fifth Edition)

By T. Laine Scales, Michael S. Kelly

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The fifth edition of *Christianity and Social Work* is written for social workers whose motivations to enter the profession are informed by their Christian faith, and who desire to develop faithfully Christian approaches to helping.

Christianity and Social Work is organized around four themes: a) 1. Christian Roots of the Social Work Profession; b) 2. Christians Called to Social Work: Scriptural Basis, Worldviews and Ethics; c) 3. Human Behavior and Spiritual Development in a Diverse World; d) 4. Christians in Social Work Practice: Contemporary Issues. Chapters address a breadth of curriculum areas such as social welfare history, human behavior and the social environment, social policy, and practice at micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

Containing 19 chapters and more than 400 pages, this revised edition of CSW (ISBN 978-0-9897581-1-6) include six new chapters and six extensively-revised chapters in response to requests by readers of previous editions, including chapters on working with clients from the LGBT community, evidence-based practice (EBP), congregational social work, military social work, human trafficking, and spiritual assessment.

NACSW provides college faculty and trainers upon request (info@nacsw.org) an accompanying electronic resource entitled *Instructor Resources for Christianity and Social Work* (2016) by Mary Anne Poe at no cost. This resource offers outlines, suggestions regarding specific core competencies found in the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards of the Council on Social Work Education, summaries of key concepts and terms, learning objectives, discussion questions, suggested class activities and assignments, teaching notes for the three decisions cases in CSW, and annotated bibliographies for each chapter.

In organizing this 5th edition, NACSW has carefully considered the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) from the Council on Social Work Education. It is important for schools of social work to show how they prepare

students to demonstrate specific competencies in social work practice. To help with this integration CSW includes Appendices with charts that guide readers toward potential connections. These tools will be a helpful guide for both instructors and students.

Linda Plitt Donaldson, MSW, PhD, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought, and Associate Professor at the Catholic University of America, writes: The editors have put together a marvelous compendium of articles about the integration of Christian faith and social work. The book deepens (and often corrects) our understanding of the Christian contribution to the history of social welfare, and it explores the role of values, ethics, calling, and the Christian worldview in shaping social work practice. The collection also provides a range of tools in the area of assessment, case vignettes, and case studies to support both Christian social work practice and education. Many sections of these chapters read like a prayer, and therefore feed our mind and soul in our efforts to more sensitively and competently integrate Christian faith and social work practice.

Mary P. Van Hook, PhD., Professor Emeritus at the University of Central Florida School of Social Work, writes: The Fifth Edition of Christianity and Social Work is a treasury of valuable readings for social work students and social worker practitioners. It addresses important social work concerns through a combination of theoretical knowledge, practice wisdom, and research findings. As a social work practitioner and educator, I appreciated the theme throughout the book that the issues and decisions facing social workers are complex and require self-reflection as well as understanding of others.

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Editorial Review

Review

This edition of Christianity and Social Work is a must-read for experienced social work practitioners, new professionals, students, and social work educators regardless of religious affiliation. In it, professional practice within the context of multiple Christian Faith Traditions is represented. Contemporary and historical aspects of direct practice, ethical/virtue considerations, as well as related spiritual, scriptural, and cultural dimensions are addressed. And, as a value-added, the editors have included careful attention to the professional practice competencies monitored through the social work education accreditation process. -- Sister Ann Patrick Conrad, PhD, LICSW, Fellow, Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies and Consultant, Doctor of Ministry Program, The Catholic University of America

After adopting previous editions of this useful resource for our MSW program, I welcome this 5th edition of Christianity and Social Work and the revised and added content that it incorporates. The faculty recently voted to adopt a 10th competency dealing with the ethical integration of faith and social work practice after several discussions that were stimulated by the chapters in this highly useful resource. I anticipate that the new treatment of EBP and the inclusion of the three decision cases will quickly find a place in our curriculum. I highly recommend this text for students and practitioners alike. --Peter H. Lauber, MSW, PhD, Director of the MSW Program at Spring Arbor University

As a social work educator at a Christian university, I have the privilege to work with many students who have discerned a vocational call to serve those in our world who are most in need of assistance through a career in social work. I am grateful for NACSW's commitment to supporting such students by providing many avenues for them to explore the ethical integration of Christian faith and social work practice. I am especially excited by the upcoming release of the 5th edition of Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice. The previous editions of this book have made an invaluable contribution to the education of many Christians in social work and I am certain that the updated and expanded 5th edition will continue this longstanding tradition. --Kenneth M. Stoltzfus, PhD, LCSW, Social Work Department Chair at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama

About the Author

Co-editor T. Laine Scales, Ph.D., is Professor of Higher Education and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies at Baylor University. She has published 9 books and over 40 articles and chapters in the areas of teaching in social work, faith and social work practice, rural social work, and higher education.

Co-editor Michael S. Kelly, Ph.D., is Associate Professor at the Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work. He has published over 50 articles, book chapters, & books on school social work, evidence-based practice, and the intersection of Christianity and social work practice. He was a section editor for The Journal of Family and Community Ministries and now serves as Assistant Editor of Social Work and Christianity.

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James Ponce:

Reading can be called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice (Fifth Edition) your thoughts will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a book then become one contact form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get before. The Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice (Fifth Edition) giving you yet another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful details for your better life in this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

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