

CALL FOR PAPERS: Religious and Spiritually-Oriented Interventions with Veteran and Military Populations

Special Issue of *Social Work & Christianity*

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Paquette (2008) described the relentless and unyielding atrocities of war that soldiers of today and yesterday are continuously enslaved to when she said, "The soldiers also bear witness to their dehumanizing behavior of not only killing the enemy but also innocent civilians...The inability to forget what they experienced and what they did in the name of war is the private hell many veterans live with for the rest of their lives" (p.143). Some refer to the battle-wounds that soldiers return with as wounds to the soul as well as wounds to the body. A plethora of studies have been performed over the past decade and have confirmed the effectiveness and significance of spirituality and religion in the healing process of soldiers and veterans who may be seeking to cope with wounds to their body and soul. This special issue invites practitioners, researchers, and educators to submit papers with an emphasis on demonstrating the effectiveness of integrating religious and spiritually-focused interventions with military populations. This special issue of *Social Work & Christianity* seeks to build upon the current knowledge and interest related to acknowledging the role of religion and spirituality in social work practice with soldiers and veterans. This issue is especially focused on the demonstration of spiritually-focused evidence based practices that have shown to be effective in alleviating the negative effects of the trauma that soldiers and veterans have experienced. In addition, this issue will focus on research that supports the integration of religion and spirituality in the treatment of veterans and military populations.

The intended audience for this special issue will be social work practitioners, researchers, and educators although it is understood that the depth and breadth of the papers selected will be designed to benefit any social work professional or behavioral health provider that may be interested in integrating spirituality and religion in their work with a veteran population. Interested authors may submit empirical studies, program evaluations, program descriptions that demonstrate the integration of religion and spirituality into evidence based treatment, and similar manuscripts for publication consideration.

About the Journal

Social Work and Christianity (SWC) is a refereed journal published by the North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW) in order to contribute to the growth of social workers in the integration of Christian faith and professional practice.

For this special issue, the editors welcome articles, book reviews, and letters that deal with issues related to the integration religion and spirituality into social work practice with veterans and military populations.

Instructions for Authors

Please submit abstracts and full manuscripts in Microsoft Word by **June 30, 2015** to dexter.r.freeman.civ@mail.mil. Manuscripts should be written according to the guidelines of the publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition). The editors will review manuscript abstracts for suitability for inclusion in the special issue. Pending the outcome of the review, the editors will inform the author(s) of the status of their manuscript submission and all approved manuscripts will receive a full review according to the manuscript submission guidelines of SWC which can be found at: <http://www.nacsw.org/SWCSubmission.htm>.

Inquiries may be sent to Dexter Freeman (dexter.r.freeman.civ@mail.mil), Lanny Endicott (lendicott@oru.edu), or Laurel Shaler (doctorlaurelshaler@gmail.com).

Reference

Paquette, M. (2008). The aftermath of war: Spiritual distress. *Perspectives in Psychiatric Care*, 44(3), 143-145.