

HOW DOES CULTURE AND RACE EFFECT PASTORAL LEADERSHIP IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH VICTORIA MCINTOSH

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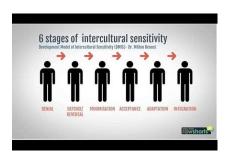


BACKGROUND

Pastoral leadership can be defined as leaders in the church that come together to proclaim the gospel to the church and community. The purpose of a pastoral leadership team is to use their spiritual abilities and influence to teach the laity how to have deep interactions with God through prayers and meditations, help them find solutions for their inner problems in the Bible, guide them to the right way, lead them to mature their faith. I think that it is safe to say that the leadership team sets the tone for the church. More than eight in ten congregations are made up of one predominant racial group; Two-thirds of American churchgoers (sixty-seven percent) say their church is doing enough to become racially diverse; More than half (fifty-three percent) disagree with the statement, "My church needs to become more ethnically diverse." . I believe that we have come a long way in diversifying churches and being more inclusive of different races and cultures, but I still feel as though more work can be done.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Promoting intercultural sensitivity within the congregation.
- Integrating the "Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity" into pastoral training programs.



EFFECTS OF CULTURE AND RACE

- It can affect the congregations view of leadership
- It can affect the sermons that the pastor makes.
- It can affect the dynamic of the pastor towards the congregation and vice versa.
- It can affect the ways that praise, and worship is conducted.

SIGNIFICANCE

This topic should be addressed because If not addressed, pastors and their staff will not be able to properly handle situations within their congregation. They will fail to have sympathy and acknowledge other cultures, races, etc. and become blind to the issues of the world which in turn will make minority groups feeling left out and underappreciated as well create a less cohesive church.

CONNECTION TO ULEAD

The ULEAD program that I am in is Lead Out Loud which focuses on looking at leadership topics through a multicultural lens. I think that my topic ties in perfectly with that because I am looking into the effects that different cultures and races might have on a pastoral leadership teams and if it affects the way that they operate their church or treat their members

CONCLUSION

My conclusion is that it depends on what the focus of the church is that determines whether culture plays a part in their pastoral leadership team. If the main goal from the beginning was to become a multicultural church then of course culture is going to have an impact on how they operate, but if the church's mission is not to be multicultural then they are not going to let it greatly impact their daily operations or their pastoral leadership team.

REFERENCES

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