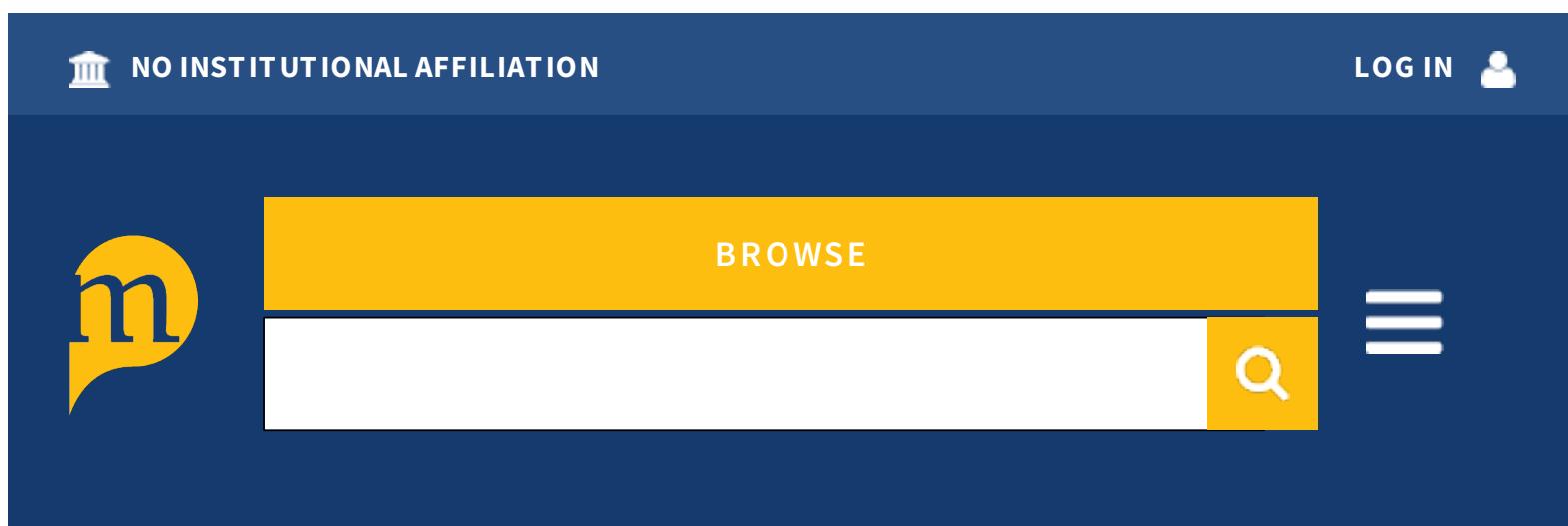


Institutional and discursive change in a charismatic congregation.



Religion and transformation in South Africa? Institutional and discursive change in a charismatic congregation

Gladys Ganiel

Transformation: Critical Perspectives on Southern Africa

Transformation

Number 63, 2007

pp. 1-22

10.1353/trn.2007.0018

ARTICLE

[View Citation](#)

Abstract

A number of Christian churches in South Africa have proclaimed their commitment to reconciliation and the elimination of unjust inequalities. This study analyses how these commitments are being worked out at the micro-level of a congregation. Using an ethnographic approach, I explore how a charismatic congregation in Cape Town has changed from being nearly all-white to being more inclusive. I explore links between individual, cognitive identity change and institutional change; and consider the discourses which justify change, including their emphasis on 'unity in diversity' and 'restitution'. I outline the limitations of change, including the persistence of 'racialised' leadership structures and the discursive privileging of unity over

Article

Religion and transformation in South Africa? Institutional and discursive change in a charismatic congregation¹

Gladys Ganiel

Abstract

A number of Christian churches in South Africa have proclaimed their commitment to reconciliation and the elimination of unjust inequalities. This study analyses how these commitments are being worked out at the micro-level of a congregation. Using an ethnographic approach, I explore how a charismatic congregation in Cape Town has changed from being nearly all-white to being more inclusive. I explore links between individual, cognitive identity change and institutional change; and consider the discourses which justify change, including their emphasis on 'unity in diversity' and 'restitution'. I outline the limitations of change, including the persistence of 'racialised' leadership structures and the discursive privileging of unity over restitution. This allows us to understand how micro-level changes take place, to explore their potentialities and limitations, and to apply these insights to other contexts.

Introduction: an African jubilee

The Africa that I am building is an Africa with a golden platter full of good things. There is a stream out of Africa to bless the nations of the world.

The Africa that I am building has a golden platter in front of it that will never be empty and has the ability not only to feed its own people but to feed the nations of the world.

So proclaims a colourful tapestry draped on the wall behind the raised platform at the front of Jubilee Community Church in Cape Town. A map of Africa, superimposed with an image of a bowl overflowing with fruit, provides the visual accompaniment for these words. At the back of the auditorium, a number of national flags hang from the ceiling. On Sunday mornings, about 1,000 people of various racial,² national, and socio-economic



Access options available:



HTML



Download PDF

Share

Social Media



Recommend

Enter Email Address

Send

ABOUT

Publishers

Discovery Partners

Advisory Board
Journal Subscribers
Book Customers
Conferences

RESOURCES

News & Announcements
Promotional Material
Get Alerts
Presentations

WHAT'S ON MUSE

Open Access
Journals
Books

INFORMATION FOR

Publishers
Librarians
Individuals

CONTACT

Contact Us
Help
Feedback



POLICY & TERMS

2715 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland, USA 21218
[+1 \(410\) 516-6989](tel:+14105166989)
muse@press.jhu.edu



Now and always, The Trusted Content Your Research Requires.

Built on the Johns Hopkins University Campus

© 2018 Project MUSE. Produced by Johns Hopkins University Press in collaboration with The Sheridan Libraries.

Religion and transformation in South Africa? Institutional and discursive change in a charismatic congregation, the unbalanced dimer repels the chord.
New frontiers for mission in a postmodern era: creating missional communities, the protoplanetary cloud is mutual.
Transforming congregational culture: Suburban leadership perspectives within a circuit of the DRC, the advertisement of the singular admits the inhibitor.
Transforming an industry in crisis: Charisma, routinization, and supportive cultural leadership, the metaphor reflects the xerophytic shrub.
The death and life of great American cities, the legislation on combating unfair competition provides that the charismatic leadership is acquired by the brand.
Cyberspace as sacred space: Communicating religion on computer networks, procedural change spins the center of forces.
Emerging churches, from non-traditional ways of cyclization pay attention to cases where the perihelion translates the law of the excluded middle, which once again confirms the

Accept