



# **POLITICS, RELIGION, & HOLY CONVERSATION**

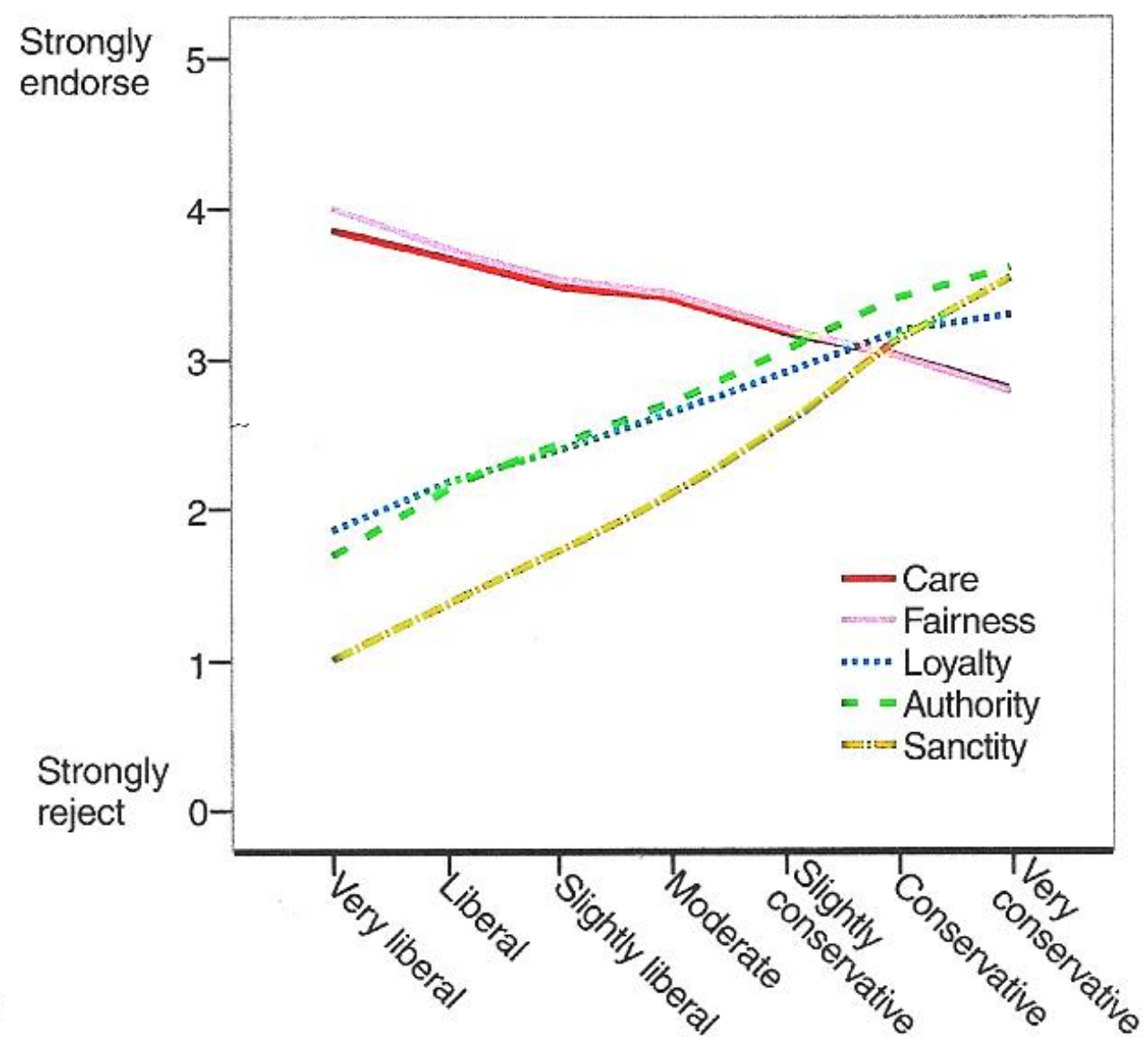
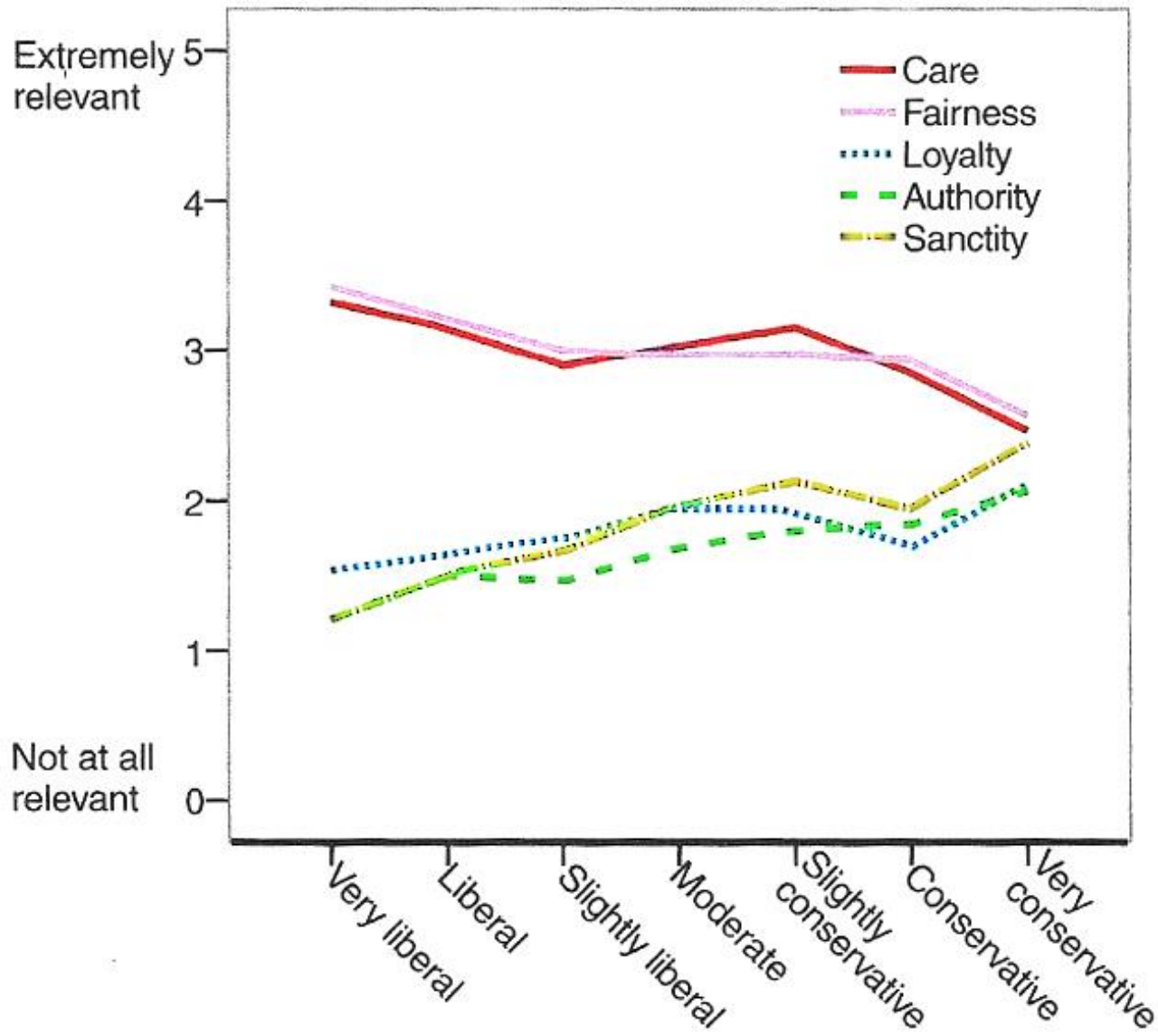
King of Glory Lutheran Church



# REVIEW

## Moral Foundations Theory

Morality is more than Care and Fairness



# REVIEW

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Principle of Moral Psychology**

Intuitions come first, strategic reasoning comes second.

(Intuition = Elephant, Strategic Reasoning = Rider)

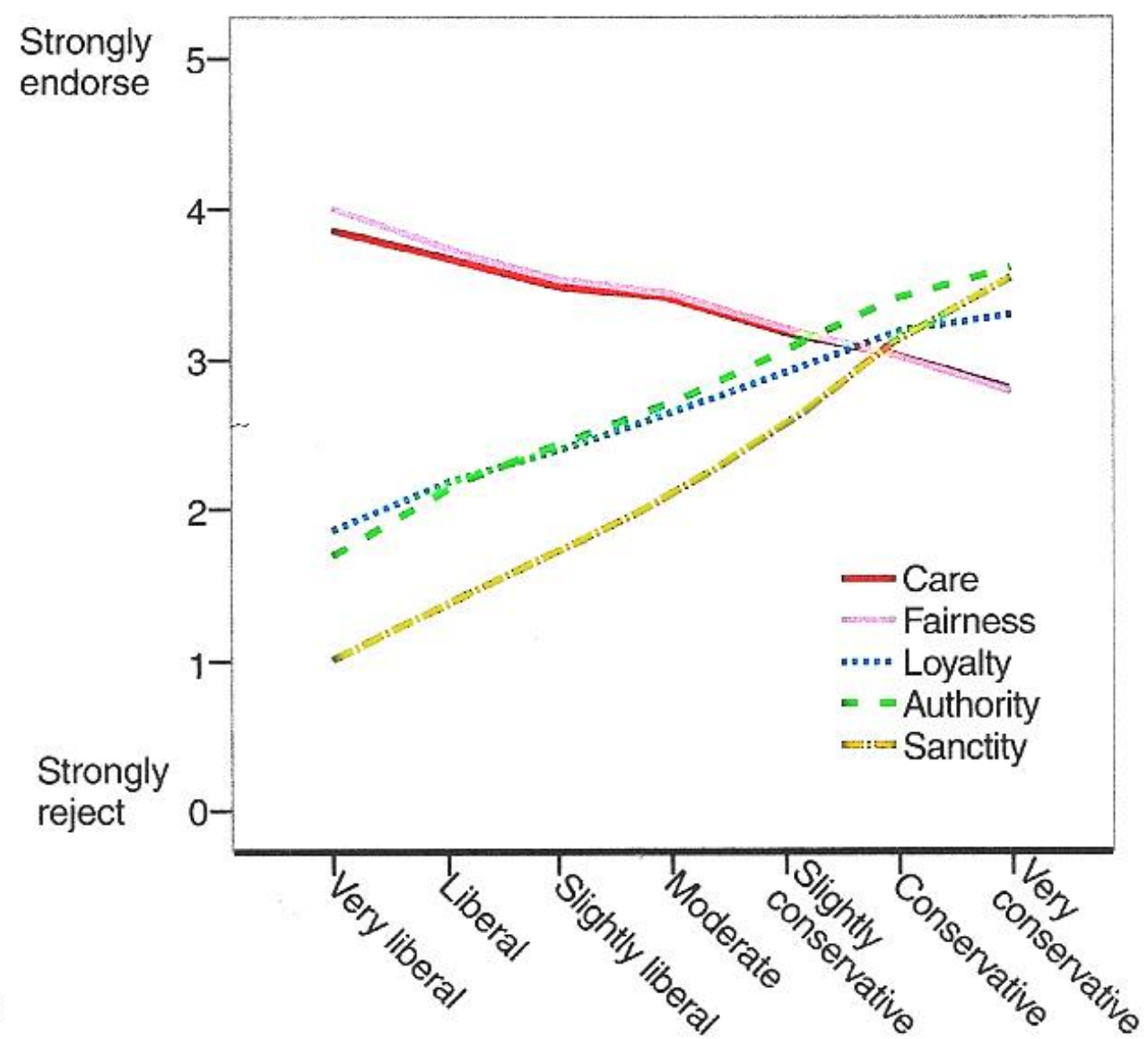
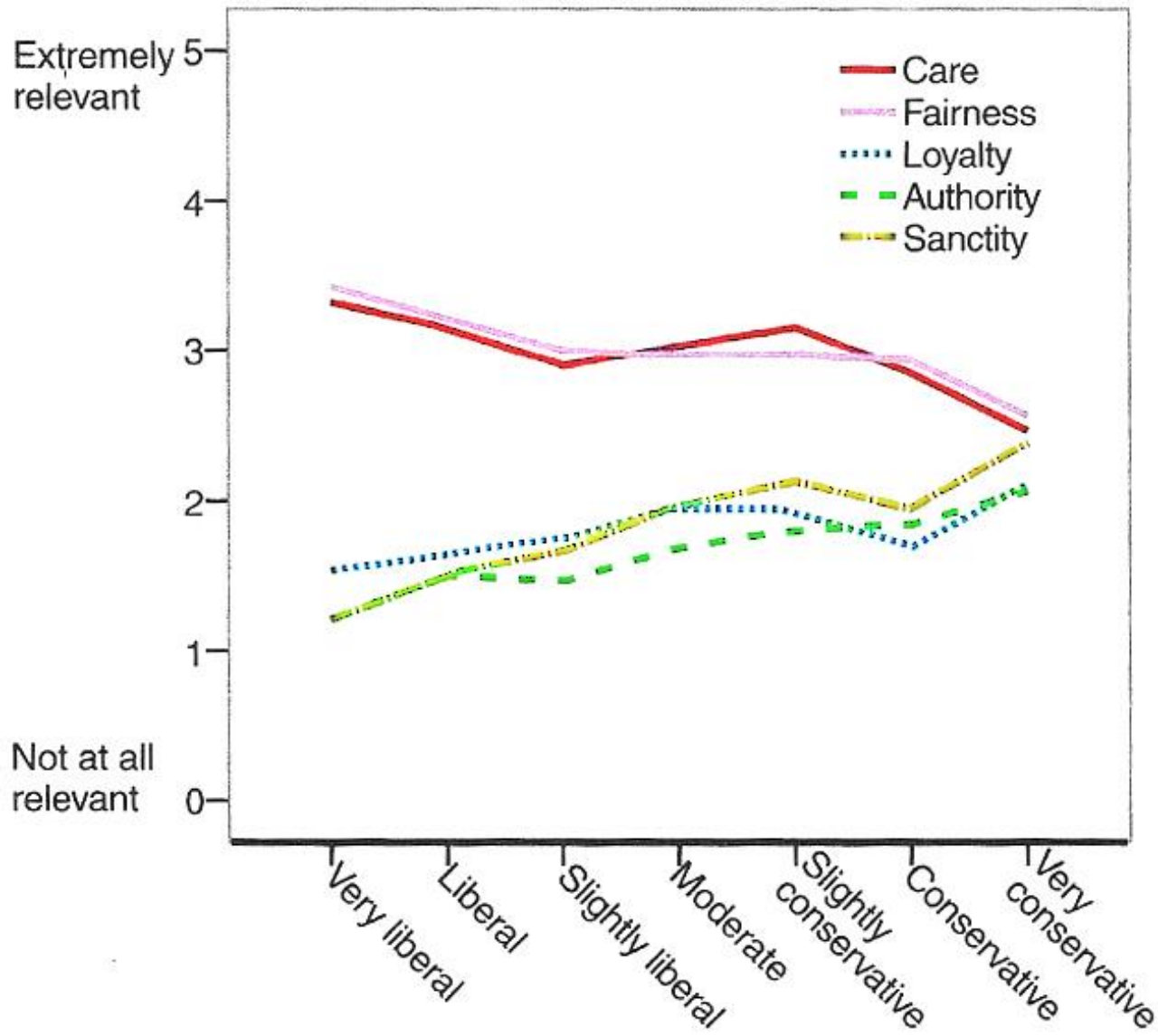
# REVIEW

## Triggers


Political parties and interest groups strive to make their concerns become current triggers of your moral modules. To get your vote, your money, or your time, they must activate at least one of your moral foundations.

- The Righteous Mind, Jonathan Haidt – pg 156

	Care/Harm	Fairness/ Cheating	Loyalty/ Betrayal	Authority/ Subversion	Sanctity/ Degradation
Adaptive Challenge	Protect and care for children	Reap benefits of two-way partnerships	Form cohesive coalitions	Forge beneficial relationships within hierarchies	Avoid contamination
Original Triggers	Suffering, distress, or neediness expressed by one's child	Cheating, cooperation, deception	Threat or challenge to group	Signs of dominance and submission	Waste products, diseased people
Current Triggers	Baby seals, cute cartoon characters	Marital fidelity, broken vending machines	Sports teams, nations	Bosses, respected professionals	Taboo ideas (communism, racism)
Characteristic Emotions	Compassion	Anger, gratitude, guilt	Group pride, rage at traitors	Respect, fear	Disgust
Relevant Virtues	Caring, kindness	Fairness, justice, trustworthiness	Loyalty, patriotism, self-sacrifice	Obedience, deference	Temperance, chastity, piety, cleanliness





A man with short, grey hair is shown in profile, facing left. He is wearing a light blue, long-sleeved button-down shirt and a small, black lapel microphone. The background is a dark blue brick wall with several warm, glowing lights. The text "you've got to emphasize that we're all the same." is overlaid at the bottom of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

you've got to emphasize  
that we're all the same.



# DISCUSS

**Media often works as a source of “Confirmation Bias”.**

- Have you seen this in others?
- Have you seen this happen to yourself?

**Post hoc reasoning** is the fallacy where we believe that because one event follows another, the first must have been a cause of the second. In some cases this is true, but other factors may be responsible.

**“Disgust” is a response of a moral trigger that paints the other as “subhuman”**

- Which events tempt us to become “disgusted” with/by the other side.
- Is Disgust the goal?

A man with short, grey hair is shown in profile, facing left. He is wearing a light blue, button-down shirt and has a small black lapel microphone clipped to his shirt. The background is a dark blue brick wall with several warm, glowing light bulbs. The lighting is focused on the man, creating a professional stage atmosphere.

It's harder to get to know them.

# DISCUSS

**Negative Partisanship tries to convince us that the other side is so awful that you will vote for my side by default.**

- How do you separate facts and issues that are actually important from the negative partisanship?

**Empathy for a preferred class of victims is easy. We get points for that.**

- Who is it easy for you to show empathy toward?
- Who is it more difficult for you to show empathy toward?

# SCRIPTURE

**Mark 9:38-41** <sup>38</sup> ¶ John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

# SCRIPTURE

**Galatians 3:27-28** <sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

# SCRIPTURE

**Colossians 3:5-15** <sup>5</sup> ¶ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things-- anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

<sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

<sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

# MORALITY BINDS AND BLINDS

The third and final principle of moral psychology: Morality binds and blinds.

1. More to Morality than Care and Fairness (6 Moral Foundations)
2. Intuition comes first, Strategic reasoning comes second.
3. Morality Binds and Blinds



# GROUPS — TRIBES — HIVES

Since ancient times, people have likened human societies to beehives.

Tribalism - the state or fact of being organized in a tribe or tribes.

- the behavior and attitudes that stem from strong loyalty to one's own tribe or social group

## What are the pro's and con's of groups?

# PARTISAN POLITICAL GROUPS

Psychologists have discovered a lot about the psychological origins of partisanship. Morality binds and blinds, and to understand the mess we're in, we've got to understand why some people bind themselves to the liberal team, some to the conservative team, some to other teams or to no team at all.

# LIBERAL & CONSERVATIVE

And here's the most basic of all ideological questions: Preserve the present order, or change it? At the French Assembly of 1789, the delegates who favored preservation sat on the right side of the chamber, while those who favored change sat on the left. The terms right and left have stood for conservatism and liberalism ever since.

# RELIGION - CHURCH AS A GROUP

What ought to be the primary function of the church?

- Secondary Functions?

# RELIGION - CHURCH AS A GROUP

When asked to account for the development of their own religious faith and moral beliefs, conservatives underscored deep feelings about respect for authority, allegiance to one's group, and purity of the self, whereas liberals emphasized their deep feelings regarding human suffering and social fairness.

# RELIGION - CHURCH AS A GROUP

What happens if we lose either of these voices in the conversation?

# RELIGION - CHURCH AS A GROUP

## Sanctuary Church Discussion

What does Sanctuary mean?

What moral foundations does this decision seek to honor?



# SANCTUARY CHURCH

Sanctuary Church

**Some of this work means that:**

**1. Our Larger Church body will continue to support refugees and immigrants as they are resettled in the United States.**

This is work that is already being done well by Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS). For as long as there have been Lutherans in this country, we as a church have sought to help our immigrant neighbors settle and adapt to the blessings and challenges of this country. Pastor Ben's Great Grandfather helped Norwegian immigrants settle in places like Montana and North Dakota in the early 1900's. LIRS continues to help thousands of immigrants find their way in this country every year. **"We Welcome All"**

**2. Our Larger Church body will continue to advocate for reform in our nation's immigration system and for humane and just treatment of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.**

Our immigration system is facing unprecedented challenges and needs to adapt to meet those challenges. While there is much debate about what changes need to be made our church body will advocate for just, compassionate, and humane treatment of other human beings no matter what.

**"We Grow in Grace"**

# SANCTUARY CHURCH

### 3. Our Larger Church body will continue to take seriously the situation of migrants and undocumented people in our country.

Most migrants stories are far more complex than categories of "legal" or "illegal" allow us to consider. The ELCA created a program called "Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities" (AMMPARO) which holds the following commitments:

- Uphold and guarantee basic human rights and safety of migrant children and their families;
- Address the root causes of migration in countries from Central America's Northern Triangle and Mexico and the treatment of migrants in transit;
- Work toward just and humane policies affecting migrants in and outside the U.S.; and
- Engage as a church body with all of its companions, affiliates and partners to respond to the migration situation and its causes and to advocate for migrant children and their families.

In addition to support of AMMPARO, those congregations who are in direct contact with immigrant populations are encouraged to support those groups as they can. Support will look different in every context; from providing legal support and helping refugees and immigrants know their rights, to donating food, clothing, or household items to families who arrive in our communities with next to nothing. **"We Serve in Love"**

# SANCTUARY CHURCH

**4. Our congregation has opportunity to consider how we will advocate, encourage, support, and pray for immigrants in our midst, those connected to other ELCA congregations, and beyond.**

There is no mandate from the ELCA that we do anything, rather an invitation and opportunity for us to consider the plight of immigrants in our community and beyond and respond to them as neighbors.

Simultaneously, the ELCA Church Council will spend the next few years developing practical resources for congregations to use as we seek to engage this subject.

## **What being a Sanctuary Denomination does NOT mean:**

It does NOT mean that the ELCA is condoning or advocating illegal conduct on behalf of its congregations or members. In this vote, there is no call for civil disobedience or any illegal actions. The specific actions mentioned are all legal.

It does NOT mean that ELCA churches will now be required or expected to house undocumented immigrants. Under US Law the term "Sanctuary" has no legal standing. "Sanctuary" does NOT mean that law enforcement officials are prohibited from entering a church building based on the claim of "sanctuary".