



POLITICS, RELIGION, & HOLY CONVERSATION

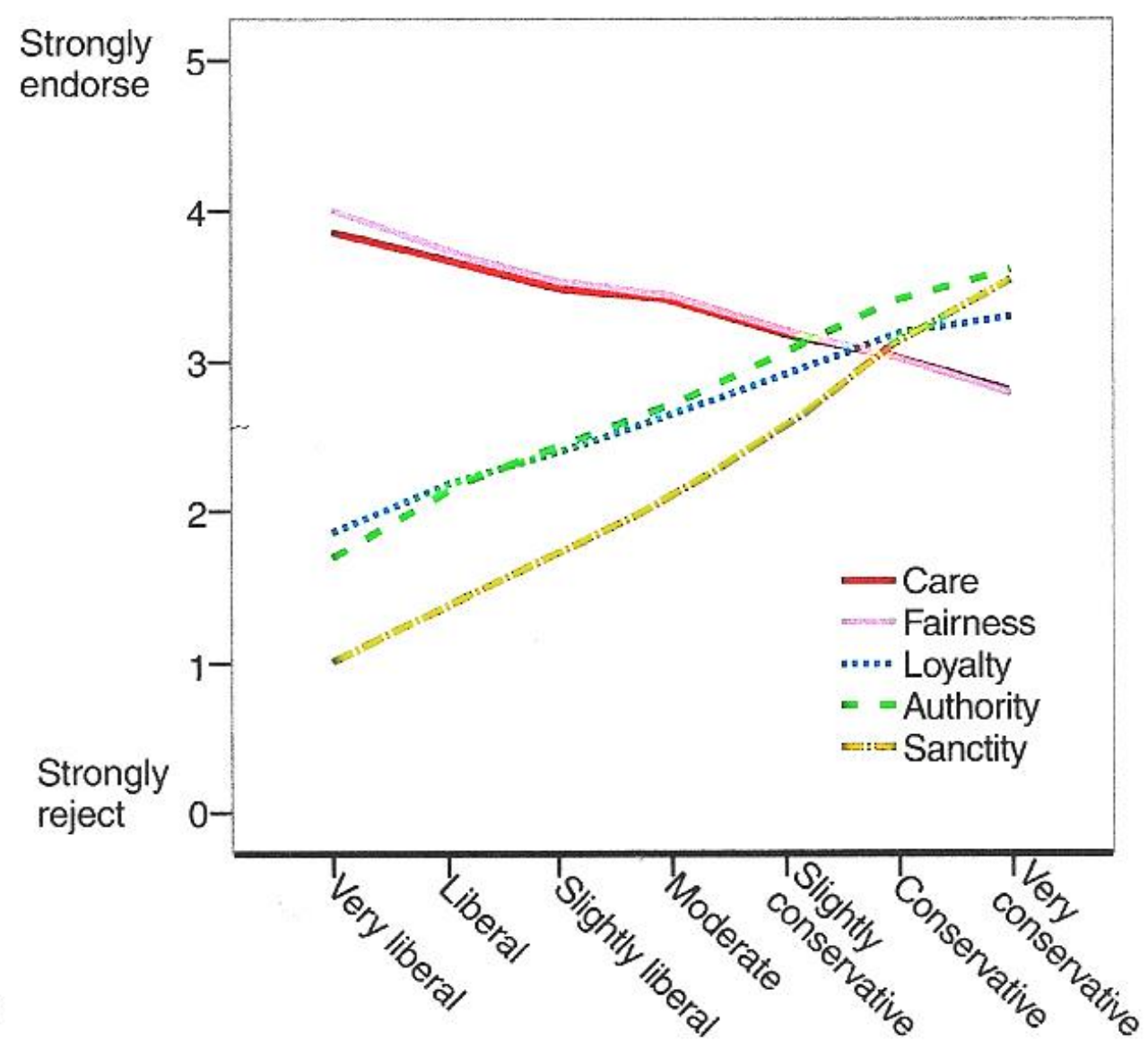
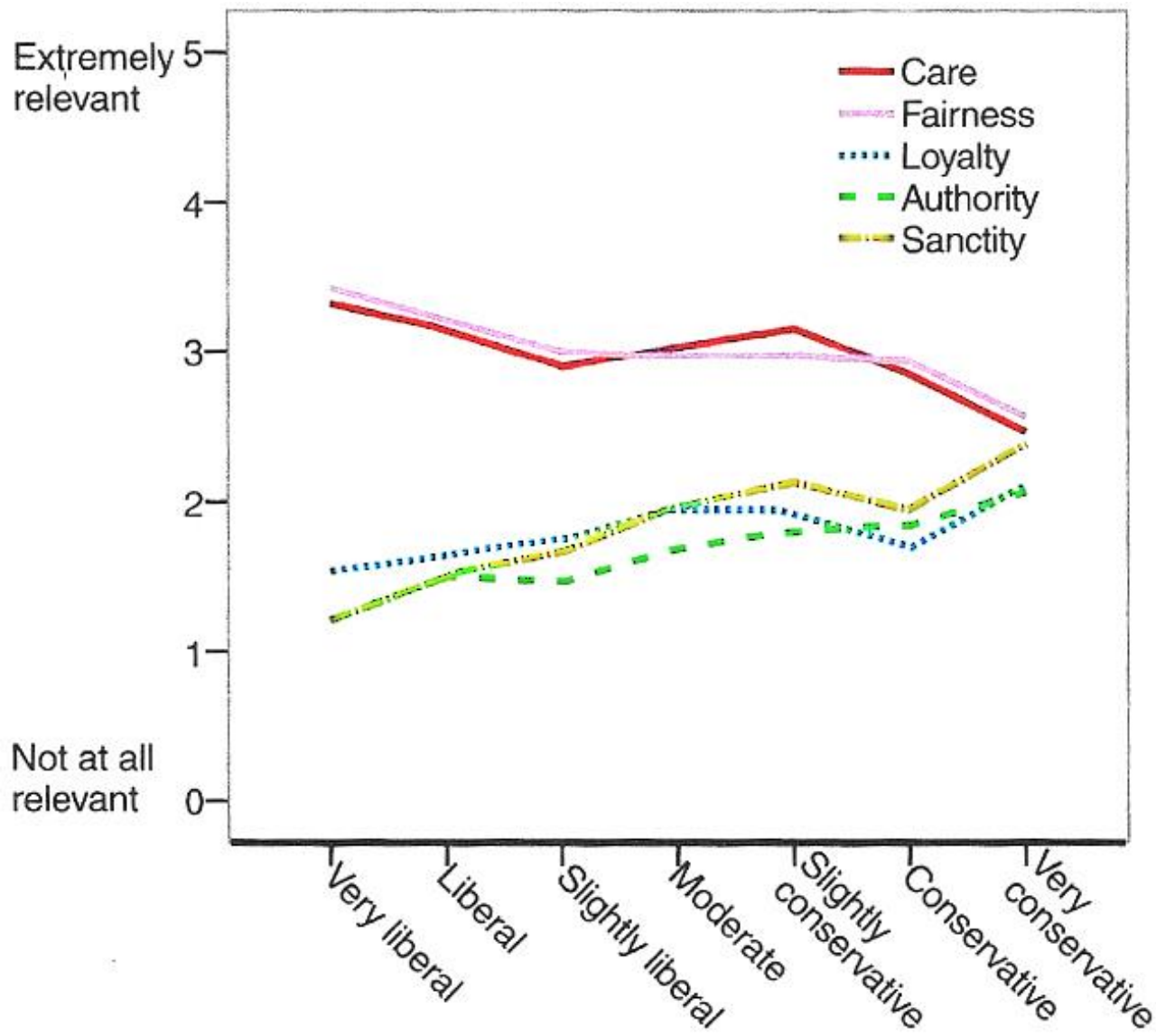
King of Glory Lutheran Church

REVIEW

Moral Foundations Theory

1st Principle of Moral Psychology:

- Morality is more than Care and Fairness



REVIEW

2nd Principle of Moral Psychology

Intuitions come first, strategic reasoning comes second.

(Intuition = Elephant, Strategic Reasoning = Rider)

	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

REVIEW

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

LISTEN TO EACH OTHER

Homework for this week:

Choose two subjects that “hot” in the national debate right now.

Write your responses for each of these:

- Why do you believe this topic is important?
- What are your fears surrounding this topic?
- What are your hopes surrounding this topic?
- Which Moral Foundations do you most heavily lean on in this conclusion?
- What “blind spots” might you have?



WHAT DID YOU LEARN?



SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:13-17

Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. ¹⁴ And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? ¹⁵ Should we pay them, or should we not?" But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it." ¹⁶ And they brought one. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." ¹⁷ Jesus said to them, "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were utterly amazed at him.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:9-14 ⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:26-27

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷ So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 ¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-- Jews or Greeks, slaves or free-- and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:23-25 Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. ²⁵ What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?"

WE NEED EACH OTHER

Appropriate **Humility** recognizes that we are not always right.

Because we are all part of “**one body**” we also need to care well for each other.

We are called to take up our **cross** and be Jesus followers.

- Death to ourselves can include being willing to give up a political position to maintain relationship with another person.



LOGICAL FALLACIES

See Handout

TROLLING... HOW NOT TO DO IT.

In Internet slang, a **troll** is a person who starts quarrels or upsets people on the Internet to distract and sow discord by posting inflammatory and digressive,^[1] extraneous, or off-topic messages in an online community (such as a newsgroup, forum, chat room, or blog) with the intent of provoking readers into displaying emotional responses^[2] and normalizing tangential discussion,^[3] whether for the troll's amusement or a specific gain.

"Morality is about more than just doing good oneself -- it is also about encouraging good behavior in others."

- Children as young as three years old are willing to punish others' bad behavior, even at personal cost, finds a new study by psychology researchers at New York University.

**BEING TAUGHT TO AVOID TALKING
ABOUT POLITICS AND RELIGION
HAS LED TO A LACK OF
UNDERSTANDING OF POLITICS AND
RELIGION.**



**WHAT WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN
TAUGHT WAS HOW TO HAVE A
CIVIL CONVERSATION ABOUT A
DIFFICULT TOPIC.**



THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES