





LOVE THY BODY

Nancy R. Pearcy



# PEARCY'S THESIS



# Pearcy's Thesis

- The current issues of our world are caused by an underlying secular World View that is hostile to, and devaluing to, human beings and in particular the human body.



SCHAEFFER'S TWO  
STORY BUILDING



# Division of Truth

Theology & Morality

Private, Subjective, Relativistic

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Science

Public, Objective, Universal



# Fact Value Split

Values

Private, Subjective, Relativistic

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Facts

Public, Objective, Universal



# The Result

- We have a fundamentally fragmented world view.
- The Bottom floor is primary reality.
- The Top floor is an arbitrary construct.
- How do you answer questions about meaning and value with this World View?



APPLYING THIS TO  
HUMAN BEINGS



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY &  
PRACTICAL  
IMPLICATIONS



# Personhood Theory

Person

Moral & Legal Standing (valuable)

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Body

Biological Organism (expendable)



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY &  
ABORTION



# Abortion & Personhood

- Virtually all professional bioethicists agree life begins with conception
- Still do not consider abortion morally wrong.
- Bottom story is simply a mechanism, material.
- Fetus = Bottom story not top. No moral issue.
- Fetus has to attain Personhood through consciousness, self-awareness, autonomy, etc.



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY &  
EUTHANASIA



# Euthanasia & Personhood

- Terry Schiavo - “Right to Die”
- Bioethicist- “No, I do not. (think she is a person)”
- She lost personhood status: Lacks Awareness.
- Being human not enough.
- Arbitrary Criteria for Personhood
- 0 scientific evidence for the change to personhood.



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY & SEX



# Sex & Personhood

- Hook Up Culture
- Divorce Sex from Love
- Separate the physical from the whole person.
- Friends with Benefits, ie. no romantic relationship.
- No one gets hurt, but not real friendship.
- My person is not my body or my sex.



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY &  
HOMOSEXUALITY



# Homosexuality & Personhood

- Sexual activity separated from morality.
- Based purely on preference.
- Based on human brain response on MRI's.
- Your biological parts don't say anything about how you were meant to have sex.
- Brain & Body separated from Mind/Person.



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY &  
TRANSGENDERISM



# Transgenerism & Personhood

- Mismatch between Physical Gender & Person Gender.
- Jessica Savano - 6' 4" model, actor, male-to-female transsexual
- Documentary - "I Am Not My Body"
- "I know I am not my body. I'm a spiritual being."
- Implication - The Body Does Not Matter.



PERSONHOOD  
THEORY & BODY  
OBSESSION



# Body Obsession & Personhood

- Diets, Exercise, Cosmetics, Fitness, Body building, Botox, Plastic Surgery, Anti-aging treatments.
- Anorexia, Bulimia, Eating Disorders
- Not about health, but appearance.
- Air brushed/Photoshopped marketing
- Instrumentalizing the body.
- Creating our own artificial reality.
- Denigrates Real Bodies.



# HEALING ALIENATION



# Soul & Body Together

- Ps. 32:3 44:25, 63:1; Prov. 4:21-22
- Body even has a sense of primacy.
- Only our physical bodies can express our internal reality, our praise, prayers, etc.



# Walking Clay?

- Gen. 1 - Created Very Good
- God's Image Bearers



# The Incarnation

- John 1:14 - The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
- God took on a human body, not just the form of a human being.
- Col. 2:9, 1Pet. 2:24; Heb. 10:10



# The Resurrection

- 1 Cor. 1:23
- Luke 24:39, 43
- 1 Cor. 15



# New Heavens & Earth

- Isa. 65:17; 66:22
- Rev. 21:1
- Rom. 8:21



# The Sacraments

- 92. *What is a sacrament?*
- A sacrament is an holy ordinance instituted by Christ, wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.



# Biblical Personhood

Person = Body + Soul

Unified notion



# All Good

- It is the Biblical antidote to all worldviews, religions, and philosophies that single out some feature or features of the created order as the cause of the human predicament, whether that be the body, temporality, finitude, emotionality, authority, rationality, individuality, technology, culture, or what have you. All of these scapegoats that have drawn attention away from the real root of the trouble, human religious mutiny against the Creator and his laws for the world—a mutiny that most assuredly is not part of God’s creation and its goodness. Deeply ingrained in the children of Adam is the tendency to blame some aspect of creation (and by implication the Creator) rather than their own rebellion for the misery of their condition.”

— Albert Wolters, *Creation Regained*, pp. 42-43.