

PAMELA COUTURE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Chicago, 1990. Ph.D. in Practical Theology. Dissertation: "Toward a Practical Theology of the Feminization of Poverty." Dissertation Director: Don S. Browning.
M.Div. Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1982.
B.A. Ashland College, 1972: B.A. in Creative Writing.

EMPLOYMENT

- 2010-present Geoffrey and Jane Martin Chair in Church and Community,
Emmanuel College at Victoria University in the University of Toronto; Appointed to Toronto
School of Theology Advanced Degree faculty July 1, 2010.
- 2004-2010 Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean, Professor of Practical Theology, Saint
Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, Missouri
- 2001-2004 Professor of Practical Theology and Pastoral Care, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity
School, Rochester, New York
- 1998-2001 Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Crozer
Divinity School
- 1997-98 Director, Faculty Resource Center, The Association of Theological Schools, Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania
- 1991-93 Director, Program for Women in Theology and Ministry, Candler School of Theology,
Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
- 1989-97 Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care, Candler School of Theology, Emory University
- 1983-89 Pastoral Counselor with the Samaritan Institute, Munster, Indiana
- 1984 Ordained in the United Methodist Church, Northern Illinois Conference
- 1981-1984 Associate pastor, Roselle United Methodist Church, Roselle, Illinois
- 1978-81 Pastoral Staff, First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights, Illinois
- 1972-74 High school and junior college teaching in English and Journalism, Ontario High School, Mansfield, O

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

International Association for Practical Theology, 1991-present

Treasurer, 2007-present

Program Chair, International Society for Practical Theology meeting in April 1997, Seoul, Korea

Society for Pastoral Theology, 1992-present

Editorial Committee for the Journal of Pastoral Theology 2001-present

Nominating Committee 1999-2000

International Journal of Practical Theology review board, 2010-present

Journal of Childhood and Religion editorial board, 2010-present

Practical Theology editorial board, 2010-present

American Academy of Religion, 1981-present

Reviewer: *Childhood Studies*, 2011

Invited Respondent: *Practical Theology* 2011

Co-chair of the Wesleyan Studies Working Group, 1998-2002

Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies, 1987-present

Section Chair on Practical Theology, 1997, 2002

Global Friends in Aid and Learning, board member, 2010-present.

Nour International Relief, secretary and board member, 2009-present.

Northern Illinois Annual Conference (United Methodist), 1982-present, elder in full connection

LANGUAGE: German

CURRENT RESEARCH

“Peacemaking Practices of the Luba Congolese in the Democratic Republic of Congo,” funded by Dianne Shumaker, the Association of Theological Schools, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Documents the peacemaking practices of Luba Congolese based in Kamina. It is based on three presumptions: that in the press, the Congolese are portrayed as victims and perpetrators, not self-determining agents; that the lives of the interior Congolese are not reported, leaving the image of the interior as a mysterious "heart of darkness," and that religion is seen as an impotent or negative force, rather than a force for peace. The research on peacemaking emanating from Kamina overturns these presumptions, and documents 1) Luba traditions that instill the responsibilities for peacemaking in the king and keeping the peace in the community; 2) building relationships across a wide network of society; 3) rebuilding capacities and infrastructure in water, food, electricity, education, health and communications; 4) organizing systems of caring for displaced persons, through local and international aid; 5) at the behest of the government organizing a peace conference to integrate the Mayi Mayi militias into the peace process; 6) sending missions of reconciliation to families and churches torn apart in the war zone (Kalemie and Moba); 7) engaging the presence of Americans and Europeans as a sign to the population of stability; 8) challenging the norms that allow violence against women, in the war and in the community.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Practicing the New Creation: Music, Teaching and Pastoral Care, Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

Sabbatical project, 2002. Study of the way that music embodies two traditional functions of pastoral care: joining the human and divine story and transforming emotions, and two emerging functions of pastoral care: creating community across socioeconomic boundaries and mediating the encroachment of the market economy. Major paper presented at the Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Oxford, England, August, 2002.

Organizing Religious Work, Hartford Seminary. Participated in a study comparing social change in eight denominations as the “United Methodist theologian” on the United Methodist team with Jim Wood, Russ Richey, David Lundquist. Funded by the Lilly Endowment. Major paper publication by Hartford Seminary.

The United Methodist Bishops Initiative on Children and Poverty, 1995-2004, Educational Consultant. Designed the initial educational event for the Council of Bishops; attended the steering committee four times a year and Council meetings twice a year to assist the bishops with the development of their work. Presented on children and poverty at the North Georgia, Holston, Northern Illinois, Great Rivers, North Central New York, Western New York, Troy, Wyoming; Central Pennsylvania, and Iowa Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church; at the Northcentral Jurisdiction Town and Country, and Northeastern Jurisdiction and Southeastern Jurisdiction Board of Church and Society events; at Point Loma Nazarene University Wesleyan Center for the Twenty First Century; at the Episcopal Children’s Ministries Conference, 2000. Produced several papers including the book *Child Poverty: Love, Justice and Social Responsibility* (Chalice Press, 2007).

Family, Religion and Culture project, funded by the Lilly Endowment. Participated in a three year research project culminating in the publication of a twelve-volume series on the family. Co-authored the “centerpiece” volume for the series. Funded by the Lilly Endowment. Article in *Feminism, Religion and the Family* and co-authored volume, *From Culture Wars to Consensus*.

Candler Congregational Studies project, “Partners in Healing: Ministries and Public Health.” Investigated ways to develop partnerships between local congregations and county health departments. Taught a class that coordinated efforts with the Georgia Department of Human Resources, the Interfaith Health Resources of the Carter Center of Emory University, and Candler School of Theology. Published results in the *Journal for Pastoral Theology*. Funded by the Lilly Endowment

RESEARCH AWARDS-2006-2011

\$3000 SSHRC-SIG award, Victoria University, for Narrativity, Identity and Diversity project, in preparation

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June 2011 revision

for 2013 International Academy of Practical Theology in Toronto, ON, March, 2011

\$5000 Lilly Research grant, Association of Theological Schools, 2009. Support for “Where’s the Peace to Keep?” described above. 2009-2010.

\$2500 United Methodist Committee on Relief. Support for “Where’s the Peace to Keep?” 2009-2010.

COURSES 2006-2011

Master’s (M. Div., M.A.) designed all except as noted:

Church and Community Partnership for Social Transformation (*designed with Lois Wilson and Mark Toulouse*)

Wesleyan Foundations for the United Church of Canada

Practical Theology for Church and Community

Ph. D. and Th.D.(proposed 2010, taught Fall 2011)

Religious Peacemaking

Global Perspectives on Violence Against Women

Doctor of Ministry

Praxis Thesis Seminar (SPST D. Min.)

Orienting Seminar (SPST D. Min.)

THESES SUPERVISED

Doctor of Ministry: second reader at Saint Paul School of Theology

James Gordon,

Ph.D second reader for UNISA (University of South Africa):

Nicole Spies, *Exploring and Storying Protestant Christian Women’s Experiences Living in Sexually Unhappy Marriages*. June, 2011—current. Second reader.

Theresa Hulme, *Pastoral Care and the Challenge of Poverty: When Opening Hearts and Minds*

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Create Possibilities in a Marginalized School Community, 2009.

Merci Shumbamhini, *Narrative and Participatory Pastoral Care and Therapy with Children at Mary Ward Children's Home, 2008.*

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS HELD.

Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Saint Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, Missouri, 2004-2010/

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL WORK: AUTHORED, CO-AUTHORED, AND EDITED BOOKS AND JOURNALS

Child Poverty: Love, Justice, and Social Responsibility. Chalice Press, November, 2007.

International Conflict Resolution. Guest editor with Emmanuel Larrey. *Journal of Pastoral Theology* focused edition. 2007. June.

Feminist, Wesleyan Theology, Guest editor with Henk Pieterse. *Quarterly Review* focused edition. 2004. Winter.

Poverty, Suffering and HIV-AIDS: A Challenge to Practical Theology and Ecclesiology, edited with Bonnie Miller-McLemore. 2003. Cardiff Academic Press. Papers of the International Academy of Practical Theology, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Creativity, Imagination and Criticism: The Expressive Dimension in Practical Theology, edited with Paul Ballard. 2001. Cardiff Academic Press. Papers of the International Academy of Practical Theology, Quebec City, Quebec, on practical theology and art.

Seeing Children, Seeing God: A Practical Theology of Children and Poverty. 2000. Abingdon Press. Develops a rationale for pastoral care that is centered around the issues of children and poverty, nationally and internationally.

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Globalization and Difference: The Papers of the International Academy of Practical Theology, edited with Paul Ballard. 1999. Cardiff Academic Press. Program chair and coeditor of papers of the International Academy of Practical Theology in Seoul, Korea, April 1997.

From Culture Wars to Common Ground: Religion and the American Family Debate, coauthored with Don Browning, Robert Franklin, K. Brynolf Lyon, and Bonnie Miller McLemore. 1997. Westminster John Knox Press. Primary responsibility for section on the multicultural history of the family in the United States.

Pastoral Care and Social Conflict: Essays in Honor of Charles V. Gerkin, edited with Rodney Hunter. 1995. Abingdon Press. Consolidated the voice of the Society for Pastoral Theology on the social and cultural context of pastoral care.

Blessed are the Poor? Women's Poverty, Family Policy, and Practical Theology. 1991. Abingdon Press. Study of the vulnerability of women and children to poverty.

ARTICLES and CHAPTERS: REFEREED

"Child Poverty and Social Exclusion: A Conversation with Christian Tradition," forthcoming in the *Journal of Childhood and Religion*.

"Practical Theology and Social Policy," forthcoming in *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Practical Theology*, Bonnie Miller-McLemore, ed. 2011

"Victims, Perpetrators or Moral Agents: Children and Youth Survivors of the War in the Democratic Republic of Congo," *Journal of Childhood and Religion* 2:2, June, 2010, pp. 3-17.

<http://www.childhoodandreligion.com/JCR/Welcome.html>

"Peacemaking as a Wesleyan Response to Environment Degradation," in the proceedings of the 2nd Wesley International Conference, "Wesley Visits the Peak District: Wesleyans in the Age of Ecological Crisis, Hyupsung University, Korea. October, 2008, 13-21.

"Demystifying the War in the Democratic Republic of Congo," in *International Conflict Resolution*. Guest editor with Emmanuel Lartey. *Journal of Pastoral Theology* focused edition. 2007. June.

"Reading Adam Hochschild's *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa* Side by Side with Luis Rivera-Pagán's *A Violent Evangelism: The Political and Religious Conquest of the Americas*" in *The Journal of Pastoral Theology*. 17:2, Fall, 2007, 37-55.

"The Furnace of Humiliation," in *From Midterms to Ministry: Practical Theologians on Pastoral Beginnings*, ed. Allan Hugh Cole, Jr., foreward by Michael L Lindvall, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 115-129.

"Bible, Music, and Pastoral Theology," in *The Bible in Pastoral Practice: Readings in the Place and Function of Scripture in the Church*. Ed. Paul Ballard and Stephen R. Holmes. London: Dartman, Longman, Todd. 2005

"Practical Theology at Work in the United Methodist Church: Restructuring, Reshaping, Reclaiming," in *Church, Identity, and Change: Theology and Denominational Structures in Unsettled Times*. Ed. David A. Roozen and James R. Nieman. William Eerdmans: Grand Rapids: Michigan, 2005

"The Fight for Children: Practical Theology and Children's Rights." *Contact: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Pastoral Studies*, Edinburgh, Scotland. Issue 142. 2003. 28-41.

"The Image of God and the Problem of Evil: Toward a Feminist Wesleyan Theology." *Quarterly Review*, Winter, 2003.

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“Maintaining Relationship with Adult Children across Geographical Distance.” In *Mutuality Matters*, ed. Herbert Anderson, Bonnie Miller-McLemore, Edward Foley. 2003.

“The Effect of the Postmodern on Pastoral/Practical Theology and Care and Counseling.” *Journal of Pastoral Theology*. June, 2003.

“Songs of Struggle.” In *Poverty, Suffering, and HIV-AIDS: A Challenge to Practical Theology and Ecclesiology*. Cardiff Academic Press, 2003.

“Ministry with Children and the Poor.” *Insight*. Journal of the Austin Theological Seminary. March, 2002.

“Analysis and Evaluation of the Bishops Initiative on Children and Poverty, ” In “Give Us Today Our Daily Bread”: Wealth, Poverty, and Economy in God’s World.” *Quarterly Review*, Winter 2001.

“Pastoral Care and Human Rights.” coauthored with Darryl Trimiew. *Dictionary of Pastoral Studies* London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. August, 2001.

“Pastoral Care and the Social Gospel.” in *The Social Gospel Today*. Ed. Christopher H. Evans. Westminster John Knox, 2001.

“Practical Theology at Work in the United Methodist Church: Restructuring, Reshaping, Reclaiming.” In process for *The Adaptive Change of National Denominational Structures as Practiced Theology*, ed. David A. Roozen and James R Nieman, Eerdmans,. A publication of the *Organizing Religious Work Project*, Hartford Seminary.

“Revelation in Pastoral Theology: A Wesleyan Perspective,” in the *Journal of Pastoral Theology*, Vol. 9, 1999.

“Pastoral Theology as Art.” *Feminist and Womanist Pastoral Theology*. ed. Bonnie Miller-McLemore

and Brita Gill-Austern. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999.

“Ritualized Play: Using Role Play to Teach Pastoral Care and Counseling.” *Teaching Theology and Religion* 2: 2. June 1999: 96-102.

“On the Spirit of Bondage and the Spirit of Adoption: Toward More Wesleyan Theology for the Bishops Initiative on Children and Poverty.” *Quarterly Review* 18:3. Fall 1998.

“Vanuit een feministisch-theologisch engagement: Pleidooi voor nieuwe manieren van zorg,” in *Geroepen om te spreken: Over verbeelding en creativiteit in theologie en pastoraat Een bundel van ariëndinnen*, aangeboden aan Riet Bons-Storm. uitgeverij kok- kampen, 1998.

“Feminist, Wesleyan, Practical Theology and the Practice of Pastoral Care.” *Liberating Faith Practices: Feminist Practical Theologies in Context*. Ed. Riet Bons-Storm and Denise Ackermann. Peeters, 1998.

“Rethinking Private and Public Patriarchy.” In *Feminism, Religion and the Family*. Ed. Anne Carr and Mary Stewart VanLeewen. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.

“Weaving the Web: Pastoral Care in an Individualistic Society.” In *Through the Eyes of Women: Insights for Pastoral Care*. Ed. Jeanne Stevenson Moessner. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996.

“Feminization of Poverty.” In *Dictionary of Feminism and Religion*. Ed. Letty Russell and Shannon Clarkson. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.

“Pastoral Counseling and the God of the Market,” by Pamela Couture and Richard Hester, in *Pastoral Care and Social Conflict*. Ed. Pamela Couture and Rodney Hunter. Nashville, Abingdon Press. 1995.

“When Public Health and Faith Groups Encounter Each Other: Overcoming Obstacles.” On the web page of *Interfaith Health Resources*, the Carter Center, Emory University, <http://www.ihpnet.org/archihp.html>.

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“Partners in Healing: Pastoral Care and Counseling and Public Health.” *Journal of Pastoral Theology* 4. June 1995.

“The Family Policy Debate: A Feminist Theologian’s Response.” *Journal of Pastoral Theology* 2. June 1993.

“The Identity of the Pastoral Counselor.” In *The Future of Pastoral Counseling: Whom, How and For What Do We Train*. Ed. James McHolland. American Association of Pastoral Counselors, 1993.

“The Context of Congregations: Pastoral Care in an Individualistic Society.” *Journal of Pastoral Theology* 1. June 1992.

“If in a Safe Land You Fall Down: Why Evaluations Create Crisis and What Supervisors Can Do About It.” *The Journal of Supervision and Training in Ministry* 19. 1990.

“Ritual and Pastoral Care.” In *The Dictionary of Pastoral Care*. Ed. Rodney Hunter. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.

ARTICLES: NOT REFEREED

7 Meditations, forthcoming, in *Upper Room Disciplines 2013: A Book Daily Devotions*. Nov. 26-Dec 3, 2013

“Lessons from the Heart of Darkness” in *Upper Room Disciplines 2009: A Book of Daily Devotions*. March 23-29, 2009, 94-100.

“Books and Bytes,” review article on books and websites on peacemaking in *The Clergy Journal*, April 2008, 39-42.

“Let the Children Come: Which Children?” in *The Clergy Journal* LXXXIII: 6. Focused issue: Social Justice: Working to End Poverty. April 2007, 14-16.

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"Practical Theology at Saint Paul School of Theology," *Religious Studies News*, March, 2007. ii.

"The Way and Practice of Peace" in *Upper Room Disciplines 2007: A Book of Daily Devotions*.
December 2-9, 2007. 350-356.

"Practicing Love and Justice in Methodist Theological Schools," in *Theologie fuer die Praxis*. Vol. 31.
Jahrgang (2005), Heft 1-2. pp. 23-21.

"Readings." in *Upper Room Disciplines 2003*. November, 2003.

"Marriage as prescription for poverty carries risk of harmful side effects." Guest essay, Rochester, NY
Democrat and Chronicle, March 3, 2002.

"When the Last Are First: Poor Children as a Challenge to the Church." *Sisters Today* 69:4 July
1997: 256-262.

"Preface." *The Incredible Woman: Listening to Women's Silences in Pastoral Care and Counseling*.
Ed. Riet Bons-Storm. Nashville: Abingdon, 1996.

Five Essays for *Lectionary Homiletics* III:9 August 1992.

"What is Practical Theology?" *PT Etudes*, Practical Theology Newsletter. 1992.

"Teaching, Preaching and Caring in Time of War." *Circuit Rider* 15:3 April 1991.

"Guilt, Ambivalence, and Helplessness: The Public Responds to the Problems of Children." *Bulletin
of the Park Ridge Center* 6:1. January 1991.

"On the Dangers of Reading and Works of John Wesley." *Quarterly Review*. Spring 1987. (on
Wesley's ethical writings). Reprinted in the publication of the Methodist Theological College, New
Zealand.

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“Two Career Clergy/Lay Couple: Problems and Possibilities.” *Quarterly Review*. Spring 1983.

“The Facts Behind the Flowers.” *Christian Ministry*. March 1981.

INVITED LECTURES, 2006-2011

“Aging, We Lose Our Short Term Memory,” January 27-28, 2011, Gender and Religion Expert Seminar, Gronigen University, Gronigen, Netherlands.

“Victims, Perpetrators or Moral Agents: Child and Youth Survivors of the War in the Democratic Republic of Congo,” April 8-10, 2010. Williamson Distinguished Scholars Conference, Austin Presbyterian Seminary, Austin, Texas.

“Where’s the Peace to Keep? Peacemaking Practice in Kamina, the Democratic Republic of Congo,” Wynn Lectures at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, February, 2009.

“Peacemaking as a Wesleyan Response to Environment Degradation,” at the 2nd Wesley International Conference, “Wesley Visits the Peak District: Wesleyans in the Age of Ecological Crisis, Hyupsung University, Korea. October 23, 2008.

“Where’s the Peace to Keep? Peacemaking Practice in Kamina, the Democratic Republic of Congo,” Four presentations at Furman University, July 21-23, 2008

“Pastoral Care and Peacemaking in Kamina, the Democratic Republic of Congo,” Five Presentations at St. Luke’s Medical Center Clinical Pastoral Education Program, Houston, Texas, June 23-27, 2008.

“The Lost Face of Children in Larger Social Systems,” at symposium *Children’s Voices: Ethics, Theology, and Religious Education*, University of Leuven, Belgium, January, 2007.

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"Against Child Poverty: Relationships as a Foundation for Social and Economic Justice," at the International Academy of Practical Theology, Berlin, Germany, March, 2007.

"Reading Adam Hochschild's *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism* Side by Side with Luis Pagan-Rivera's *A Violent Evangelism: The Religious and Political Conquest of the Americas*" at the Society for Pastoral Theology, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June, 2007.

Reviews of *Child Poverty*: <http://www.cardus.ca/policy/article/2819>

<http://congregationalresources.org/resources/child-poverty-love-justice-and-social-responsibility>

<http://www.congregationalresources.org/children-escaping-poverty>