

Announcing

A NEW PUBLICATION:

THE THEOLOGICAL VOICE OF WOLF WOLFENSBERGER,
edited by William Gaventa & David Coulter

This 170-page book is a collection of eight papers by Wolf Wolfensberger that all deal with issues of Christian faith and theology as these relate to human impairment and societally devalued (especially handicapped) people. Five started as speeches to Catholic or multid denominational audiences. Six items have already appeared in various publications from the early 1970s to late 1980s. However, the previously published items have not heretofore been easily available because they appeared in periodicals with small and specialized distributions. There are also three responses (one Jewish and two Christian) to Wolfensberger's papers, and a review of Wolfensberger's 1992 monograph on protecting devalued people in hospitals. The last chapter is a response by Wolfensberger to the responders and the book reviewer. Below is a table of contents of the book.

Preface (David L. Coulter)

A Note of Appreciation (William C. Gaventa)

Wolf Wolfensberger: Scholar, Change Agent, and Iconoclast (Hank Bersani Jr.)

The Prophetic Voice and Presence of Mentally Retarded People in the World Today (Wolf Wolfensberger)

An Attempt Toward a Theology of Social Integration of Devalued/Handicapped People (Wolf Wolfensberger)

An Attempt to Gain a Better Understanding From a Christian Perspective of What "Mental Retardation" Is
(Wolf Wolfensberger)

How We Carry the Ministry With Handicapped Persons to the Parish Level (Wolf Wolfensberger)

The Most Urgent Issues Facing Us as Christians Concerned With Handicapped Persons Today
(Wolf Wolfensberger)

The Good Life for Mentally Retarded Persons (Wolf Wolfensberger)

The Normative Lack of Christian Community in Local Congregations as the Central Obstacle to a Proper Relationship

With Needy Members (Wolf Wolfensberger)

A Chaplain's Response (Dennis D. Schurter)

The Works of Wolf Wolfensberger (Sandra L. Friedman)

A Perspective on the Work of Wolf Wolfensberger (J. Eric Pridmore)

Review of Wolfensberger's book A Guideline on Protecting the Health and Lives of Patients in Hospitals, Especially

if the Patient is a Member of a Societally Devalued Class (Kenneth M. Tittle)

Response to the Responders (Wolf Wolfensberger)

Index

Some of Wolfensberger's chapters contain material of historical interest, e.g., earlier Christian responses to needy people, and historical arguments from a Christian perspective in support of the social integration of devalued people into society, and especially into the lives of Christians. However, all papers are relevant to our time. The issue of Christian communality is addressed repeatedly in different ways in seven of Wolfensberger's chapters.

The exact same text has also been published simultaneously as a double issue of the Journal of Religion, Disability & Health, 2001, vol. 4, numbers 2 and 3. However, the book is more solidly bound than the journal, and more readily available for purchase.

The book is available in either hard cover or paperback. To order, complete the form below and return it with full payment to: the address below. Phone inquiries may be made from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. eastern time Monday-Friday.

THE THEOLOGICAL VOICE OF WOLF WOLFENSBERGER

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