

The Christian church's involvement in creating sexual ethics – eine Gastvorlesung von Dr. Tanya van Wyk (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

10.06.2020 | 19:00 - 20:00

Veranstalterinnen: [Prof. Dr. Almut-Barbara Renger](#) (Institut für Religionswissenschaft) und [Dr. Tanya van Wyk](#) (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

For a long time, the Christian church has regarded itself as a moral authority. In this regard, the Christian church has practiced a type of 'sexual ethics' which can be traced in the history of the church's theological hermeneutics. In this regard, the church has had almost a 'legal' voice on matters pertaining to the nature of people's relationships, gender roles, their sexuality and sex itself. In light of ongoing news-cycles in which the church (worldwide) is increasingly named in relation to issues of sexuality and gender, thinking about the church's moral authority on matters of human sexuality is once again an important endeavour. In this contribution, the nature of the church in the 21st century, its identity and conduct, specifically with regard to the church's 'holiness', will be briefly outlined.

Dr Tanya van Wyk is Senior Lecturer in Spirituality, Systematic Theology and Christian Ethics at the Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Pretoria since 2015. Her research focuses on political theology and the relationship between identity and diversity, by utilizing perspectives from Trinitarian theology, feminist theology and spirituality-studies. Recent publications include a focus on gender norms and reproductive health in conjunction with the UN's sustainable development goal of gender equity. She completed her PhD in 2013, titled, *The Church as Heterotopia: A Trinitarian Ecclesiology for the 21st Century*. She has published and co-published 23 peer-reviewed articles and 5 chapters in books and in 2018 received recognition from South-Africa's National Research Foundation as an emerging young researcher. Van Wyk has been invited as a visiting scholar to the Research Programme for Religion and Sustainable Development at Humboldt University (Berlin) in 2020. She is a monthly columnist for one of the major Afrikaans daily newspapers in South-Africa and is an ordained minister of the Netherdutch Reformed Church.

Selected publications:

- 2015, 'Political Theology as critical theology', *HTS Theological studies* 71 (3), Art.#3026, 8 pages. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4102/hts.v71i3.3026>
- 2018, 'An unfinished reformation: The persistence of gender exclusive language in theology and the maintenance of a patriarchal church culture', *Verbum et Ecclesia* 39(1), a1890. <https://doi.org/10.4102/ve.v39i1.1890>
- 2019, 'Pushing boundaries through the political theology of Dorothee Soelle and Denise Ackermann', in L.J.M. Claassens, C. van der Walt & F. Olojede (eds.), *Teaching for change*, SunMedia, Stellenbosch.
- 2019, 'Reproductive health, deconstructed: A nonbinary understanding of the womb', in Kotze, M., Müller-Van Velden, N. & Marais, N. (eds.), *Reconceiving reproductive health*, Aosis Books, Cape Town.

Die Veranstaltung findet zugleich im Rahmen der [International Week](#) statt. Weitere Informationen zu der Veranstaltungsreihe finden Sie [hier](#).