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Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin

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The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.



Please suggest contributions to this Bulletin to jim@vulnerablemission.org

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Upcoming webinars in 2024

18th April 2024: Tamie Davis

Truth in contextual ministry
Relative, different or expanded?

WEBINAR
ALLIANCE FOR VULNERABLE MISSION

To register for this event, please click on this image.

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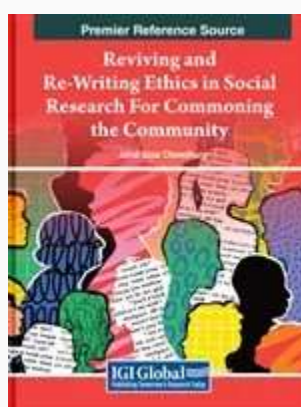
Missionaries as Needy Patrons

<https://missionexus.org/missionaries-as-needy-patrons/>

This practical article on missionary strategy, by the speaker at our forthcoming webinar (on 18th April 2024, see details above) addresses the issue of patronage in Christian mission. While questioning the value of patronage, Tamie Davies and (the late) Moyra Dale advocate for missionaries to be 'needy' with respect to the people they reach. "The patron can be thought of as needy ... in relational terms", suggest Davies and Dale. Needs might even have to be invented. The article interacts with many of the writings of the AVM (Alliance for Vulnerable Mission).

Davies, Tamie, and Dale, Moyra, 2024, 'Missionaries as Needy Patrons', 62-66, EMQonline.com 60(1), January to March 2024.

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Formal Adoption of Wholistic Evaluation of English is Urgently Needed to Avoid Generation of Racism in the West, and Under-Development in Africa

<https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-8526-2.ch005>

Jim Harries' chapter in this book, considers English teaching and evaluation. Formal evaluation of competence in English rarely considers pragmatics. That is, someone's knowledge of English is evaluated according to things like fluency, grammar, syntax, but not on how well the person can function in a native-English speaking society. The failure to consider pragmatic ability results in formal education producing qualified graduates with low functional competence. When those with low functionality are of non-White ethnicities, recognition of their failure to perform as would be expected according to their educational level, risks accusation of racism, so must be countered by anti-racism. Their certification in English giving them an apparent functional equivalence to Whites lures people into situations in which they end up not capable.

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Documentary "Blickwechsel – Sichtweisen auf deutsche Freiwillige"

<https://globale-perspektiven.de/blickwechsel/>

A documentary that tries to portray perspectives on German short-term volunteers in Africa. It implies that more vulnerability in foreign workers' involvement with local communities would be beneficial for all. At the same time, we note that the film was likely made by people who themselves haven't been vulnerably engaged with these communities.

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Rethinking Power, re-imagining Mission

<https://globalconnections.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ad9513148762a9414b4e0d19c&id=747a08c0f0&e=f3f9c174f2>

Join Global Connections (UK) on Thursday 20th June at Oxford Centre for Mission Studies to hear from Michael Stroope on Rethinking Power, Reimagining Mission.

How does power work in world mission? Is there a fundamental problem affecting us all? Can we reframe the use of power to help us participate in the Spirit's power and witness to the world.

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Looking at the Excluded Middle: in Mission to Africa Today

<https://youtu.be/qOtXietomPI>

Abstract: "Westerners' dual view, that there is 'God', and there is 'matter', enables them, by playing one against the other, to potentially assume one or the other not to exist. The absence of such dualism making this a non-option in Africa, in effect renders Western ideologies that push God out of the picture, into African theologies in which the white man is God. Comprehending this requires reporting by Europeans immersed in African life and language, not Africans exposed to Europe using English. Europeans presenting themselves, as currently, as the 'global norm' (especially through the universalisation of European education) renders them into 'god' for Africa. When this, in effect, occludes Jesus from view, it is a condemning of Africa to catastrophe and oblivion."

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To register for this event, please click on the image above.

Upcoming webinars in 2024

Next webinar; 18th April 2024. Make a note in your diary!

(See below for details of subsequent upcoming webinars this year.)



Details and registration: <https://www.vulnerablemission.org/quarterly-webinar>