

University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
Faculty of Theology

Opponent-review of Dissertation

„An evaluation of ethical aspects of philanthropic strategies employed by charitable organisations operating in Mongu district of Western Zambia“

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Opponent: doc. Jozef Žuffa, Dr. Theol.

The study is based on the theoretical perspectives of the chosen topic based on literature review, empirical investigation, and interpretation of the collected field data. The aim of the work is to develop a model that is applicable to the ethical evaluation of philanthropic strategies.

It is hypothesized that such an evaluation will enhance ethicality, professionalism, and contribution to the local community. The qualitative research methodology includes interviews, field notes and observations.

The research findings reveal the shortcomings of philanthropic strategies among the sample under study. The author identifies several areas that have potential for improvement: implementation of the theology of charity, individual approach, and identification of the real needs of clients.

The study concludes with a model for evaluating the ethical aspects of philanthropic strategies that is interested in the iterative exploration of ethical concepts and community participation.

The model aims to guide charities towards ethically acceptable practices that are in line with the needs and values of the local community.

The content structure of the thesis is clear and logical.

I appreciate the clearly described research methodology, as well as the theoretical justification of the selected methods of qualitative research.

The research brings the know-how of values-analysis of charitable organizations. It also highlights the need for regular ethical review of organisational processes and settings.

When defending the thesis, I recommend to the author to focus on more specific explanations of some areas for the proposed model, for example Sustainability (page 157), or Community Capacity Building (page 159). Concretization of these areas can increase the quality of the results of the thesis, as these aspects for organizational development in charities are treated quite generally in the text.

I assess the submitted text as a good quality work and recommend it for the defence.

In Bratislava, 10th November 2023



Jozef Žuffa