



DIVINITY SCHOOL
SOUL REPAIR CENTER

presents

**Spiritual Care for Moral Injury:
Equipping Religious Leaders and Faith Communities**

Shattuck Hall, Iliff School of Theology Campus

Thursday, November 15, 2018

8:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 8:45 a.m. Words of Welcome
- 9:00 a.m. **“Healing Waters of Life”** Interreligious Opening Ritual
- 9:15 a.m. **“Responding to Moral Injury with Pastoral and Theological Wisdom: A Conversation”**
Carrie Doehring, Shareda Hosein, Shelly Rambo, Nancy Ramsay, and Michael Yandell
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 p.m. **“Cultivating Awareness of Moral Injury in Sacred Texts”**
Exploring: Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Buddhist texts with David Blumenthal, Warren Carter, Amir Hussain, Joseph McDonald, and John Thompson
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. Workshops (See workshops descriptions below)

ILIFF
SCHOOL of THEOLOGY
Denver

Hosted by Iliff School of Theology
2201 S. University Blvd, Denver, CO 80210

Registration \$35

Visit www.brite.edu/moralinjury for more information or to register.

Block of hotel rooms nearby will be available at conference rate November 14-15, 2018

Workshops

1. Families under Fire: Responding to the Effects of Moral Injury on Family Systems

Alan N. Baroody and Suzanne Baroody

As a spiritual wound, moral injury inevitably destabilizes the life of a veteran's family. In this workshop participants will draw on fictionalized case material to learn skills for identifying, supporting, and referring veterans and their families in order to support healing of the whole family system. Participants will also discuss strategies for spiritual care that may be of use for the veteran, the spouse and children as well as the extended family.

2. Lament beginning with one's body: Finding spiritual practices for sharing anguish and finding hope amidst moral injury

Carrie Doehring

Spiritual care offers unique resources for addressing the religious and spiritual struggles of moral injuries and moral stress. In this workshop participants will explore ways spiritual practices can assist veterans in shifting from (1) the shame of moral injury and stress into compassion for self and others, and (2) life limiting shame-based values and beliefs (embedded spiritual orientations) to life giving compassion-based values and beliefs about suffering (intentional spiritual orientations).

3. Muslim Military Personnel: Vulnerabilities to Moral Injury and Strategies for Care

Shareda Hosein

The longest war in U.S. history is especially challenging for Muslim Military Personnel (MMP). Participants in this workshop will explore particular stressors facing MMP. They will develop strategies for accompanying Muslim veterans who seek healing from moral injury. For example, when deployed MMP are fighting fellow Muslims while also experiencing distrust by some of their military peers and leaders. Experiences of anti-Muslim bias in the U.S. are also present in the military. Isolation and marginalization are common experiences. This workshop will identify multi-faceted issues, triggers and biases that face MMP and use fictionalized case material to illustrate strategies for supporting Muslim veterans via counseling programs and within their faith communities through resources such as themes in daily and seasonal prayers.

4. Discernment: Seeking the Gift of Fuller Life

Elizabeth Liebert

This workshop draws on spiritual practices of discernment that have deep historical roots in Christian tradition. After a brief introduction to this ancient practice, participants will draw on fictionalized case material to explore ways practices of spiritual discernment in both its everyday expressions and its more formal moments, are effective with veterans affected by moral injury.

5. The Role of Religious Communities in Reintegration and Recovery

Zachary Moon

Religious communities are an important context for veterans to experience sustained, authentic relationships of support and trust as they address and heal from moral injury. In this workshop participants will explore the unique challenges and opportunities of religious communities and religious leaders to provide contexts of mutual trust, care, and shared engagement in the journey of naming and healing from moral injury. The workshop will explore strategies that are internal to the faith community and its relational and liturgical life as well as strategies for engagement in service to the community that deepen veterans' renewed sense of contributing to others.

6. Moral Injury as Grief and Loss: Resources for Care

Nancy J. Ramsay and Rabbi Kim Geringer

Grief and Loss helps describe the experience of Moral Injury. Like grief, moral injury is a life-long and relational experience. This workshop invites participants to explore experiences of military moral injury through the lens of grief and loss. We will also consider how military moral injury arises as a nation wages war which points to the importance of helping members of faith communities consider their own relation to moral injury. We will give particular attention to ways ritual practices may be incorporated to assist in healing individually and corporately as well as in public contexts.

7. Care for the vulnerable in Hebrew Scripture: Advocacy as a form of Spiritual Care

Rabbi Nancy H. Wiener

By studying the levitical text and II Kings texts together, we will consider the ways in which pastoral accompaniment can offer veterans a sense of profound connection and inspire them to advocate for themselves, which in turn can have a significant, life-sustaining impact on the future of populations that extend far beyond themselves. Participants in this workshop will explore similarities between their work with veterans and the relationship of the Levitical priest with the metzora. In particular the workshop will focus attention to strategies in accompaniment that promote self-advocacy and its possible broader societal impact.