CALL FOR PAPERS

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The Spirit's Voice from the Margin: Disentangling Australasian Pentecostalism from White Hegemony



The events of 2020, including the BLM movement and increasing calls for awareness of racial injustice, have sharpened the need for a diverse set of voices from within the Pentecostal world. Pentecostalism draws self-identity from the Acts 2 narrative, with the many diverse voices raised interpreted as the sign of the Spirit's inauguration of the global church. Nevertheless, today, dominant contemporary Australasian Pentecostal culture (both academia and church) has prioritised white/Western voices. Often, there is an implicit expectation that non-white participants must adopt hybrid or bicultural identities in order to participate fully. Adherents are often forced to surrender distinctive cultural traits in order to become "Westernised" Pentecostals, and therefore the movement has trended toward fundamentally altered (and less diverse) worldviews. This volume invites contributors to explore their cultural roots. It seeks to prioritise non-white voices from the margins to challenge the dominant assumptions about Australasian Pentecostals.

Global issues are being recognised as increasingly complex, and Pentecostals are by no means immune: privilege, status, power, and political affiliation; each are key factors in the current landscape of Australasian Pentecostalism. By drawing on Pentecostals' unique expressions in non-white or hybrid spaces, we hope to show that global Pentecostalism need not be defined or dominated by a global white/Western identity, but can and must continue to be a diverse collection of distinctive localised church movements. Rather than an imposed, uniform response, which is impossible given Pentecostal organisational autonomy and Pentecostal theology's theological flexibility, such issues may be best addressed in dialogue between the voices of Pentecostals who inhabit "the ends of the earth."

Contributors wishing to submit an article for consideration are invited to send an abstract of up to 200 words to <u>u-wen.low@ac.edu.au</u> by no later than the 28th of February, 2021. Abstracts should clearly address the themes set out above, though other submissions, particularly those pertaining to exploring the intersections of ethnicity and postcolonial thought in an Australasian setting, will be considered. Successful contributors will be invited to make themselves available (digitally) for a session to collaboratively discuss/review work in addition to the usual double-blind peer review process.