



Glyn Williams (BTh Hons)
Mukhanyo Theological College
Distance Manager & Lecturer

*Protecting
Theological
Education
against Secular
Humanism*

The Problem



*Basic Philosophy of
Secular Humanism*

Affirms that all people have inherent dignity and worth, and therefore people should live ethical lives, seeking the greater good of humanity


*Basic Philosophy of
Secular Humanism*

Human dignity and worth is based on our relationship with God, and morality is determined by God

Human dignity and worth is based on our relationship with god [me], and morality is determined by god [me]

*The Secular Humanist
Agenda*

Seeks to end all religious worship in schools, include humanism in the syllabus, and bring an end to church schools and other schools with a religious character




*The Secular Humanist
Agenda*

Strongly pro-abortion, arguing for its decriminalisation, the provision of home-use abortion pills, buffer zones around abortion clinics and the restriction of medical professionals' right to conscientiously object

*The Secular Humanist
Agenda*

Campaigns for the legalisation of
euthanasia and assisted suicide



*The Secular Humanist
Agenda*

Wants to liberalise sex education in schools, to include abortion and teaching on LGBTQIA+ issues within the syllabus, with no right of withdrawal – Consistently promotes LGBTQIA+ rights

*The Secular Humanist
Agenda*

Seeks to criminalise the teaching of creation in the school syllabus and replace it solely with evolutionary theory

Truth has now become hate speech!

*“During times of universal deceit,
telling truth becomes a revolutionary
act.”*

Credited to George Orwell,
though not proven


Its Effect

*The Far-reaching
Consequences of Secular
Humanism*

If secular humanism is true then
God is not God.

If God isn't God then He has no
authority and the Bible is not true.

If He has no authority and the Bible
isn't true, then we can believe and
do whatever we want.



*The Far-reaching
Consequences of Secular
Humanism*

If we can believe and do whatever we want, then there is no need for a Saviour.

If there is no need for a Saviour, then Jesus did not exist.


If Jesus didn't exist, then there was no death and resurrection.

*The Far-reaching
Consequences of Secular
Humanism*

If there was no death and resurrection of Jesus, then *"we are of all people most to be pitied"* and our faith is a lie (1 Cor. 15:19)!

*William Booth (1829-1912),
founder of the Salvation
Army, when asked what he
thought would be the chief
dangers, social or political,
of the coming century*

*"I consider that the chief dangers
which confront the coming century
will be: religion without the Holy
Ghost, Christianity without Christ,
forgiveness without repentance,
salvation without regeneration,
politics without God, and heaven
without hell."*



*Humanism Applied to
Education*

Student-centered education

We should first understand the needs, interests, abilities, age level, attitude, aptitude, and environment of the student then organise the teaching-learning process according to these

*Humanism Applied to
Education*

Individuality

Individual differences and ideas should be respected and the inherent virtues of the individual developed

The teaching-learning process is to be developed according to this individuality

Humanism Applied to Education

Methods of teaching


Based on psychological principles – should not be teacher-centered and traditional teaching methods are to be avoided

Learner's readiness, mental ability and motivation are considered as the basis for deciding the method of teaching to be used

*Humanism Applied to
Education*

Discipline

Should not be forced on the student, but they should be encouraged to self-discipline and self-control – students should be given the responsibility to discipline themselves



*Humanism Applied to
Education*

Role of the teacher

The teacher acts as a guide, friend or helper of the students, and must not force his own methods and views on the student

Students should be given the freedom to develop and make progress according to their own pace, needs and interests

To the Christian Nobility
by Martin Luther, 1520 (p. 476)

“The universities need a sound and thorough reformation . . . Loose living is practised there; little is taught of the Holy Scripture or the Christian faith; the blind pagan teacher, Aristotle, is of more consequence than Christ.”

To the Christian Nobility
by Martin Luther, 1520 (p. 476)

“But I would not advise anyone to send his son to a place where the Holy Scriptures do not come first. Every institution, where the Word of God is not taught regularly, must fail. That is why we observe the kind of people who are now and will continue to be in the universities...”

To the Christian Nobility
by Martin Luther, 1520 (p. 476)

"... I greatly fear that the universities are but wide-open gates leading to hell, as they are not diligent in training and impressing the Holy Scripture on the young students."

*What are some of the ways
that secular humanism
has been evidenced within
your institution?*

The Solution



What are some ways that you can combat secular humanism within your classroom or institution?

*Three-Pronged Attack:
Know the Enemy*

1 Chronicles 12:32

“Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, 200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command.”

Three-Pronged Attack:

Know the Enemy

Romans 1:18-32

“suppress the truth” (v.18)

“although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him” (v21)

“exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things” (v.23)

“impurity” (v24)

*Three-Pronged Attack:
Know the Enemy*

Romans 1:18-32

“dishonoring of their bodies among themselves” (v.24)

“worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator” (v.25)

“dishonorable passions... exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature” (vs 26-27)

“debased mind to do what ought not to be done” (v.28)

*Three-Pronged Attack:
Know the Enemy*

Romans 1:18-32

“filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice... envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness... gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless” (vs 29-31)

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Hold fast to the
Word of God and the
Fundamental Doctrines
of the Faith*

2 Timothy 4:1-5

*"I charge you in the presence of God
and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge
the living and the dead, and by his
appearing and his kingdom: preach
the word; be ready in season and out
of season; reprove, rebuke, and
exhort, with complete patience and
teaching."*

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Hold fast to the
Word of God and the
Fundamental Doctrines
of the Faith*

2 Timothy 4:1-5

“For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Hold fast to the
Word of God and the
Fundamental Doctrines
of the Faith*

Colossians 2:8

*“See to it that no one takes you
captive by philosophy and empty
deceit, according to human tradition,
according to the elemental spirits
[principles] of the world, and not
according to Christ.”*

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Deal with the Heart of the
Problem – Idolatry*

The temptation starts by seeing mankind as God (the worship of man), and progresses to seeing “me” as God (the worship of self)

In the end it's idolatry, exalting and magnifying myself over God
(Gen. 3:5)

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Deal with the Heart of the
Problem – Idolatry*

Institutes of the Christian Religion
by John Calvin (1.11.8)

“Hence we may infer that the human mind, so to speak, is a perpetual factory of idols... The human mind, stuffed as it is with presumptuous rashness, dares to imagine a god suited to its own capacity; as it labours under dullness, nay, is sunk in the grossest ignorance, it substitutes vanity and an empty phantom in the place of God.”

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Deal with the Heart of the
Problem – Idolatry*

2 Timothy 3:1-5

“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, ...”

Three-Pronged Attack:

*Deal with the Heart of the
Problem – Idolatry*

2 Timothy 3:1-5

*“... lovers of pleasure rather than
lovers of God, having the appearance
of godliness, but denying its power.
Avoid such people.”*

Our Agenda

*Fundamentalism and the
Word of God*

by JI Packer (p. 136)

*“Our business is to present the
Christian faith clothed in modern
terms, not to propagate modern
thought clothed in Christian terms.”*