

Dissertation Abstracts

Andrews University, Seventh-day
Adventist Theological Seminary

Title: Cultural Practices Chal-
lenging the Adventist Church:
A Case Study on Polygamy in
Ghana

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Polygamists are not accepted into fellowship through baptism in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ghana. They do not enjoy the privilege of belonging to the Adventist Church, neither do they have the chance to participate in the rituals of the church, or do ministry or mission in the church.

Current literature on polygamy—books, articles, newspapers, internet sources, and the works of Adventist and non-Adventist scholars were reviewed. Questionnaires and interviews were administered to solicit feelings, opinions, and suggestions from people impacted by polygamy. Polygamists in the Bible and

how they were treated were also analyzed.

A Logical Framework and Gantt Chart were developed and used to plan a strategy to integrate polygamous men into the Adventist Church.

The effects regarding the existing policy on polygamists have been reiterated. Its effects on the Adventist Church's ministry and mission in society, and its rippling effects on the victim's physical and spiritual well being have been pointed out. Experiences from other denominations, especially on how they treat converted polygamists have been presented as lessons for the Adventist Church.

The Adventist Church needs to accept polygamists into the church either through baptism or give them the sense of belonging for it is vital for both their physical as well as spiritual growth.

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Title: Improving the Economic
Life of Adventists and Motivating
Them to Increase Their Financial
Support of the Church: A Case
Study from the Mid-West Ghana
Conference