THROUGH A GLASS, DARKLY:

HOW STRATEGIC AMBIGUITY DISTORTS SPIRITUAL READINESS

Ernest (Jay) West Chaplain (Colonel) U.S. Army

COUNTERTERRORISM AND PUBLIC POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
SANFORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY
DUKE UNIVERSITY



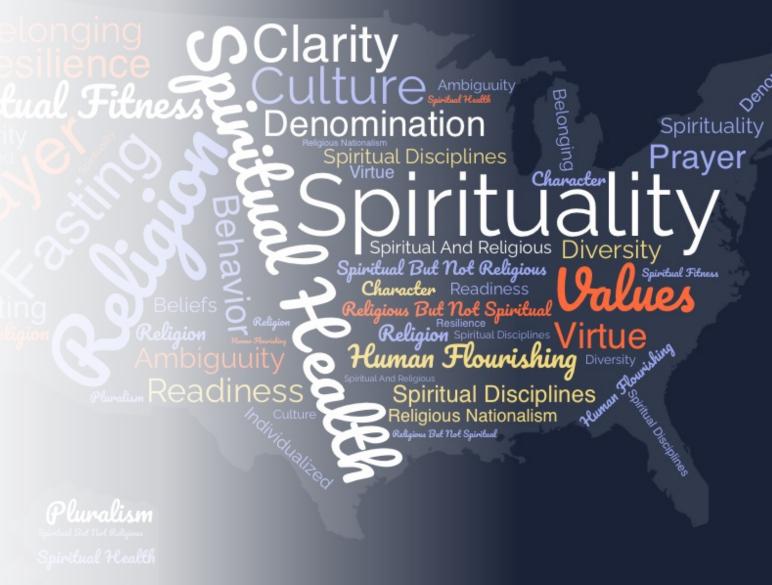
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RESEARCH QUESTION & FINDINGS

- Vague Language...
- A Foggy View...
- Individualized Certification...
- Prioritizes Inputs Over Outputs...
- Ambitious Outcomes...
- Distorted Readiness...

"Spiritual readiness assessments are subjective and based on self-selection and self-assessment..." (FM 7-22)



CLEARING THE FOG

A COMMON LANGUAGE

- Army Core Values
- Establishment Clause
- Readiness
 - Structural Readiness
 - Operational Readiness
 - Warrior (Soldier) Readiness
- Spirituality
- Spiritual Disciplines
- Spiritual Fitness

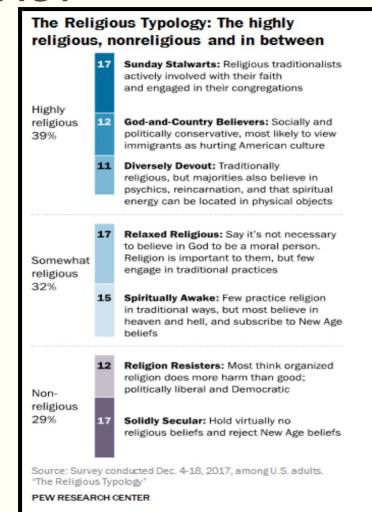
- Spiritual Health
- Spiritual Readiness
- Spiritual Resilience
- Pluralism
- Religion
- Virtue



CLEARING THE FOG

SPIRITUAL & RELIGIOUS LITERACY

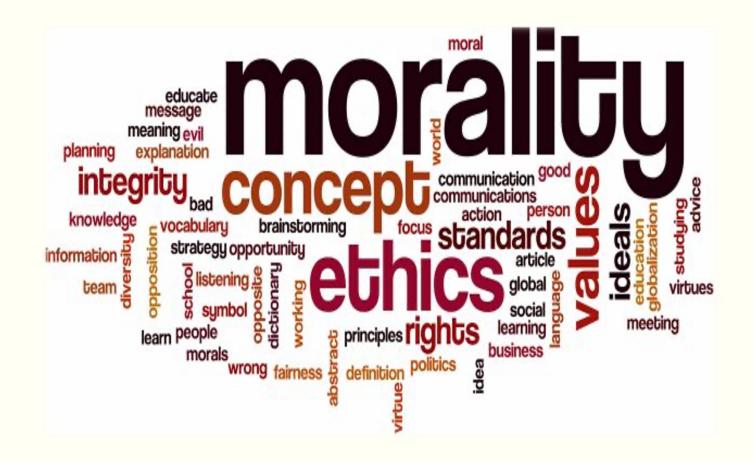
- Understanding Cultural Forces
- Religious Belief, Behavior, Belonging
- The Religious Typology
- Impacts on the Army
 - Officers More Religious than Enlisted Force
 - Officers More Likely to Identify Religious Affiliation
 - US Population More Religious than Enlisted Force
 - Projections:
 - Officer Religious Affiliation Projected Stable
 - Enlisted Will Decrease / No Affiliation Will Increase



CLEARING THE FOG

BUILDING & SUSTAINING SPIRITUAL HEALTH

"Who is responsible?"



RECOMMENDATIONS

■ PRACTITIONER:

- Establish clear, standardized readiness requirements, measures, indicators, and terminology.
- Develop spiritually literate leaders.
- Develop spiritually astute leaders.
- Reframe language from Spiritual Readiness to Spiritual Fitness/Spiritual Health.

POLICY:

- Assess future religious support requirements.
- Expand support for diverse spiritual needs.
- Certify religious leaders committed to religious pluralism.

FURTHER RESEARCH:

- Evidence-based spirituality programs for Army application.
- Protective factors between spirituality, religiosity, and surging loneliness.
- Protective factors between spirituality, religion, and depression.
- Protective factors between spirituality, religion, and deaths of despair.
- Spirituality, religion, and White, Christian, Nationalism

