

Framework Analysis

In its study of sexuality and ordination, the Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church used a framework analysis. This structure helped them analyze papers that were written from a spectrum of perspectives on the issue [for the specific papers used, see “Bibliography of Materials Read by Members of the Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church” (Section VI) on the resource CD or the task force’s Web site].

The questions they used in their analysis were these:

1. What sources of authority does the writer appeal to? Scripture? Reason? Experience? “Facts”?
2. How is Scripture used? Proof-text? Broad appeals to scriptural themes?
3. How are themes of creation and redemption reflected and related? How about the themes of nature and grace?
4. What role does sin (as defined by the author) play in the account? How is sinfulness dealt with?
5. What is the role of the church conceived to be? Corrective? Affirming? Transforming? Separate?