



UJ Press

18 May 2026

To whom it may concern

CONFIRMATION OF PEER REVIEW AND PUBLICATION

This letter serves to confirm that the following work was peer-reviewed and published by UJ Press:

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Editors: K.J. Pali and W.J. Schoeman
Affiliation: University of the Free State

Content:

Introduction

K. Joseph Pali, W.J. Schoeman

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-00>

Doing practical theology and empirical research in the African context

K. Joseph Pali

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Describing township congregations through a quantitative empirical lens

W.J. Schoeman

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A practical theological reflection on the leadership of the pastors in the township of Mangaung

K. Joseph Pali

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An empirical exploration of leadership approaches in African Independent Churches in Mangaung

W.J. Schoeman, Heyns du Preez

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-04>

Post-colonial preaching in a township: Discovery and critical reflection on an African sermon

Wessel Wessels

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-05>

Practice orientated research in service of the study of multi-cultural congregations

Nico Mostert

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-06>

Congregational research in a context of poverty: Methodological markers for conducting Practice Orientated Research

W.J. Schoeman, Marelize Maritz

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-07>

Children's ministry in a township with reference to early childhood development

W.J. Schoeman, Lefu Tefo Maphalla

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-08>

Engaged congregational research serving communion driven transformation of church and society

Christiaan Hermans

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9781997468752-09>

We hereby certify that the original manuscript was subjected to an independent double-blind peer review process and was reviewed by external reviewers. The review reports were shared with the scholars and they adhered with great care to the recommendations for improvements made by the reviewers, and I hereby confirm that the publisher is satisfied that the manuscript was revised sufficiently according to the recommendations made by the reviewers and complies with the following benchmarks:

1. The manuscript disseminates original research which contributes to the national, and where applicable, the global knowledge in the relevant field.
2. The target audience is specialists/peers in the relevant fields and the research chapters do not constitute a textbook or a popular book intended for the general public.
3. The research methodologies followed are clear and accurate.
4. The structure and systemisation of the manuscript is in order.
5. The quality and quantity of the references are acceptable.
6. No plagiarism was noted by the editors or the external reviewers

UJ Press requires at least two positive reviews of a title before accepting it for publication. The reviews are attached to this letter. The book is available in print, as well as in electronic and audio formats.

We trust that the above should suffice, but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further enquiries.

Sincerely,



Wikus van Zyl
Manager: UJ Press

Practical Theology and Empirical Research

Reviewer: A

Completed: 2025-04-14 07:47:28

1. Original research

Please indicate whether the manuscript disseminates original research and new developments within specific disciplines, sub-disciplines or fields of study.

The manuscript does present original research that contributes new insights to the field of practical theology; however, I would recommend that the author add emphasis on the 'African context' as it somehow lacks that perspective

2. Target audience

Please indicate whether the target audience of the manuscript is specialists in the relevant field.

The manuscript is primarily intended for specialists in Practical Theology, especially those interested in empirical research within an African context

3. Structure & Methodology

Please indicate whether the manuscript is structured in a logical manner and whether the methodology is clear.

While the methodology is clear, the structure lacks some direction as chapters seem independent. If this is a book, there is a need to include clear transitions and purpose statements in each chapter. This helps the reader to have direction on what they are going to find in a specific chapters.

4. Referencing

Please indicate whether the referencing in the manuscript is up to standard and done uniformly in the same referencing style throughout.

This needs to be reworked as the reference styles are scattered all over. There is no uniformity

5. Depth of Research

Please indicate whether the depth of research is sufficient and whether it engages the current literature on the topic.

Yes, it is sufficient and it engages relevant and current literature

6. Plagiarism

Please indicate if you suspect any plagiarism or self-referencing in the book.

On my part i didn't suspect any plagiarism

7. Ethics

Please comment on whether you see any issues of ethical or legal concern in the book.

No ethical issues

8. Comments or Suggestions

Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the manuscript?

Please review my comments throughout the manuscript.

9. Recommendation

Do you recommend the manuscript for publication?

- I recommend the publication of the manuscript without any changes
- I recommend the publication of the manuscript with minor changes
- I recommend the publication of the manuscript after major changes
- I do not recommend the publication of the manuscript

Review Files

Practical Theology and Empirical Research.pdf

Ch 08 Children's ministry anon.docx

Ch 09 Engaged scholarship anon.docx

Ch 06 Doing practice orientated research anon.docx

Ch 07 Congregational research POR anon.doc

Ch 05 Preaching in the Township anon.docx

Ch 04 AIC leadership anon.docx

Ch 02 Township research anon.docx

Ch 03 Role of pastors anon.docx

Ch 01 Doing practical theology and empirical research anon.docx

Ch 00 Introduction anon.docx

Practical Theology and Empirical Research

Reviewer: B

Completed: 2025-03-27 07:10:44

1. Original research

Please indicate whether the manuscript disseminates original research and new developments within specific disciplines, sub-disciplines or fields of study.

Yes

2. Target audience

Please indicate whether the target audience of the manuscript is specialists in the relevant field. Scholars in and out of the context studies, and reflecting practitioners within the context.

3. Structure & Methodology

Please indicate whether the manuscript is structured in a logical manner and whether the methodology is clear.

There are som major problems here, see attachment.

4. Referencing

Please indicate whether the referencing in the manuscript is up to standard and done uniformly in the same referencing style throughout.

All godt, from what I see.

5. Depth of Research

Please indicate whether the depth of research is sufficient and whether it engages the current literature on the topic.

See attachement. I would have liked a more delicate handling of the qualitative material, especially regarding sampling and analysis.

6. Plagiarism

Please indicate if you suspect any plagiarism or self-referencing in the book.

Not from what I see

7. Ethics

Please comment on whether you see any issues of ethical or legal concern in the book.

No problems.

8. Comments or Suggestions

Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the manuscript?

See attachment

9. Recommendation

Do you recommend the manuscript for publication?

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