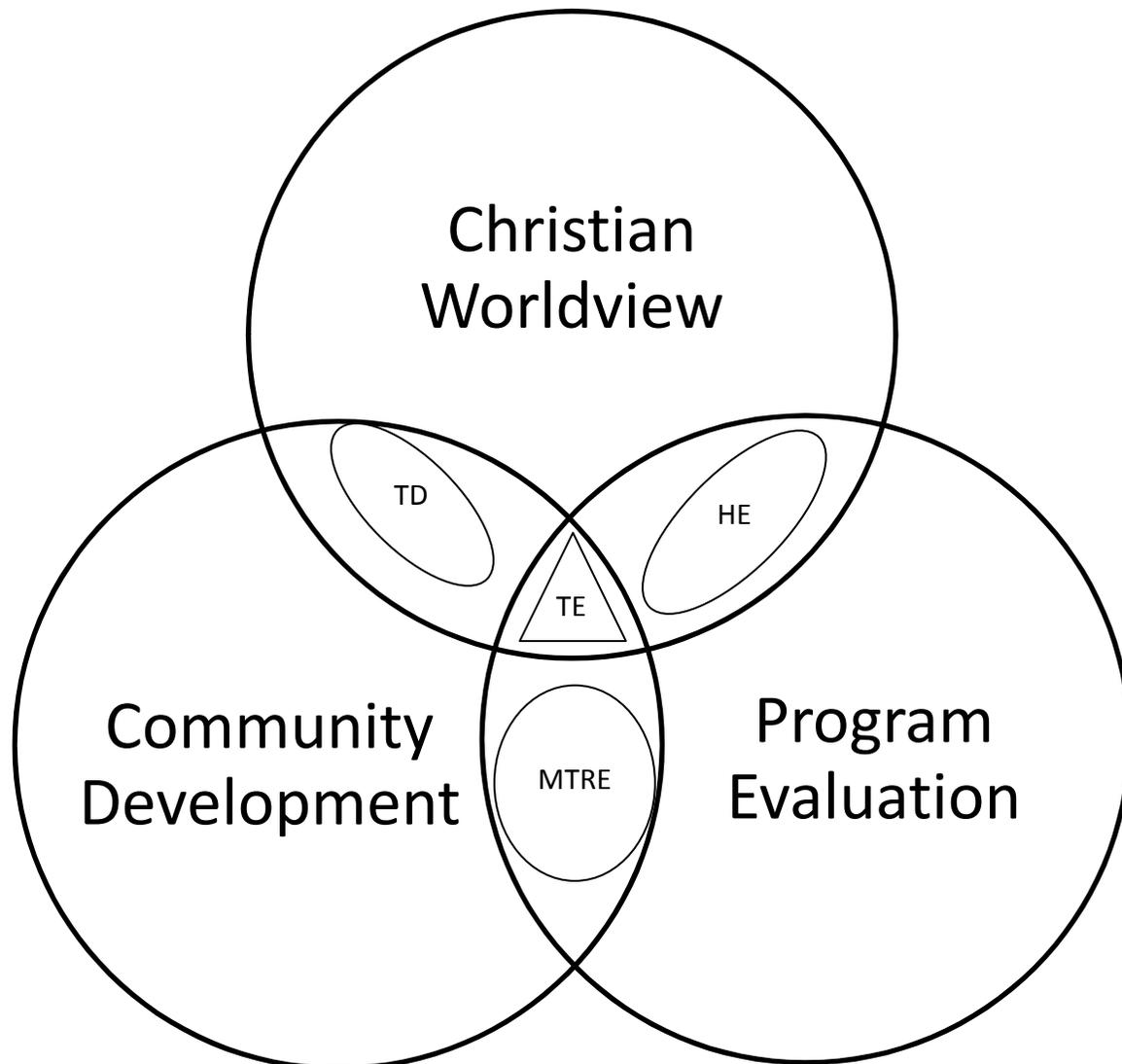


Cookingham's Transformative Evaluation (TE) as the intersection of transformational development (TD), holistic evaluation (HE) and Merten's transformative research and evaluation (MTRE). February 2014.



MTRE is described in detail in Mertens, Donna M. (2009). *Transformative research and evaluation*. New York, New York: The Guildford Press.

Defining features of a Christian worldview

There are many descriptions of a Christian worldview. This list of features is based on Pearcey (2005, especially pp. 44-49, 95).

- All created reality comes from the hand of God and was originally and intrinsically good.
- All parts of creation are marred by sin (i.e., rebellion against sovereignty of God).
- All is capable of being redeemed, restored, and transformed by God's grace.

- When we are redeemed we resume the task assigned to us by God: develop the social world and harness the natural world. We creatively use our gifts and talents to develop the powers and potentials that God originally built into the creation.

Pearcey, Nancy. 2005. Total Truth: Liberating Christianity from its Cultural Captivity. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.

Defining features of community development

Community development involves improving the capacity of community individuals, groups and agencies to provide for the needs of community members in a sustainable manner. Typically the broad goals are related to economic and social progress, and there is emphasis on facilitating the community itself to take initiative for planning and monitoring implementation.

Defining features of transformational development

Community development becomes transformational community development when participants engage in holistic thinking as they plan and implement development activities. That is, individual and corporate spiritual dimensions are inextricably woven into daily living. The primary focus is on facilitating loving relationships with God and neighbor while confronting manifestations of evil affecting community members.

Defining features of program evaluation

Program evaluation involves collecting, analyzing and interpreting trustworthy information to support judgments about the intrinsic merit of a program as well as the worth of the program from various perspectives such as effectiveness, efficiency and added value.

Defining features of Merten's approach to evaluation

A defining feature of MTRE is the intentional framing of evaluation findings to promote social justice.

Defining features of holistic evaluation

Program evaluation becomes holistic when a primary objective is to determine how the program affects love of God and neighbor.

Defining features of transformative evaluation

Cookingham's TE is focused on transformational development programs. Holistic evaluation becomes transformative when a primary evaluation objective is to facilitate deeper understanding among stakeholders about what really matters in community development from a spiritual perspective. The evaluation is a blend of traditional evaluation methods and spiritual disciplines.