

Dear Joe

Someone had called my attention to the blog and I had already visited it. However, not being a "blogger" I'm not sure how to participate and I think I will let the conversation roll without me.

Here a few points that I'd ask you to share with the bloggers.

First, for very good reasons that I point out in my writings, I far prefer the term "praxis" - as reflection on life - to experience and especially as the latter was popularized in educational writings by Dewey. For Dewey, "experience" is something you undergo; for me (and Freire, etc.) "praxis" is mostly what you initiate and "do." I never use "experience" in describing my own approach.

Second, anyone presuming to comment on my work, in fairness to me, should read it, and especially my most recent book *Will There Be Faith*. Chapters 8 and 9 there are my clearest and most reader-friendly statement of a "shared Christian praxis approach" or - as I describe it less technically, a "life to Faith to life" approach.

Third, the "persona non grata" blog you refer within your statement is simply a calumnious attack on me personally and on my work. I have responded to these kinds of scurrilous attacks on the website of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry - <http://www.bc.edu/schools/stm/> - hit on faculty, then my name, and then on my essay "Truth Betrayed."

Again, anyone presuming to critique me or my work should read the *apologia pro vita mea* that I offer there. The original author of the first major attack on my work, Eamonn Keane, now so often quoted and that shapes the persona non grata piece on EWTN, has never responded to my rebuttal of him. Yet, he has let his false claims continue to stand - and spread.

Best blessings

Tom