

Review of: "The Catholic School: Holistic?"

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I enjoyed reading this article, even if I felt I was reading two quite separate essays that have little to do with one another. The discussion of Lonergan constituted a useful survey of his ideas, even if much of it has been discussed either directly or indirectly elsewhere. Unfortunately, much of the background discussion of the first part is not specifically connected to the stated topic of the paper. Indeed, in the second half of the paper where the writer addresses the specific challenges of Catholic education, Lonergan hardly gets a mention. This is not to suggest that this discussion is wrongheaded as much as it is distant from the first half of the paper. The two parts of the paper need to be pulled together.

Having said this, there is not much that is original in the second half. Many have discussed the challenges of looking at religions other than one's own with a sympathetic eye and from the perspective of the believer and how an understanding and appreciation of other religions can enhance one's own individual faith experience. I would suggest that the author either write a paper on Lonergan or one on the challenges of religious education, but not on both, or at least not in the current bifurcated way.