

Review of: "The Catholic School: Holistic?"

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This is a timely article since, in my experience, there seems to be an increasing divide between the kind of empiricist and utilitarian language used in schools and the religious language emanating from a confessional stance. Indeed, theological discourse can appear dry, abstract and quite frankly off putting to many staff and students and this needs to be addressed urgently. I also think it is creative and worthwhile to apply leading Catholic theologians like Lonergan to issues facing contemporary Catholic Education and I commend the author for doing this intelligently. However, if this exercise is to be done with success there needs to a more careful mapping of the insights of the chosen theologian to specific dilemmas facing Catholic Education. At times there was not a sufficiently clearly articulated link-up between the two domains so the reader was left a little puzzled as to the relevant applicability the author was keen to communicate and had to fill in the gaps for herself. Having said this, the piece stimulated much thought and I hope further work will be conducted in this area.