

Table of Contents

Foreword	11
Abstract	15
1 Psychology and Spirit Possession	17
1.1 What is Psychology?	17
1.1.1 What is the history of psychology?.....	20
1.2 What is mental illness?	24
1.3 How do psychologists diagnose mental illness?	27
1.3.1 General possibilities for diagnosis	27
1.3.2 DSM-5 and ICD-10	28
1.3.3 Further indications for the diagnosis of mental illness.....	28
1.3.3.1 The conviction of the psychologist towards the applied method	30
1.3.3.2 The therapist effect.....	30
1.3.3.3 Expectations of the client	30
1.3.3.4 Feedback	30
1.3.3.5 Medication	31
1.4 Cultural expressions of mental illness.....	31
1.5 Spirit possession from a psychological perspective.....	33
1.5.1 Culture-bound phenomenon	34
1.5.2 Witchcraft explanations	34
1.5.3 Hysteria and dissociation.....	34
1.5.4 Delusions	34
1.6 Interdisciplinary approach to spirit possession.....	38
1.6.1 The Anthropological Perspective.....	38
1.6.1.1 Natural explanations.....	38
1.6.1.2 Trance possession	39

1.6.1.3	Spirit possession without trance	39
1.6.2	The theological/historical perspective.....	39
1.6.3	The social-psychological perspective of Protestant and Catholic theologians.....	39
1.6.4	The medical-psychological perspective	39
2	Theology and Spirit Possession	41
2.1	What is Theology?.....	41
2.2	What is spirit possession?	43
2.3	Theological history of spirit possession	45
2.3.1	Antiquity, the Bible and early Christianity	45
2.3.2	The Middle Ages and Exorcism in the Catholic Church....	47
2.3.3	The Time of Enlightenment.....	50
2.3.4	From the 19th Century Up to the 20th Century	51
2.3.5	Deliverance Ministry in the 21st Century.....	51
2.4	How do pastors diagnose spirit possession?	52
2.4.1	The Dilemma of free church pastors	53
2.5	Religious and cultural expression of spirit possession	54
2.6	Spirit possession in a theological-biblical perspective.....	55
2.6.1	Exorcism in the Old Testament	55
2.6.2	Exorcism in the New Testament.....	56
3	Psychological Theories of Spirit Possession	61
3.1	Hypnotism, hysteria and subconscious ideas	63
3.2	The psychodynamic theories of Sigmund Freud and Carl Gustav Jung	65
3.2.1	Sigmund Freud.....	65
3.2.2	Carl Gustav Jung	67
3.2.2.1	Spirit Possession	68
3.2.2.2	The Shadow	68
3.2.2.3	The Evil.....	69

3.2.3	Transpersonal Psychology	69
3.3	Organic psychiatric interpretations.....	70
3.3.1	Dissociative Disorders.....	70
3.4	Weak Quantum Theory	71
3.5	Model of Pragmatic Information	72
3.6	Parapsychological theory	74
3.6.1	History of Parapsychology	75
3.6.2	Current Status of Research.....	76
3.6.3	Criticism of parapsychological theory	77
4	Theological Theories of Spirit Possession	81
4.1	Theological Theories of Spirit Possession in the Protestant Churches in Germany	81
4.2.1	Dr. Kurt Koch	85
4.2.2	The Charismatic Movement within the Protestant Church	88
4.3	Theological Theories of Spirit Possession in the Catholic Churches in Germany.....	91
4.3.1	“Rituale Romanum”	92
4.3.2	Charismatic Movement within the Roman Catholic Church	95
4.4	Theological Theories of Spirit Possession in Free Churches in Germany	95
4.4.1	Bund evangelisch-freikirchlicher Gemeinden (BEFG) – Baptist Churches.....	97
4.4.2	Bund freier-evangelischer Gemeinden (BFEG) – Alliance of Free Protestant Churches.....	98
4.4.3	Bund freikirchlicher Pfingstgemeinden (BFP) – Alliance of Pentecostal Churches.....	98
5	Methodology.....	103
5.1	Research objective	103

5.2 Rationale	104
5.3 Design/Approach.....	105
5.3.1 Main characteristics on qualitative research.....	106
5.3.2 Interviews	107
5.3.3 Research Questions.....	108
5.3.4 Interview guide	109
5.4 Sampling	109
5.5 Participant demographics	110
5.6 Data collection using the semi-structured interviews.....	111
5.7 Thematic content analysis.....	112
6 Results and Discussion.....	115
6.1 Theme 1: Distinction between mental illness and spirit possession	115
6.1.1 Pastors who had treated and diagnosed spirit possession	119
6.1.2 Pastors who diagnosed mental illness.....	122
6.1.3 Pastors who are unsure	123
6.2 Theme 2: If it is a mental illness, how do they proceed?	123
6.3 Theme 3: If it is demon possession, how do they proceed?.....	124
6.4 Theme 4: Lack of integrated knowledge regarding mental illness and spirit possession	125
7 Conclusion.....	131
Reference List	135
Appendix	147
Appendix I	147
Appendix II	148