

**THE COMMERCIALISATION OF RELIGION AND
THE ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OF PEOPLE'S
BELIEF SYSTEMS**

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CURRENT CHALLENGES IN THE RELIGIOUS SECTOR IN SA

1. The mushrooming of independent and charismatic churches in the country by both South African and foreign pastors
2. The lack of effective regulations of the religious sector profession.
3. The religious sector accounts to no one
4. The Big man Syndrome

CURRENT CHALLENGES IN THE RELIGIOUS AND TRADITIONAL HEALING SECTORS IN SA

- 5. The “supermarket approach” in places of worship.
- 6. Unemployment, inequality and poverty.
- 7. Patriarchy

Challenges in the Religious and Cultural

1. Mind manipulation and indoctrination of congregants, especially women.
2. Threats of death if one fails to submit to the religious leaders instruction.
3. Economic abuse
4. Sexually violated victims are threatened by some religious leaders.

- 5. The Omotoso Syndrome
- 6. The 7 Angels Syndrome

RECOMMENDATIONS

- We believe that the role of the State is to protect its citizens
- The CRL Rights Commission proposed the regulation of the Religious sector, in particular, religious practitioners
- An urgent need for public education and awareness campaigns

THANK YOU

