

Social Location and Power in Ministry



PRESENTATION TO
NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPLAINS' ASSOCIATION

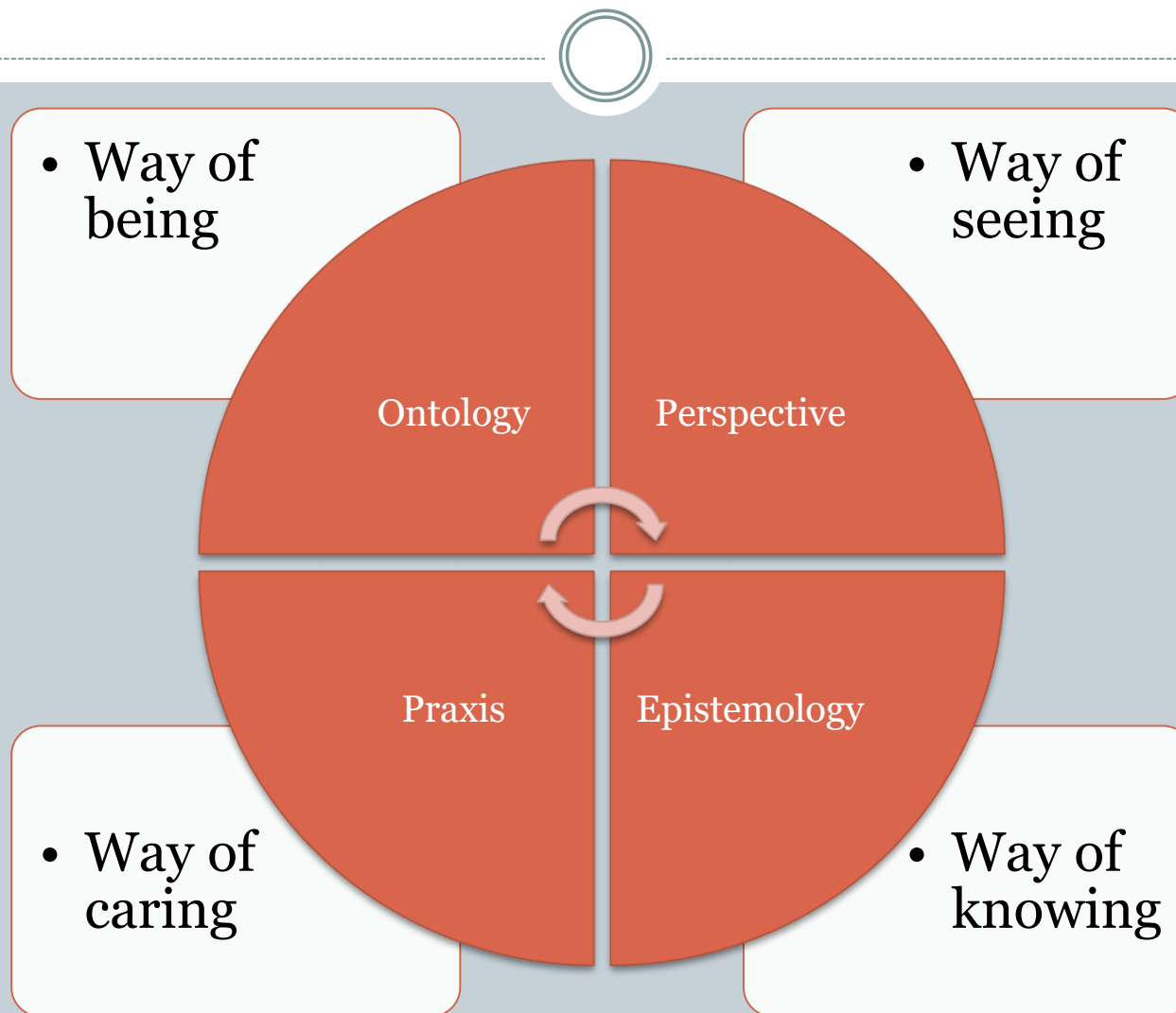
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Explore impact of social location and power



- On pastoral care
 - Sensitivity, openness, respect for self and others
 - Respect for diversity and difference
 - Spiritual assessment
- On interdisciplinary work in health care institutions
- On self care and pastoral authority

Worldview model



Social Location Characteristics



race | gender | class | sexual orientation | age | ability | religion | education

Who's got the power?



race | gender | class | sexual orientation | age | ability | religion | education
white | cis/male | high/rich | hetero | middle | able | Christian | more

How do I stack up?



race | gender | class | sexual orientation | age | ability | religion | education



Who matters?



race | gender | class | sexual orientation | age | ability | religion | education

racism | cis/sexism | classism | cis/hetero | age-ism | able-ism | intolerance | ...

Impact on pastoral care



- Caregivers ...
 - How do we manage the impact of oppressions on *us*?
- Careseekers ...
 - What do we know about the emotional and spiritual impact of oppressive realities we don't share?
 - What resources and strengths might be present that we miss?
- Caregiving relationship ...
 - Our lived realities are different; how can we nuance our care accordingly?

Interdisciplinary care



- **Are these pastoral care's concerns?**
 - Who on the team attends to socially determined realities?
 - Material impact of oppressions on access to resources, including health care and support after hospital discharge?
 - ED utilization?
 - Readmission rates?
 - Management of chronic illnesses?
 - Congregational partnerships with health care institutions?

Self-care and pastoral authority



- Increasing understanding about social location and power will help
 - Increase compassion for self and others
 - Increase cultural competencies and power-awareness
 - Increase awareness of societal/cultural impacts for self and others
 - Deepen quality and potentially widen scope of care
 - Key to living into the love and justice mandates of many spiritual and religious traditions