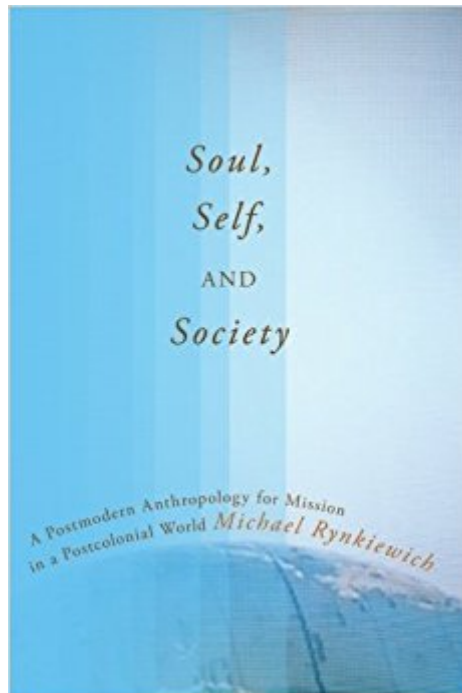


The book was found

# Soul, Self, And Society: A Postmodern Anthropology For Mission In A Postcolonial World



## Synopsis

Globalization and urbanization are twin forces that are powerfully shaping economics, politics, and religion in the world today. Traditional anthropological theories are inadequate to recognize and analyze trends such as global migration, diasporas, and transnationalism. New departures in anthropology and the social sciences seeking to address these and other phenomena can help us critique and reshape the theology and practice of Christian mission. Today most societies are no longer monocultural. In such multicultural contexts any given individual may be competent in several cultures, several languages, several social networks. What does it mean to be in mission with people on the move--people who present themselves in one social identity, language, and culture within a particular setting, and then in another setting, even on the very same day, present themselves in another social identity, language, and culture? In the face of widespread, rapid movement of peoples and their increasingly fluid and multifaceted identities, will the missionary settle down somewhere or be itinerant along with the people? How are perplexing new questions in particular contexts to be addressed, such as: In what ways is the Nigerian who is founding an AIC congregation near Houston a missionary too? How will Brazilians and Koreans be trained for cross-cultural ministry? The world is changing faster than missionaries can be retrained for service. And yet ethnographic tools are still crucial to missionary practice. This important work seeks to draw on recent developments in anthropology to bring valuable perspective and tools to bear on equipping missionaries for work amidst the rapid shifting and complex shaping of peoples by the forces of today's globalized world.

## Book Information

Paperback: 296 pages

Publisher: Wipf & Stock Pub (January 5, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1606087738

ISBN-13: 978-1606087732

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #554,307 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #903 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Missions & Missionary Work #117306 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality

## Customer Reviews

Michael Rynkiewicz is one of the most insightful authors of missiological anthropology that many missiologists have never read. Until this book, Rynkiewicz's writing was notably found in two extraordinarily good articles appearing *Missiology* in 2002 and 2003, in which he critiqued common anthropological models and theories employed in missiology. In 2011, he published another excellent article in *Mission Studies*, addressing the importance of postmodern anthropology for contemporary missiology. Knowing these articles, I had high expectations coming to his book. Although *Soul, Self, and Society* did not meet all my hopes, it provides a helpful introductory textbook and a useful resource addressing the intersection of missiology and anthropology. The book covers most of the concepts expected of an introduction to cultural anthropology - e.g., kinship, politics, economics - and several often not covered, such as transnationalism and diaspora. Accounts of his missionary work in Papua New Guinea make this a valuable introductory book for prospective missionaries. There are a few striking omissions, such as any discussion of gender, and a few bits that seem tacked on (such as two paragraphs on "business as mission" and a 6 Å Â page final chapter on "The Anthropology of Christianity"), but overall the coverage is thorough. As the author of an introductory anthropology textbook myself, I appreciated the practical help Rynkiewicz provides those in mission work. Unfortunately, while he promises a "postmodern anthropology," he does not interact with contemporary theory much. The most prominent theorists typically associated with postmodern culture theory appear briefly, if at all, and receive no sustained attention.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

*Soul, Self, and Society: A Postmodern Anthropology for Mission in a Postcolonial World* The Postmodern Chronotope. Reading Space and Time in Contemporary Fiction. (Postmodern Studies 30) Postmodern Music, Postmodern Listening Master Self-Discipline: Simple and Effective Steps to Develop Self Discipline, Get Organized, and Make Things Happen! (Willpower, Stress Management, Self ... (Self Improvement And Motivational Book 1) Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference (Princeton Studies in Culture/Power/History) The Touch of Transcendence: A Postcolonial Theology of God The 21-Day Self-Confidence Challenge: An Easy and Step-by-Step Approach to Overcome Self-Doubt & Low Self-Esteem How Anansi Learned Self-Esteem: 10 Original Stories for Building Self-Confidence and Self-Respect Postmodern Gandhi and Other Essays: Gandhi in the World and at Home Iyanla Live!: Self-Value, Self-Worth, Self-Love MINECRAFT: Diary of a Minecraft Bounty Hunter 10 (Mission 'Evil Dinnerbone') ((Mission 4 'Evil

Dinnerbone' Part 1)) The Mission of God's People: A Biblical Theology of the Church's Mission  
(Biblical Theology for Life) National Audubon Society Guide to Marine Mammals of the World  
(National Audubon Society Field Guides (Hardcover)) The Anthropology of Self and Behavior The  
Repeating Island: The Caribbean and the Postmodern Perspective (Post-Contemporary  
Interventions) Poems for the Millennium: The University of California Book of Modern and  
Postmodern Poetry, Vol. 1: From Fin-de-Siecle to Negritude (v. 1) Illness and Culture in the  
Postmodern Age Modern and Postmodern Mime (Modern Dramatists) The Contemporary Print:  
From Pre-Pop to Postmodern The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach

[Dmca](#)