

BOSTON UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dissertation

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THREE SELECTED CHURCH  
PROGRAMS IN DEALING WITH  
TEEN-AGE ALCOHOLISM

by

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **TITLE OF THE FIRST CHAPTER SECOND LINE OF TITLE**

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If you reproduce materials for your appendix, make sure the copy conforms to the margin requirements!

**FAITHFUL TO GOD'S CALL: THE ATTRITION OF EURO-AMERICAN  
WOMEN CLERGY IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

(Order No.            )

Elizabeth J. Collier

Doctor of Theology  
Boston University School of Theology, 2000

Major Professor: Sharon Peebles Burch, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology and  
Religious Education

**ABSTRACT**

Almost one-third of Euro-American clergywomen in the United Methodist Church are not in congregational ministry. Previous research has examined sociological and psychological reasons for women's attrition from that ministry. It has also been suggested that there is a theological dimension to women's exits. However, few studies exist which are dedicated to the exploration of theologies, and specifically the understandings of ministry, of women who have exited. This dissertation investigates the relation between the theological dimension, expressed as an understanding of ministry, and the exit of ordained Euro-American United Methodist women from congregational ministry. A grounded theory social scientific method, in which theory emerges from (is grounded in) data rather than using data to prove theory, is employed to analyze interviews with eighty-eight ordained Euro-American United Methodist women who had served as pastors in congregations in the United States and then exited those positions.