Coalition of Concerned Clergy
Project 2025 Analysis

Project 2025 is a strategic and comprehensive initiative designed by conservative leaders and organizations with the goal of significantly altering the structure and functioning of U.S. governance. It is aligned with right-wing political ideologies that emphasize reducing the size and scope of the federal government, deregulation, and promoting free-market capitalism. Central to the initiative is a focus on reversing many progressive policies, particularly in areas such as healthcare, environmental protection, immigration, civil rights, and social services. Project 2025 advocates for decentralizing power by transferring more control to state and local governments, which reflects a traditional conservative preference for limited federal intervention.

The initiative also aligns with right-wing agendas by promoting policies that favor private industry over public welfare, including tax cuts for corporations and wealthy individuals, the privatization of public services such as education and healthcare, and the deregulation of industries to encourage economic growth. Project 2025 often opposes progressive measures such as climate change mitigation, LGBTQ+ rights, and racial justice initiatives, positioning itself as a counter-movement to liberal and progressive governance. By focusing on these goals, Project 2025 seeks to reshape the political landscape, encouraging policies that align with conservative values of individual responsibility, traditional family structures, and economic freedom, often at the expense of marginalized communities and environmental protections.

Here's a list of policies associated with Project 2025 that stand in contradiction to the theological perspectives outlined above:

1-5. Economic Policies

The economic policies of Project 2025, such as tax cuts for the wealthy and deregulation of corporations, benefit the rich at the expense of marginalized communities, exacerbating income inequality and contradicting the biblical principles of justice and equity. Proverbs 31:8-9 calls for defending the rights of the poor and needy, but Project 2025's emphasis on reducing social safety nets and opposing minimum wage increases undermines economic empowerment for the vulnerable. These policies prioritize corporate interests over the well-being of the community, opposing the theological mandate to ensure fairness and care for those in need, as expressed in James 2:1-4, which warns against favoritism and inequitable treatment of the poor.

Furthermore, the initiative's focus on privatizing public services, including healthcare and education, limits access to essential services for marginalized communities. This approach opposes the biblical call to uplift and support the vulnerable, especially when social systems are designed to help the poor. By promoting policies that primarily benefit the wealthy, Project 2025 stands in direct opposition to the biblical teachings of economic justice and communal

responsibility, reinforcing inequities that hinder the pursuit of justice, equity, and the common good as highlighted in Isaiah 1:17, which urges believers to “seek justice, correct oppression.

1. **Tax Cuts for the Wealthy:** Project 2025 often supports tax policies that disproportionately benefit the wealthy, exacerbating income inequality, which contradicts liberation theology’s emphasis on economic justice and wealth redistribution.
2. **Deregulation of Corporations:** The initiative's push for deregulation benefits large corporations at the expense of worker rights and environmental protections, conflicting with practical theology’s focus on community well-being and stewardship.
3. **Opposition to Minimum Wage Increases:** Project 2025’s resistance to raising the minimum wage undermines economic empowerment for the poor, which is central to liberation and Afrocentric theologies.
4. **Privatization of Public Services:** The move to privatize public services, including healthcare and education, contradicts theological calls for equitable access to essential services.
5. **Reduction in Social Safety Nets:** The initiative’s policies often seek to reduce or eliminate social safety nets, which are vital for marginalized communities and stand in opposition to practical and liberation theology’s emphasis on caring for the vulnerable.

6-10. Social Policies

The social policies of Project 2025, such as restrictive immigration laws and the rollback of civil rights protections, particularly for racial minorities, directly contradict biblical teachings of welcoming the stranger and seeking justice for all people. The Bible calls for compassion and justice, as seen in Leviticus 19:34, which states, “The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself.” Project 2025’s approach to immigration often dehumanizes and marginalizes immigrants, going against this theological mandate. Additionally, its rollback of civil rights protections undermines the fight for racial justice and equality, which is central to Afrocentric theology and the broader call to treat all people with dignity and respect.

Project 2025’s opposition to LGBTQ+ rights and marriage equality, along with its resistance to police reform and accountability, furthers its departure from biblical principles of love, justice, and compassion. Matthew 7:12 urges, “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.” By promoting policies that criminalize marginalized groups and resist efforts to reform unjust systems, Project 2025 contradicts this call to fairness and nonviolence. Its support for punitive criminal justice policies, including mass incarceration, also stands in opposition to the values of restorative justice and reconciliation, which are emphasized in both liberation and practical theologies. These policies promote division and inequality, directly undermining the biblical imperative to seek justice and peace for all.

6. **Restrictive Immigration Policies:** Project 2025 advocates for restrictive immigration policies that often dehumanize and marginalize immigrants, which is directly opposed to

liberation theology's emphasis on welcoming the stranger and supporting immigrant rights.

7. **Rollback of Civil Rights Protections:** The initiative's support for rolling back civil rights protections, particularly for racial minorities, contradicts Afrocentric theology's focus on racial justice and equality.
8. **Opposition to LGBTQ+ Rights:** Project 2025's opposition to LGBTQ+ rights, including marriage equality and anti-discrimination protections, is at odds with the inclusive and relational ethos of process and practical theologies.
9. **Criminal Justice Policies:** The initiative's support for punitive criminal justice policies, including mass incarceration, conflicts with liberation theology's focus on restorative justice and process theology's emphasis on nonviolence and rehabilitation.
10. **Resistance to Police Reform:** Project 2025's resistance to police reform and accountability measures contradicts theological calls for justice, particularly in communities of color where police violence is prevalent.

11-15. Environmental Policies

Project 2025 aims to reverse environmental protections, including the Inflation Reduction Act, which was designed to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The initiative seeks to reduce funding for government climate programs, weaken federal oversight, and roll back key legislation, threatening the progress made in combating climate change. This disregard for environmental stewardship is rooted in the pursuit of profit, ignoring the interconnectedness of creation and humanity's divine responsibility to care for the Earth. Psalm 24:1 reminds us that "The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," underscoring the need to protect all aspects of creation—air, water, land, and all living things. Project 2025, by prioritizing corporate interests and fossil fuel industries, undermines this biblical mandate and exacerbates environmental degradation.

From a theological perspective, Project 2025's environmental policies are viewed as sinful, as they result in the destruction of life—whether plant, animal, or human—through deliberate harm for profit. The Bible calls us to love our neighbors, which includes the natural world, as seen in the commandment to care for creation. Ignoring the interrelatedness of life on Earth, Project 2025 poses a global death sentence by perpetuating environmental injustice and widening the gap between the wealthy and the poor. It is essential to reject policies that fail to honor God's creation and to embrace ones that promote life and sustainability for all living beings.

11. **Climate Change Denial:** Project 2025's denial or minimization of climate change stands in direct opposition to process theology's emphasis on environmental stewardship and interconnectedness.
12. **Support for Fossil Fuel Industries:** The initiative's support for the fossil fuel industry, including the rollback of environmental regulations, contradicts theological commitments to sustainable development and ecological justice.

13. **Opposition to Environmental Protections:** Project 2025's opposition to environmental protections that safeguard air, water, and land quality is at odds with the theological imperative to care for creation, as emphasized by process theology and liberation theology's call for environmental justice.

14. **Reduction of Public Lands and Conservation Areas Project 2025's Policy:** The initiative supports reducing the size of public lands and opening protected conservation areas to commercial activities such as mining, logging, and drilling.

15. **Undermining Endangered Species Protections:** Project 2025 advocates for weakening the Endangered Species Act and reducing protections for threatened and endangered wildlife to facilitate development and industrial activities. This stance stands in opposition to the theological mandate to care for all of God's creatures. Undermining protections for endangered species disregards the interconnectedness of life and the importance of biodiversity, which reflects the richness and balance of God's creation.

16-20. Healthcare Policies

The healthcare policies of Project 2025, including the reduction of Medicaid funding, limited mental health services, and the privatization of healthcare, stand in direct opposition to biblical teachings that emphasize justice and care for the poor and vulnerable. Proverbs 31:8-9 calls for speaking up and defending the rights of the poor and needy, while James 2:1-4 warns against favoritism, advocating for equitable treatment of all people. Project 2025's policies, which favor the wealthy and leave marginalized groups with reduced access to healthcare, exacerbate existing healthcare disparities, contradicting these biblical mandates for justice and fairness. The plan's focus on reducing services for the poor further widens the gap in healthcare access, particularly for those with limited health literacy and mental health needs.

Additionally, Project 2025's opposition to reproductive rights is rooted in a theological perspective that views bodily autonomy as subject to divine authority. According to 2 Corinthians 6:19-20, the body is seen as a temple of the Holy Spirit, and decisions regarding its use must align with God's will. This stance suggests that autonomy over one's body is not absolute but is instead guided by divine principles, challenging modern notions of reproductive rights. The biblical narrative of Lot and his daughters in Genesis 19:30-38 reflects the complexity of reproductive decisions, emphasizing the need for a compassionate and nuanced approach within a theological framework that balances personal freedom with the belief in God's ultimate authority over life.

16. **Opposition to Universal Healthcare:** Project 2025's stance against universal healthcare contradicts liberation theology's view of healthcare as a human right and the call for equitable access to health services.
17. **Reduction of Medicaid Funding:** The initiative's push to reduce funding for Medicaid, which serves low-income individuals, stands in opposition to theological principles that emphasize care for the poor and vulnerable.

18. **Limited Mental Health Services:** Project 2025's policies that limit access to mental health services, particularly for marginalized communities, contradict the theological emphasis on holistic care, including mental health.
19. **Privatization of Healthcare:** The initiative's support for the privatization of healthcare services, which can lead to unequal access based on income, is in direct opposition to the ethical calls for healthcare equity found in liberation and practical theologies.
20. **Opposition to Reproductive Rights:** Project 2025's opposition to reproductive rights, including access to contraception and abortion, conflicts with process theology's emphasis on freedom, autonomy, and the holistic well-being of individuals.

21-25. Education Policies

The educational policies of Project 2025, which include support for school vouchers, opposition to Critical Race Theory (CRT), undermining of public education, and resistance to educational diversity, pose significant challenges to the African American community and the mission of the Black Church. The support for school vouchers diverts essential funding from public schools, exacerbating educational inequality, which contradicts the biblical call for justice as outlined in Isaiah 1:17, "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression." Project 2025's opposition to CRT reflects a refusal to confront the historical and ongoing impact of racism, undermining the truth needed for healing and reconciliation, which aligns with the biblical principle in John 8:32, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free."

Additionally, Project 2025's efforts to reduce the federal role in public education and promote alternatives such as charter schools risk depriving marginalized students of critical resources, conflicting with Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." The initiative's promotion of a narrow, traditional curriculum that censors diverse perspectives further limits students' understanding and engagement with the world. This resistance to educational diversity contradicts Proverbs 15:14, which emphasizes the importance of seeking knowledge, "The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly." A curriculum that embraces diversity aligns with the biblical call to pursue wisdom and truth for the betterment of all.

21. **Support for School Vouchers:** Project 2025's promotion of school vouchers, which often divert funds from public schools to private institutions, contradicts the theological call for educational equity and the support of public education for all.
22. **Opposition to Critical Race Theory:** The initiative's opposition to teaching critical race theory in schools stands in direct contradiction to Afrocentric theology's emphasis on decolonizing education and affirming Black intellectual traditions.
23. **Undermining of Public Education:** Project 2025's policies that undermine public education, particularly in low-income communities, conflict with theological principles that prioritize the common good and access to quality education for all children.
24. **Censorship in Curriculum:** The initiative's support for censoring educational curricula, particularly around issues of race, gender, and history, opposes the theological emphasis on truth-telling, cultural competence, and inclusive education.

25. **Resistance to Educational Diversity:** Project 2025's resistance to educational initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion contradicts the values of practical and Afrocentric theologies, which advocate for an education system that respects and uplifts diverse cultural identities.

26-30. Foreign Policy

Project 2025 is critiqued as a divisive and morally compromising initiative that undermines the principles of justice, peace, and global cooperation. From a theological perspective, it contradicts biblical teachings that call for compassion, justice, and humility, as reflected in Micah 6:8, which urges us "to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." The project's focus on dominance and isolation, especially towards those beyond our borders, disregards the biblical mandate for hospitality, as found in Hebrews 13:2, "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers." By narrowing its concerns to self-serving interests, Project 2025 limits the nation's potential to act as a responsible and compassionate global partner.

This foreign policy approach also contradicts the interconnectedness of humanity, a principle emphasized by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who warned that we are "tied together in the single garment of destiny" and that our well-being is mutually dependent. The rejection of global solidarity and mutual respect denies the country's ability to fulfill its role in the world and promotes a selfish and isolating stance that ultimately weakens both national and global peace. True global leadership requires an embrace of diversity, empathy, and shared humanity, principles which Project 2025 fails to uphold.

26. **Militarization and Use of Force:** Project 2025's support for increased militarization and the use of force in international conflicts stands in opposition to process theology's commitment to peacebuilding and nonviolent conflict resolution.
27. **Nationalist Isolationism:** The initiative's nationalist and isolationist foreign policies, which often neglect global responsibilities, contradict liberation theology's emphasis on global solidarity and support for international justice.
28. **Opposition to Refugee Resettlement:** Project 2025's opposition to refugee resettlement, particularly from conflict-ridden and impoverished regions, conflicts with the theological call to welcome the stranger and provide sanctuary for those fleeing persecution.
29. **Support for Authoritarian Regimes:** The initiative's alignment with or support for authoritarian regimes that oppress their populations contradicts theological principles that advocate for justice, democracy, and human rights.
30. **Neglect of Global Health Initiatives:** Project 2025's neglect of global health initiatives, particularly in the Global South, stands in opposition to liberation theology's commitment to global health equity and the protection of vulnerable populations.

31-35. Civil Liberties and Rights

The civil liberties and rights policies of Project 2025, such as the erosion of voting rights and increased surveillance, particularly in marginalized communities, contradict the biblical principles of justice, equality, and the protection of individual dignity. Proverbs 31:8-9 calls for speaking up for the rights of the poor and defenseless, but Project 2025's efforts to limit voting rights disproportionately affect marginalized groups, undermining their ability to participate in democratic processes. This disenfranchisement opposes the biblical mandate for fairness and equal treatment, which is essential for ensuring justice in society.

Moreover, Project 2025's support for surveillance and privacy violations, along with its opposition to affirmative action and criminalization of protest, further undermines civil liberties. These policies contradict the theological call to respect the dignity and autonomy of every person, as highlighted in Galatians 3:28, which states, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." By limiting freedom of expression and participation in social justice movements, Project 2025 stands in opposition to the biblical call for justice and the prophetic witness against injustice, which are vital components of liberation theology and the pursuit of equity for all people.

31. **Erosion of Voting Rights:** Project 2025’s support for policies that erode voting rights, particularly for marginalized communities, contradicts the theological commitment to justice, equality, and participation in democratic processes.
32. **Surveillance and Privacy Violations:** The initiative’s support for increased surveillance and violations of privacy, particularly in marginalized communities, opposes process theology’s emphasis on the dignity and autonomy of individuals.
33. **Opposition to Affirmative Action:** Project 2025’s opposition to affirmative action policies that aim to address historical and systemic inequalities stands in direct contradiction to Afrocentric theology’s emphasis on racial justice and equity.
34. **Limiting Freedom of the Press:** The initiative’s efforts to limit or undermine freedom of the press, particularly when critical of its policies, contradict theological principles that value truth, transparency, and accountability.
35. **Criminalization of Protest:** Project 2025’s support for the criminalization of protest and civil disobedience, especially by marginalized groups, stands in opposition to liberation theology’s support for grassroots activism and the prophetic witness against injustice.

36-40. Cultural and Social Values

Project 2025 poses a significant threat to the cultural and social values of a diverse nation by attempting to impose a homogenous vision that discounts the experiences and needs of various groups, including descendants of indigenous people, enslaved individuals, and immigrants. The project promotes a narrow view of family structures, undermining the varied family systems found in multicultural communities and perpetuating stereotypes, particularly regarding Black male absenteeism. Rather than acknowledging the systemic causes of family disparities, Project

2025 blames the families themselves, ignoring the societal factors like mass incarceration and economic inequality that have contributed to these issues. Furthermore, the project seeks to erase the teaching of critical histories, such as those related to slavery and immigration, by banning books and removing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts from public spaces. This approach contradicts biblical teachings, particularly the call to seek justice and help the oppressed, as expressed in Isaiah 1:17, “Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed.”

Additionally, Project 2025's attempts to control personal freedoms—such as those related to reproductive rights, gender identity, and sexual orientation—are seen as hypocritical and oppressive. The project disregards the biblical mandate of Matthew 7:1, “Judge not, that ye be not judged,” by denying individuals the right to make personal decisions regarding their bodies, families, and identities. It seeks to dictate the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals and restricts reproductive choices, ignoring the complexities of life and the emotional, mental, and psychological needs of individuals. This imposition of narrow cultural values disregards the inherent dignity of all people, as God sees all of creation as good (Genesis 1:31), and stands in stark opposition to God's call for justice and mercy, as emphasized in Micah 6:8: "To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

36. **Promotion of a Narrow Definition of Family:** Project 2025’s promotion of a narrow, traditionalist definition of family, which excludes diverse family structures, contradicts practical theology’s recognition of the diversity of family life.
37. **Resistance to Gender Equality:** The initiative’s resistance to policies promoting gender equality and women’s rights conflicts with the theological commitment to equality, dignity, and justice for all genders.
38. **Support for Religious Nationalism:** Project 2025’s alignment with religious nationalism, which seeks to impose a specific religious worldview on public policy, contradicts the pluralistic and inclusive ethos of practical and process theologies.
39. **Suppression of Cultural Expression:** The initiative’s policies that suppress or marginalize cultural expressions, particularly those of minority groups, are at odds with Afrocentric theology’s emphasis on cultural affirmation and resistance to cultural erasure.
40. **Opposition to Reparations for Historical Injustices:** Project 2025’s opposition to reparations for historical injustices, particularly those related to slavery and systemic racism, directly contradicts Afrocentric theology’s call for reparative justice and reconciliation.

These policies reflect Project 2025’s alignment with conservative, right-wing ideologies that often stand in stark contrast to the principles of justice, equity, inclusion, and holistic well-being emphasized in liberation theology, practical theology, process theology, and Afrocentric theology.