

The boxed section below contains the questions I put to the Association of Christian Counsellors.

The numbered paragraphs in bold are excerpts from their 'Code of Ethics and Practice', which is available here:

<http://www.acc-uk.org/pdfs/EandPractice.pdf>

The questions I put to ACC concern subjects which the Bible is very clear upon. Anyone who believes the true gospel and knows the Scriptures would have no difficulty in stating the view the Bible takes on these matters.

For two months ACC tried very hard to not answer my questions. Eventually they did give a reply in which they refused to directly address the scenarios I had raised, but did make clear that they follow the BACP line on 'client autonomy', and stated that '*the counselling process is generally seen to be a non-judgemental safe environment*' in which the client is helped to arrive at '*the conclusion that they deem best for themselves*'. They made it clear that they do not regard it as appropriate for a counsellor to respond to a client as my scenarios below illustrate.

The Association of Christian Counsellors are apostate, there is nothing 'Christian' about them.

I find their reluctance to directly respond to the following question especially disturbing:

"What about a client who says that we can earn our way to heaven by doing good works, and merit eternal life. If the counsellor responds by telling them the Bible contradicts that, does that fall foul of 5.1.1.12?"

ACC have chosen to align themselves with the secular British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) and with secular 'wisdom' (which is driven by the epistemology of post-modernism).

The Bible makes clear that believers have a duty before God to warn people of the dangers of their sin, and to tell them about God's free offer of salvation for all who will put their trust in Christ.

"When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul."

Ezekiel 3:18-19

5.1.1.12. Members should not allow any personal views they may hold about ... sexual orientation... beliefs... to prejudice their professional relationships with clients.

I'm selecting 'sexual orientation' and 'beliefs' from your list as these could be problematic.

What about a client who says they are gay? If the counsellor tells them that the Bible instructs that the only legitimate context for sexual activity is marriage, which means one man and one woman, and that all other sexual activity is sin, and that homosexuality is sin, would that fall foul of 5.1.1.12?

What about a client who says that we can earn our way to heaven by doing good works, and merit eternal life. If the counsellor responds by telling them the Bible contradicts that, does that fall foul of 5.1.1.12?

I am also wondering if conflicts could arise from the sections below:

6.1.4. Members should demonstrate respect for other models, theories, churchmanship, spirituality, beliefs and value systems.

There isn't necessarily a problem with 6.1.4, but there could be, depending upon what you mean by 'respect'.

Is it disrespectful to say that all beliefs besides Biblical Christianity are false and cannot save anyone from God's judgement?

Is it disrespectful to say that the theories of personality of the secular frameworks are wrong where they contradict the Bible about human nature?

12.1.3. It is unacceptable and unethical to discriminate against colleagues on grounds which are illegal or not related to their suitability for the work that they are engaged to do.

Obedying the law is important – but what about where the state enacts legislation that violates the Bible?

If it is unlawful for an employer to discriminate against an applicant for a job on the basis of their sexual orientation, does that mean that an organisation which is a member of ACC is violating your code of ethics if, in seeking to recruit a Christian counsellor, they refuse to recruit a counsellor who is actively gay?

13.1. Members are responsible for working in a way that is sensitive and appropriate to the client's culture, beliefs and understanding.

Again, I'm curious as to what this means in practice. Biblical Christianity makes exclusive claims. What if the client's beliefs are contradicted by the Bible?