

**Title:**

Congress Theme: PTSD/moral injury and spiritual Fitness

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**Summary**

Moral injury and ethics education

The last decade has witnessed fast-growing scholarly interest in the concept of moral injury, which draws explicit attention to moral and contextual aspects of psychological problems in soldiers. Military personnel can experience tragic moral dilemmas, or perpetrate or fail to prevent serious violations of their moral expectations and beliefs, which in high-stake situations may engender to strong feelings of guilt, shame, anger, and a sense of betrayal. Besides treatment for trauma in general and moral injury in particular, ethics education and pastoral support by chaplains can be helpful in both the prevention and treatment of moral injury. For instance, research indicates that education in ethical vocabulary in briefings or as preventive psycho-education can help soldiers in making more carefully considered moral choices, accounting for their choices and articulating their experiences, not only toward others but also to themselves.