

Today's World: Can Modernisation Theory Still Explain It Convincingly?

Edmore Ntini

*School of Built Environment and Development Studies, Department of Community
Development, Howard College, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban 4001 South Africa
Telephone: 27 826458746, 27 31 260 2289, E-mail: eddiemza@gmail.com*

KEYWORDS Colonialism. Modernisation Theory. Modernity. Western World. Third World Values

ABSTRACT Too often Modernisation theory is skewed in analyses that juxtaposes it with Dependency theory in explaining dilemmas of the Third World. This paper analyses the contesting views and harmonious views on Modernisation theory only. The literature accessed demonstrates that the theory fails to convincingly explain today's world. The theory now needs to be more placed in multi-disciplinary studies to play a more balancing role in explaining the state of the world today. The criticism studied expose the flaws of this popular theory rendering it inadequate as a convincing explanation of today's world. The theory continues to remain popular in historical terms as it simply sounds a building block for globalisations.