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Keith A. Roberts • David Yamane

RELIGION in Sociological Perspective

• SEVENTH EDITION •



Religion In Sociological Perspective

Lester R. Kurtz



Religion In Sociological Perspective:

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Religion in Sociological Perspective Bryan Wilson, 1982 *Religion in Sociological Perspective* Keith A. Roberts, David Yamane, 2011-06-09 Religion in Sociological Perspective is an introduction to the sociology of religion core text designed to present and illustrate the basic theories sociologists use to understand the social dimensions of religion First and foremost the authors seek to help students

understand the perspective from which sociologists view religion By the time students have finished this book they should understand the central theories and methods of research in the sociology of religion and they should have an idea of how to apply these analytical tools to new groups they encounter The goal of this text is to be illustrative rather than all encompassing The Fifth Edition continues to draw on a wide range of perspectives The text aims to help students recognize the contributions of various theoretical perspectives and the blind spots of each theory Conflict functional social constructionist and rational choice paradigms are used throughout the text Various middle range theories are also utilized to explore specific processes Despite the effort to introduce many perspectives however we have made an effort to enhance integration of the text by using one framework throughout the book the open systems model

The Sociology of Religion George Lundskow, 2008-06-10 Most Sociology of Religion texts are decidedly staid and uninteresting covering contemporary developments which are only contemporary only from a disciplinary perspective They are not contemporary if viewed from the perspective of the religion s practioners in religious and non religious settings The textbooks that attempt to be interesting to undergraduate students often fall short because they either try to cover too much in an encyclopedic format or sacrifice a sociological perspective for a personal one Many use real life examples only superficially to illustrate concepts Lundskow s approach is the opposite students will learn the facts of religion in its great diversity all the most interesting and compelling beliefs and practices and then learn relevant concepts that can be used to explain empirical observations The book thus follows the logic of actual research investigate and then analyze rather than approaching concepts with no real bearing on how religion is experienced in society This approach using provocative examples and with an eye toward the historical and theoretical not to mention global experience of religion will make this book a success in the classroom The author envisions a substantive approach that examines religion as it actually exists in all its forms including belief ritual daily living identity institutions social movements social control and social change Within these broad categories the book will devote particular chapters to important historical moments and movements leaders and various individual religions that have shaped the contemporary form and effect of religion in the world today

Gods in the Global Village Lester R. Kurtz, 2015-04-01 In a world plagued by religious conflict how can the various religious and secular traditions coexist peacefully on the planet And what role does sociology play in helping us understand the state of religious life in a globalizing world In the Fourth Edition of Gods in the Global Village author Lester Kurtz continues to address these questions This text is an engaging thought provoking examination of the relationships among the major faith traditions that inform the thinking and ethical standards of most people in the emerging global social order Thoroughly updated to reflect recent events the book discusses the role of religion in our daily lives and global politics and the ways in which religion is both an agent of and barrier to social change

Religion and Knowledge Mathew Guest, Elisabeth Arweck, 2016-04-15 Religions have always been associated with particular forms of knowledge often knowledge accorded special significance and sometimes knowledge at

odds with prevailing understandings of truth and authority in wider society New religious movements emerge on the basis of reformulated often controversial understandings of how the world works and where ultimate meaning can be found Governments have risen and fallen on the basis of such differences and global conflict has raged around competing claims about the origins and content of religious truth Such concerns give rise to recurrent questions faced by academics governments and the general public How do we treat statements made by religious groups and on what basis are they made What authorities lie behind religious claims to truth How can competing claims about knowledge be resolved Are there instances when it is appropriate to police religious knowledge claims or restrict their public expression This book addresses the relationship between religion and knowledge from a sociological perspective taking both religion and knowledge as phenomena located within ever changing social contexts It builds on historical foundations but offers a distinctive focus on the changing status of religious phenomena at the turn of the twenty first century Including critical engagement with live debates about intelligent design and the new atheism this collection of essays brings recent research on religious movements into conversation with debates about socialisation reflexivity and the changing capacity of social institutions to shape human identities Contributors examine religion as an institutional context for the production of knowledge as a form of knowledge to be transmitted or conveyed and as a social field in which controversies about knowledge emerge

Religion in Sociological Perspective David Yamane, Keith A. Roberts, Jonas M. Hart, 2025-08-22 Religion in Sociological Perspective Eighth Edition introduces the systems of meaning structure and belonging that make up the complex social phenomena we know as religion The author team uses an active learning approach to illustrate the central theories and methods of research in the sociology of religion and show students how to apply these analytical tools to new groups they encounter

The Diffusion of Religions Robert L. Montgomery, 1996 Of the major world religions only three Buddhism Christianity and Islam have diffused widely They were introduced across numerous socio cultural boundaries and were received as new religions to their converts However these diffusing religions have had varying degrees of success from wholesale reception to wholesale rejection This book presents the perspective that a major factor in the variations in the diffusions of these religions and in the religions themselves is found in the nature of the inter group relationships between receiving groups and both sending groups and surrounding groups A crucial perception of the receivers is the perceived contribution the new religion will make to the enhancement of important aspects of group identities and of the strength of the group This book takes into account diffusion an old and persistent concept in the social sciences which has been rarely applied in sociology to religions or even ideologies

Religion in Sociological Perspective Seamus Huffman, 2022-09-13 Theories of religion provide various explanations for the origins and functions of religion including religious existence and foundations of faith Sociology studies the philosophies practices and structural systems of religion This objective study may involve the use of both quantitative and qualitative methods Theoretical positions with respect to the sociology of religion can be categorized into symbolic

anthropology functionalism and nationalism Contemporary debates in sociology focus on matters such as secularization civil religion and the connectivity of religion in the background of globalization and multiculturalism From theories to research to practical applications case studies related to all contemporary topics of relevance to sociology of religion have been included in this book While understanding the long term perspectives of the topics it makes an effort in highlighting their impact as a modern tool for the growth of the discipline This book is a vital tool for all researching or studying sociology of religion as it gives incredible insights into emerging trends and concepts

Gods in the Global Village Lester R. Kurtz, 2015-04-01 In a world plagued by religious conflict how can the various religious and secular traditions coexist peacefully on the planet And what role does sociology play in helping us understand the state of religious life in a globalizing world In the Fourth Edition of **Gods in the Global Village** author Lester Kurtz continues to address these questions This text is an engaging thought provoking examination of the relationships among the major faith traditions that inform the thinking and ethical standards of most people in the emerging global social order Thoroughly updated to reflect recent events the book discusses the role of religion in our daily lives and global politics and the ways in which religion is both an agent of and barrier to social change

Religion in Sociological Perspective; Essays in the Empirical Study of Religion. Edited by Charles Y. Glock. With Contributions by Earl R. Babbie [And Others]. ,1973

Religion in Sociological Perspective Earl R. Babbie, 1973

Religion in Sociological Perspective Bryan R. Wilson, 1982 In this book based on lectures that the author was invited to deliver in Japan Bryan Wilson traces the dominant contours of religion as perceived by the sociologist His themes range from the study of sectarianism on which he is one of the relationship between religion and culture in modern societies of the West and the East

Gods in the Global Village Lester Kurtz, 1995-03-06 The multicultural interests of today s diverse student population are reflected in this book which treats classic issues in the sociology of religion in a variety of religious contexts and considers the global interconnections between beliefs and believers Kurtz thus helps students understand the interplay between social change and religion As provocative as it is informative this book will spark discussion and re examination of our conventional understandings of the role of religion in the postmodern and modern world

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