

# Why did Durkheim study “primitive” society to understand religion?

- Simplicity allows for analysis of “essential” features.
- These societies are different enough from our own experience that we are able to see important features.
- Durkheim looked for “the elements which constitute that which is permanent and human in religion; they form all the objective contents of the idea which is expressed when one speaks of religion in general.”



*Totemism*

# Religion In Primitive Society

**Hans A. Baer**



## **Religion In Primitive Society:**

Religion in Primitive Culture Edward Burnett Tylor, 1970 The author argues that religion had been used to explain things that occurred in the world He saw that it was important for religions to have the ability to explain why and for what reason things occurred in the world For example God or the divine gave us sun to keep us warm and give us light He argues that animism is the essential foundation of all religions Animism is the belief in spirits inhabiting and animating beings or souls existing in things To the author the fact that 19th century religious practitioners continued to believe in spirits showed that they were no more advanced than primitive societies For him this implied that religious practitioners do not understand the ways of the universe and how life truly works because they have excluded science from their understanding of the world By excluding scientific explanation he asserts that contemporary religious practitioners are rudimentary He perceived the modern religious belief in God as a survival of primitive ignorance However he did not believe that atheism was the logical end of cultural and religious development but instead a highly minimalist form of monotheist deism He therefore posited an anthropological description of the gradual elimination of paganism and disenchantment but not secularization Adapted from Wikipedia

**Religion in Primitive Cultures** Wilhelm Dupré, 2011-10-10 Since its founding by Jacques Waardenburg in 1971 Religion and Reason has been a leading forum for contributions on theories theoretical issues and agendas related to the phenomenon and the study of religion Topics include among others category formation comparison ethnophilosophy hermeneutics methodology myth phenomenology philosophy of science scientific atheism structuralism and theories of religion From time to time the series publishes volumes that map the state of the art and the history of the discipline **The Meaning and Function of Religion in Primitive Society**, **Religion in Primitive Society** Donald M. Anderson, 1961

*Religion in Primitive Society* Edward Norbeck, 1961 Discussion of religious beliefs and practices in societies includes references to Aboriginal Australians **Primitive Culture : Religion in Primitive Society** Edward Burnett Tylor (Sir), 1958 **Religion in Primitive Society** Wilson Dallam Wallis, 1939 Early Modern Social Theory Murray E. G. Smith, 1998 *Early Modern Social Theory Selected Interpretive Readings* is a collection of essays that illuminates the course of development of modern social thought from the Enlightenment to the 1920s The essays focus on the most prominent social theorists including Smith Durkheim Marx and Engels and Weber Each essay has been chosen to provide the main contributions of the theorist and the political and economic context in which he worked The editor a noted scholar in the field has written clear concise introductions to each section and provided a glossary of frequently used philosophical terms The collection includes two famous feminist critiques of the literature by Rosalind Sydie and Lise Vogel as well as papers by Tom Bottomorw on Max Weber Anthony Giddens on the division of labour and essays by Mandel and Trotsky on Marx *Faith, Hope and Charity in Primitive Religion* R. R. Marett, 2013-10 This is a new release of the original 1932 edition **Religions of Primitive Peoples** Daniel Garrison Brinton, 1899 *The Black Spiritual Movement* Hans A. Baer, 2001 Spiritual churches

in the United States represent one of several religious movements that African Americans have adopted in their efforts to cope with mainstream society In this groundbreaking work first published in 1984 Hans A Baer explores the richness and creativity of Black Spiritualism setting forth an illuminating ethnography of the movement that corrects numerous stereotypes of African American religion Baer shows that the Spiritual churches blend diverse elements borrowing aspects of African American Protestantism American Spiritualism Roman Catholicism Voodoo and black ethno medicine occasionally even including aspects of Islam Judaism New Thought and Ethiopianism He describes not only the history structure ideology and practices of the churches but also the process of syncretism within them and their role within the African American community In addition Baer examines how the Spiritual movement juxtaposes elements of protest and accommodation to racism and class stratification in U S society This second edition includes a new preface and a new epilogue in which Baer discusses his methodology in researching the Black Spiritual Movement describes his meetings with pastors and congregation members and summarizes his most recent research in the field

*Religion in Primitive Cultures* Wilhelm Dupré, 1975

*The Invention of Primitive Society* Adam Kuper, 1988 Both a critical history of anthropological theory and methods and a challenging essay in the sociology of science The Invention of Primitive Society shows how anthropologists have tried to define the original form of human society

**Translations on Communist China** United States. Joint Publications Research Service, 1966

**On Primitive Society** C.R.Hallpike, 2011-08-12 Political correctness in social anthropology has made the terms primitive society social evolution and even human nature unacceptable and removed the possibility of open academic debate about them Written from the perspective of a lifetimes research this collection of papers takes a hard look at these taboos and challenges some fundamental assumptions of post modern thinking Including some new material on memetics evolutionary psychology and Darwinian theory in the social sciences this collection provides a long overdue assessment of some key topics in modern anthropology

**Encyclopedia of Religion and Society** William H. Swatos, 1998 As the new millennium approaches the sacred and profane interface conflict and intermingle in novel ways The Encyclopedia of Religion and Society provides a guide map for these developments From succinct brief notes to essay length entries it covers world religions religious perspectives on political and social issues and religious leaders and scholars present and past in the United States and the world This comprehensive volume is an essential reference for studies in the anthropology psychology politics and sociology of religion Topics include abortion adolescence African American religious experience anthropology of religion Buddhism commitment conversion definition of religion ecology movement Emile Durkheim ethnicity fundamentalism Hinduism Islam Judaism new religious movements organization parish Talcott Parsons racism research methods Roman Catholicism sexism Unification Church Max Weber and many others

**Sociological Theory** George Ritzer, Jeffrey Stepnisky, 2021-02-09 The authors are proud sponsors of the SAGE Keith Roberts Teaching Innovations Award enabling graduate students and early career faculty to attend the annual ASA pre conference teaching

and learning workshop Sociological Theory gives readers a comprehensive overview of the major theorists and schools of sociological thought from sociology's 19th century origins through the early 21st century Written by an author team that includes one of the leading contemporary thinkers the text integrates key theories with biographical sketches of theorists placing them in historical and intellectual context The Eleventh Edition includes examples of premodern sociological theory from Islamic scholar Ibn Khaldun Harriet Martineau's feminist writings contextualized within the history of sociological thought discussions of actor network theory through Donna Haraway's work on cyborgs and companion species illustrations of historical comparative sociology with Saskia Sassen's concepts of the global city and expulsions and more ways to help students to understand sociology's major theories Included with this title The password protected Instructor Resource Site formally known as SAGE Edge offers access to all text specific resources including a test bank and editable chapter specific PowerPoint slides

**Classical Sociological Theory** George Ritzer, Jeffrey Stepnisky, 2016-12-27 Now with SAGE

Publishing and co authored by one of the foremost authorities on sociological theory George Ritzer and Jeffrey Stepnisky's Classical Sociological Theory Seventh Edition provides a comprehensive overview of the major theorists and schools of sociological thought from the Enlightenment roots of theory through the early 20th century The integration of key theories with biographical sketches of theorists and the requisite historical and intellectual context helps students to better understand the original works of classical authors as well as to compare and contrast classical theories New to this Edition In Ch 1 Colonialism is now discussed as a major social force in development of modern society In Ch 2 there is an expanded discussion of the historical significance of Early Women Founders and the contributions of W E B Du Bois The chapter on Du Bois Ch 9 includes new material about his intellectual influences New contemporary commentary about Durkheim has been added to Ch 7 Ch 9 includes new material from recently translated later writings of George Simmel providing new context for his overall theory Addition of Historical Context boxes throughout text Sections on contemporary applications of classical theory have been added to each chapter

**Natural Religion and the Nature of Religion** Peter Byrne, 2013-05-02 This

study offers students of religion and philosophy introductory chapters concerning the concept of natural religion It holds that we can't engage in useful discussion about the present concept of religion without a knowledge of the philosophical history that has shaped that concept This is discussed with reference to the notion of natural religion to illustrate certain aspects of deism and its legacy Originally published in 1989

**Durkheim's Sociology of Religion** WSF Pickering, 2009-05-28

Religion is central to Durkheim's theory of society and his work laid most of the foundations of the sociology of religion Daring and brilliant though his analysis was its bold claims and questionable premises has made it the subject of ongoing academic debate Durkheim's work on the subject reached a peak with the publication in 1912 of what turned out to be a classic in its field The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life No other book has explained Durkheim's views on religion using the whole corpus of his writings Dr Pickering shows how Durkheim's position developed and explains the themes and

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