

Handbook Of Hyper Real Religions

Handbook of Hyper-real Religions Fiction, Invention and Hyper-reality Handbook of Hyper-real Religions The ^AOxford Handbook of New Religious Movements Religion and Popular Culture Sociology of Religion for Generations X and Y The Mystical Element of Religion: Critical studies Give Me That Online Religion The Mystical Element of Religion as Studied in Saint Catherine of Genoa and Her Friends Finding the Force of the Star Wars Franchise The Mystical Element of Religion as Studied in Saint Catherine of Genoa and Her Friends: Critical studies Religions of Primitive Peoples The Study of Religions American Lectures on the History of Religions The Study of Religion in a New Key Faith-based Radicalism History of religions History of Religions: Judaism, Christianity, Mohammedanism American Book Publishing Record Missiology Carole M. Cusack Adam Possamai (socioloog.) James R. Lewis Adam Possamai Adam Possamai Friedrich Freiherr von Hügel Brenda E. Brasher Friedrich Freiherr von Hügel Matthew Kapell Friedrich Freiherr von Hügel Daniel Garrison Brinton Stanley Arthur Cook Jeppe Sinding Jensen Christiane Timmerman George Foot Moore George Foot Moore

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today a new trend is clearly discernable that of hyper real religions these are innovative religions and spiritualities that mix elements of religious traditions with popular culture if we imagine a spectrum of intensity of the merging of popular culture with religion we might find at one end groups practicing jediism appropriated from the star wars movies matrixism from the matrix trilogy and neo pagan rites based on stories from the lord of the rings and the harry potter series at the other end of the spectrum members of mainstream religions such as christianity can be influenced or inspired by for example the da vinci code through various case studies this book studies the on and off line religious spiritual consumption of these

narratives through a social scientific approach

the twentieth century was a period of rapid change for religion secularisation resulted in a dramatic fall in church attendance in the west and the 1950s and 1960s saw the introduction of new religions including the international society for krishna consciousness iskcon the church of scientology and the children of god new religions were regarded with suspicion by society in general and religious studies scholars alike until the 1990s when the emergence of a second generation of new new religions based on popular cultural forms including films novels computer games and comic books and highly individualistic spiritualities confirmed the utter transformation of the religio spiritual landscape indeed scientology and iskcon appeared almost traditional and conservative when compared to the radically de institutionalised eclectic parodic fun loving and experimental fiction based invented and hyper real religions in this book scholarly treatments of cutting edge religious and spiritual trends are brought into conversation with contributions by representatives of dudeism the church of all worlds the temple of the jedi order and tolkien spirituality groups this book will simultaneously entertain shock challenge and delight scholars of religious studies as well as those with a wider interest in new religious movements

in this second volume james r lewis and inga b tollefsen bring together established and rising scholars of new religious movements studies for a collection that expands upon the topics covered in the first volume of the oxford handbook of new religious movements and incorporates new theoretical approaches

generations x and y are plugged into the contemporary world of consumption popular culture and the internet these generations treat knowledge and belief as a more flexible concept often focusing on the practical rather than the theoretical and often drawing on conflicting sources in both popular and cyber culture their approach to religious belief and practice requires a new way of studying the sociology of religion sociology of religion for generations x and y examines key world religions buddhism christianity and islam as well as newer religious groups such as scientology new age witchcraft and online communities such as jediism and matrixism the book covers a range of key concepts secularisation and modernisation re enchantment the mcdonaldisation of society and the easternisation of the west each chapter opens with a case study from popular culture or the internet which takes the reader to the heart of the topic being discussed employing both classical sociological theory and contemporary critical theory sociology of religion for generations x and y explains where contemporary religion and spirituality are coming from where they are now and where they are going

the future of online religion is now operating online allows long established religious communities to reach the unaffiliated like never before more startling is the ease by which anyone with internet access can create new circles of faith electronic shrines and kitschy personal altars express adoration for living celebrities just as they honor the memory of long departed martyrs in give me that online religion online religion expert brenda brasher braves a new world in which cyber concepts and technologies challenge conventional ideas about the human condition all the while attempting to realize age old religious

ideals of transcendence and eternal life as the internet continues its rapid absorption of culture give me that online religion offers pause for thought about spirituality in the cyber age religion s move to the online world does not mean technology s triumph over faith rather brasher argues it assures religion s place in the wired universe along with commerce and communications meeting the spiritual demands of internet generations to come

in 1977 a single film called star wars exploded on the consciousness of the world since then the franchise created by george lucas has become a global entertainment corporation the merchandise of the original trilogy was largely confined to toys and games but those games have since become computerized the toys more sophisticated and star wars has moved into the multi media environment of the twenty first century in ways unimaginable in the long ago world of 1977 computer games and web sites novels animated television shows as well as a new trilogy of films have all placed star wars at the center of world popular culture finding the force of the star wars franchise brings together contributors who critically analyze the star wars universe from many perspectives topics include war foreign policy gender roles spirituality and religion toy play and adult collecting creative fandom race special effects and mythology

what are the global and cross cultural phenomena of religion anyway they are not things in the world not things in themselves and yet we know they are very real because they constitute the means by which we make up our lives as thought language society and culture are not illusions neither is religion this book is about the present plight and future possibility of a general and comparative study of religion as a field of inquiry in the human sciences jensen proposes a different look at the phenomenon of religion and perhaps so much of a re interpretation that it may appear to be a different phenomenon altogether in his new key jensen shifts the attention from metaphysical givens and psychological experiences to the social symbolic and linguistic constructions of human habitats jensen s fundamental ambition is to illustrate how and on what conditions it is possible to study not just specific religions as ethnographic or historical facts but also to study religion as a general human and social activity this book is not only meant for those who are theoretically inclined but also and perhaps even more so for those who are not the study of religion in a new key can be characterized as a handbook for non philosophers in how to perform a theoretically grounded general and comparative study of religion others who will find this book indispensable are historians of religions anthropologists philosophers sociologists and theologians

terror attacks against western symbols of power suicide terrorism in chechnya or bombing of abortion clinics in the united states these are a few of the violent religious outbursts that the media never seem to stop broadcasting while these outbursts are mostly linked to islamic extremism it should however be acknowledged that every religion has its own violent side despite all the events the media are too prompt to show us it would be dishonest and insensible not to accept that every religion has also a potential for religious peace building and communal renewal how can it be explained then that religions sometimes react violently against the society surrounding them by trying to overthrow it while at some other times they willingly help and try to build a better world for everyone the university centre saint ignatius antwerp organised an

interdisciplinary summer seminar in september 2005 and gathered senior scholars all experts in their own fields and junior scholars who will be the experts of tomorrow from all over the world to discuss these burning issues the seminar focused on miscellaneous topics all pointing towards the question of religion and society like literalism and the holy texts the ambivalence of faith based radicalism the psychology of religion and terrorism nationalism and religion and religious social movements publisher

an international review

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