

Comprehending Cults Th

Comprehending Cults Comic Drunks, Crazy Cults, and Lovable Monsters QAnon The Church of Scientology New Religious Movements: The Basics New Religious Movements Cults and New Religious Movements Liber Cultris (Hardback) Cults and New Religions Cults Arc Choice New Religions and Globalization Contemporary Religious Movements in Taiwan Polling and Public Opinion Michigan Sociological Review Cumulated Index to the Books Encyclopedia of Community Teaching the Sociology of Deviance Kabbalah and the Spiritual Quest Lorne L. Dawson David Scott Diffrient Marc-Andr  Argentino Hugh B. Urban Joseph Laycock Dereck Daschke Lorne L. Dawson "Knife" Sotelo Douglas E. Cowan Doreen Piano Armin W. Geertz Kai-Ti Chou peter m. butler Karen Christensen Martin D. Schwartz Jody Myers

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tackling popular misconceptions about new religious movements comprehending cults summarizes synthesizes and assesses over 40 years of research by historians sociologists and psychologists this excellent introduction to the study of new religious groups offers a balanced treatment of new movements as a source of spiritual satisfaction while confronting issues of violence sexuality and brainwashing within religious cults

contradictory to its core the sitcom an ostensibly conservative tranquilizing genre has a long track record in the united states of tackling controversial subjects with a fearlessness not often found in other types of programming but the sitcom also conceals as much as it reveals masking the rationale for socially deviant or deleterious behavior behind figures of ridicule whose motives are rarely disclosed fully over the course of a thirty minute episode examining a broad range of network and cable tv shows

across the history of the medium from classic working class comedies such as the honeymooners all in the family and roseanne to several contemporary cult series animated programs and online hits that have yet to attract much scholarly attention this book explores the ways in which social imaginaries related to bad behavior have been humorously exploited over the years the repeated appearance of socially wayward figures on the small screen from raging alcoholics to brainwashed cult members to actual monsters who are merely exaggerated versions of our own inner demons has the dual effect of reducing complex individuals to recognizable types while neutralizing the presumed threats that they pose such representations not only provide strangely comforting reminders that badness is a cultural construct but also prompt audiences to reflect on their own unspoken proclivities for antisocial behavior if only in passing

this book explores the qanon movement by examining its history fluctuations and evolution stemming from the likelihood of multiple users behind the q account as well as from the changes in the sociopolitical landscape since the creation of the movement it frames qanon as a lived religion and demonstrates that it has gone through three stages of existence proto qanon canonical qanon and apocryphal qanon author marc andr  argentino argues that qanon evolved into something more than a conspiracy theory and demonstrates through a comparative analysis that qanon is more akin to a new religious movement in particular a hyper real religion he explores the role of gender and women in the qanon movement followed by an examination of how the qanon conspiracy theories have legitimized and coordinated targeted gender based violence the book provides evidence of the nexus of qanon and ideologically motivated violent extremism and criminality finally it examines the evolution of the qanon movement in the wake of the 2020 election the loss of the 2020 election by donald trump and the disappearance of q this volume will be of great interest to researchers of conspiracy theories new religious movements american politics and extremism

scientology s long and complex journey to recognition as a religion scientology is one of the wealthiest and most powerful new religions to emerge in the past century to its detractors l ron hubbard s space age mysticism is a moneymaking scam and sinister brainwashing cult but to its adherents it is humanity s brightest hope few religious movements have been subject to public scrutiny like scientology yet much of what is written about the church is sensationalist and inaccurate here for the first time is the story of scientology s protracted and turbulent journey to recognition as a religion in the postwar american landscape hugh urban tells the real story of scientology from its cold war era beginnings in the 1950s to its prominence today as the religion of hollywood s celebrity elite urban paints a vivid portrait of hubbard the enigmatic founder who once commanded his own private fleet and an intelligence apparatus rivaling that of the u s government one fbi agent described him as a mental case but to his followers he is the man who solved the riddle of the human mind urban details scientology s decades long war with the irs which ended with the church winning tax exempt status as a

religion the rancorous cult wars of the 1970s and 1980s as well as the latest challenges confronting scientology from attacks by the internet group anonymous to the church's efforts to suppress the online dissemination of its esoteric teachings the church of scientology demonstrates how scientology has reflected the broader anxieties and obsessions of postwar america and raises profound questions about how religion is defined and who gets to define it

new religious movements the basics is a concise and engaging introduction to the field of new religious movements nrms western culture is currently going through a wave of fascination with cults with numerous documentaries and television series dedicated to describing these groups meanwhile scholars have been wrestling with the intricacies of this loaded category for decades introducing the reader to some of the key issues and debates in the field of nrm studies this book includes discussions on how to define the term new religious movement critically unpacking the term cult how to study nrms brainwashing and deprogramming prophecy and failed prophecy charisma and authority nrms and violence gender and sexuality this book is essential reading for students and scholars of religion who are approaching the study of nrms for the first time as well as those interested in deepening their understanding of nrms

an original collection of primary documents conveying the wide array of ideas connected to new religious movements new religious movements is a highly unique volume bringing together primary documents conveying the words and ideas of a wide array of new religious movements nrms and offering a first hand look into their belief systems arranged by the editors according to a new typology the text allows readers to consider nrms along five interrelated pathways from those that offer new perceptions of existence or new personal identities to those that center on relationships within family like units to those movements that highlight the need for recasting the social order or anticipate the dawn of a new age the volume includes original documents from groups such as the unification church theosophy branch davidians wicca jehovah's witnesses santeria and seventh day adventists as well as many others each section is prefaced by a contextual introduction and concludes with a list of sources for further reading new religious movements offers a rare inside look into the worldviews of alternative religious traditions

what is a cult why do they emerge who joins them and why do tragedies such as waco and jonestown occur this reader brings together the voices of historians sociologists and psychologists of religion to address these key questions about new religious movements looks at theoretical explanations for cults why people join and what happens when they do brings together the best work on cults by sociologists historians and psychologists of religion a broad ranging balanced and clearly organized collection of readings includes coverage of topical issues such as the brainwashing controversy and cults in cyberspace section introductions by the editor situate the nature value and relevance of the selected readings in context of current discussions

gospels speak of truth and as nietzsche rightly noted we should not expect the truth to be comfortable the gospel of rev marvin knife sotelo is a truth that unlike those fantastic fictions circulated in popular religious culture requires no annotation or inventive scapegoat for it contains no inherent contradictions

an overview of the development of new religions and the controversies surrounding them in late modern society a stimulating course friendly overview of the history and development of new religious movements nrms in the late twentieth century explores eight cults and nrms including the church of scientology transcendental meditation unificationism the family international the ramtha school of enlightenment the branch davidians heaven s gate and wicca each chapter reviews the origins leaders beliefs rituals and practices of a nrm highlighting the specific controversies surrounding this group covers debates including what constitutes an authentic religion the validity of claims of brainwashing techniques the implications of experimentation with unconventional sexual practices and the deeply rooted cultural fears that cults engender

behind each policy debate over welfare reform aids funding and hate crime laws are the people struggling with poverty illness and discrimination while the experts cite statistics and employ rhetoric about drug abuse crime and child abuse individuals confront the horrors of addiction and the trauma of victimization greenhaven press s social issues firsthand series illuminates the often neglected human side of society s pressing problems each anthology presents a collection of personal narratives on a featured social issue contributors include those who have had personal experience with the topic under discussion either as a participant a witness or an involved professional for example terrorism includes the perspectives of terrorists victims families of victims and emergency workers additional features include an introduction that provides each book with essential context a thorough bibliography a list of organizations to contact an annotated table of contents and a thorough index each book in the social issues firsthand series will provide readers with a personal context for the most pressing topics of today s political discussions book jacket

globalization is a predominant theme in contemporary educational and political circles research on globalization has become a political priority because the world has become a single place where local events may have worldwide political economic and military consequences oftentimes however cultural and religious consequences are ignored although recent waves of violence seem to be religiously fuelled

presents a study of the recruitment strategies and conversion rhetoric in contemporary religious movements focusing primarily on two movements in taiwan tzu chi and falun gong this work demonstrates that an examination of such rhetoric has the potential to provide genuine insights into how a given religion gains adherents

the importance of polling public opinion is widely recognized this work examines the impact that polls have on the thoughts and behaviour of the public it considers the power of public opinion polls as an element of mass persuasion in media stories advertising and government policy

this encyclopedia is a welcome exploration of the great variety of social networks that human beings create and participate in interdisciplinary in scope the set includes contributions from some of the foremost scholars studying community today appendixes include an extensive bibliography a collection of resources guides an annotated guide to community in popular culture and libraries build community a guide for librarians the top 20 reference titles of the year american libraries may 2004

dressing entirely in white is normal practice on a five block stretch of robertson boulevard in west los angeles western men and women garbed in white from their turbans to their keds traverse the busy streets surrounding the sikh temple further north you have to wait until friday afternoon to see white clad young men in yarmulkes gathering outside the kabbalah learning centre greeting each other with hugs the spaces around them filled with women and children wearing multi colored garments beyond this city street one hears of the popularity of kabbalah in the tabloids as celebrities such as madonna claim kabbalah as their new religion how have the obscure and offensive ideas of medieval jewish mysticism expressed in doctrines like the demonic power of women s menstrual blood or the soulless bodies of gentiles been made palatable for so many from all stripes of life with klcs in cities such as boca raton new york los angeles boston miami philadelphia san diego houston and las vegas the reach of this mystical tradition can be said to be nationwide but how did its beliefs and practices become as fashionable as they are now what do the klcs teach so that adherents stay on is it a cult a religion or simply a system of universal wisdom as its leaders purport determined to uncover the secrets of this esoteric faith the author embarked upon three 10 week kabbalah classes among other learning opportunities examined kabbalah publications from the 1970s to the present listened to klc audio tapes and interacted with adherents this book presents her experiences and findings and offers an overview of the history of the kabbalah in this country its beliefs and practices its positions on health and healing of both the self and the world its structure and outreach and its views of men and women she traces the origins of kabbalah offers a glimpse into its world its relationships to judaism its place in american society and its future

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