

# Sociological Analysis Of Religion Is Concerned With

## THE SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF RELIGION

- Involves looking at set of meanings attached to a world that's beyond human observation
- How can we find evidence for something that we can't see?
- Therefore, sociologists avoid the spiritual side of religion and focus on the social aspects of religion *that can be observed*.

## **Sociological Analysis of Religion is Concerned With: Understanding Faith's Social Impact**

Have you ever wondered how deeply woven religion is into the fabric of society? Beyond personal beliefs, religion shapes laws, influences social movements, and even impacts economic structures. This blog post delves into the core concerns of a sociological analysis of religion, exploring how sociologists approach the study of faith and its profound societal effects. We'll unpack key areas of investigation, revealing the fascinating complexities of the relationship between religion and social life.

## **Understanding the Sociological Perspective on Religion**

Unlike theological studies, which focus on the truth claims of religious doctrines, sociological analysis of religion is concerned with the social aspects of religious belief and practice. Sociologists don't judge the validity of religious beliefs; instead, they examine religion as a social institution, analyzing its functions, its impact on social structures, and its relationship with other social institutions. This approach allows for a nuanced understanding of religion's role in shaping and being shaped by society.

# Key Areas of Sociological Inquiry into Religion

The sociological analysis of religion is concerned with a wide range of interconnected themes. Here are some key areas of investigation:

## 1. The Social Functions of Religion

Sociologists explore how religion fulfills essential social functions. This includes:

**Social cohesion:** Religion provides a shared belief system and rituals that bind communities together, fostering social solidarity and a sense of belonging.

**Social control:** Religious norms and values often reinforce social order, providing a moral framework that regulates behavior and maintains social stability.

**Meaning and purpose:** Religion offers explanations for life's big questions, providing individuals with a sense of meaning, purpose, and hope, especially during times of crisis.

**Social change:** While often associated with maintaining the status quo, religion can also be a catalyst for social change, inspiring movements for social justice and reform.

## 2. The Relationship Between Religion and Power

Sociological analysis of religion is concerned with the complex interplay between religious institutions and power structures. This includes:

**Religious institutions and the state:** The relationship between church and state varies across cultures, ranging from religious dominance to strict separation. Sociologists investigate how this relationship impacts both religious institutions and the political landscape.

**Religion and social inequality:** Sociologists examine how religious beliefs and practices can contribute to or challenge social inequalities, such as gender inequality, racial discrimination, or economic disparities.

**Religious movements and social change:** The rise and fall of religious movements are analyzed, considering their role in challenging existing power structures and driving social transformations.

## 3. Religious Diversity and Pluralism

In increasingly diverse societies, understanding the coexistence of multiple religions is crucial. A sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:

**Interfaith relations:** Sociologists study the interactions between different religious groups, exploring both cooperation and conflict.

**Secularization:** The ongoing process of secularization, the decline of religious influence in public life, is a major area of sociological inquiry. This involves examining the factors contributing to secularization and its implications for society.

**Religious resurgence:** Conversely, sociologists also investigate the resurgence of religious

fundamentalism and other forms of religious revivalism, examining their causes and consequences.

#### **4. The Impact of Globalization on Religion**

Globalization has significantly impacted religious landscapes worldwide:

Religious globalization: The spread of religious ideas and practices across national borders through migration, media, and technology is studied extensively.

Religious hybridity: The blending of religious traditions and beliefs, creating new forms of religious expression, is another fascinating area of investigation.

Religious conflict and terrorism: The role of religion in fueling conflict and terrorism is a pressing concern that receives significant sociological attention.

## **Conclusion**

The sociological analysis of religion is concerned with understanding the multifaceted ways in which religion shapes and is shaped by society. It moves beyond individual faith to examine the social structures, power dynamics, and cultural influences that surround religious beliefs and practices. By adopting a critical and objective lens, sociologists provide valuable insights into the ongoing interplay between religion and the social world, offering a deeper comprehension of the complexities of human society.

## **FAQs**

1. What is the difference between a theological and sociological approach to religion? Theological approaches focus on the truth claims and doctrines of religion, while sociological approaches examine religion's social functions, impact, and structures.
2. How does sociological analysis of religion contribute to understanding social inequality? Sociologists examine how religious beliefs and practices might perpetuate or challenge existing social hierarchies, contributing to our understanding of power dynamics and inequality.
3. What role does globalization play in the study of religion? Globalization has facilitated the spread of religious ideas and practices, creating new forms of religious expression and influencing religious conflicts and cooperation.
4. How does secularization affect the role of religion in society? Secularization, the decline of religious influence, impacts various aspects of society, including political systems, social norms, and individual identities.
5. Can sociological analysis of religion be applied to non-religious belief systems? Yes, many of the

concepts and methods used in the sociological analysis of religion can be applied to the study of other belief systems and ideologies.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Sociology of Religion** Abby Day, 2020-12-30 The first sociology of religion textbook to begin the task of diversifying and decolonizing the study of religion, *Sociology of Religion* develops a sociological frame that draws together the personal, political and public, showing how religion – its origins, development and changes – is understood as a social institution, influenced by and influencing wider social structures. Organized along sociological structures and themes, the book works with examples from a variety of religious traditions and regions rather than focusing in depth on a selection, and foregrounds cultural practice-based understandings of religion. It is therefore a book about ‘religion’, not ‘religions’, that explores the relationship of religion with gender and sexuality, crime and violence, generations, politics and media, ‘race’, ethnicity and social class, disease and disability – highlighting the position of religion in social justice and equality. Each chapter of this book is framed around concrete case studies from a variety of Western and non-Western religious traditions. Students will benefit from thinking about the discipline across a range of geographical and religious contexts. The book includes features designed to engage and inspire students: Up-to-date and comprehensive analysis of engaging and accessible material ‘Case Examples’: short summaries of empirical examples relating to the chapter themes Visually distinct boxes with bullet points, key words and phrases focusing on the context Questions suitable for private or seminar study Suggested class exercises for instructors to use Suggested readings and further readings/online resources at the end of each chapter Following a review and critique of early sociology of religion, the book engages with more contemporary issues, such as dissolving the secular/sacred binary and paying close attention to issues of epistemology, negotiations, marginalities, feminisms, identities, power, nuances, globalization, (post) (multiple) modernity (ies), emotion, structuration, reflexivity, intersectionality and urbanization. This book is essential reading for undergraduate and postgraduate students exploring the sociology of religion, religion and society, religious studies, theology, globalization and human geography.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Rational Choice Theory and Religion** Lawrence A. Young, 2016-04-29 *Rational Choice Theory and Religion* considers one of the major developments in the social scientific paradigms that promises to foster a greater theoretical unity among the disciplines of sociology, political science, economics and psychology. Applying the theory of rational choice--the theory that each individual will make her choice to maximize gain and minimize cost--to the study of religion, Lawrence Young has brought together a group of internationally renowned scholars to examine this important development within the field of religion for the first time.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: *The Sociology of Religion*** George Lundskow, 2008-06-10 Using a lively narrative, *The Sociology of Religion* is an insightful text that investigates the facts of religion in all its great diversity, including its practices and beliefs, and then analyzes actual examples of religious developments using relevant conceptual frameworks. As a result, students actively engage in the discovery, learning, and analytical processes as they progress through the text. Organized around essential topics and real-life issues, this unique text examines religion both as an object of sociological analysis as well as a device for seeking personal meaning in life. The book provides sociological perspectives on religion while introducing students to relevant research from interdisciplinary scholarship. Sidebar features and photographs of religious figures bring the text to life for readers. Key Features Uses substantive and truly contemporary real-life religious issues of current interest to engage the reader in a way few other texts do Combines theory with empirical examples drawn from the United States and around the world, emphasizing a critical and analytical perspective that encourages better understanding of the material presented Features discussions of emergent religions, consumerism, and the link between religion, sports, and other

forms of popular culture Draws upon interdisciplinary literature, helping students appreciate the contributions of other disciplines while primarily developing an understanding of the sociology of religion Accompanied by High-Quality Ancillaries! Instructor Resources on CD contain chapter outlines, summaries, multiple-choice questions, essay questions, and short answer questions as well as illustrations from the book. C Intended Audience This core text is designed for upper-level undergraduate students of Sociology of Religion or Religion and Politics.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Religion Peter Clarke, 2011-02-04 The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Religion draws on the expertise of an international team of scholars providing both an entry point into the sociological study and understanding of religion and an in-depth survey into its changing forms and content in the contemporary world. The role and impact of religion and spirituality on the politics, culture, education and health in the modern world is rigorously discussed and debated. The study of the sociology of religion forges interdisciplinary links to explore aspects of continuity and change in the contemporary interface between society and religion. Using a combination of theoretical, methodological and content-led approaches, the fifty-seven contributors collectively emphasise the complex relationships between religion and aspects of life from scientific research to law, ecology to art, music to cognitive science, crime to institutional health care and more. The developing character of religion, irreligion and atheism and the impact of religious diversity on social cohesion are explored. An overview of current scholarship in the field is provided in each themed chapter with an emphasis on encouraging new thinking and reflection on familiar and emergent themes to stimulate further debate and scholarship. The resulting essay collection provides an invaluable resource for research and teaching in this diverse discipline.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** Religion, Realism and Social Theory Philip A Mellor, 2004-09-29 `Philip Mellor's ambition is to save sociology from itself...or to save society from the sociologists. He has written a brilliant polemic and theoretically rich argument against the many fashionable contemporary social theories that provide acquiescent 'post-societal' endorsements of the economic and technological forces that are 'hollowing out' the religious, moral and human dimensions of societies. I am tremendously impressed' - Kenneth Thompson, Professor of Sociology at the Open University Religion, Realism and Social Theory challenges those contemporary sociologists who argue that the notion of 'society' is an outmoded basis for sociological analysis and instead revitalizes the idea that sociology is truly 'the study of society'. Through a bold and original argument, Philip Mellor returns the human and religious aspects of social life to the centre of social theory, drawing on a vast range of contemporary social theoretical literature in the process. The book: comprehensively reassesses what societies are offers a detailed critique of current failings in social theory draws out the religious underpinnings of social life throws fresh light on the religious, cultural and social conflicts that appear to herald a new period of global disorder Religion, Realism and Social Theory will stimulate debate amongst academics and students of sociology and social theory, cultural studies and the sociology of religion.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** The Social Scientific Study of Religion Paul S. Chung, 2022-06-30 In this study, Paul S. Chung charts the history of social scientific study of religion from the axial age to the present day, and thereby lays a foundation for a new model of constructive theology in the comparative study of religion, culture and society. Analysing the thought of Max Weber, Alfred Schutz, Pierre Bourdieu, Michel Foucault, Edmund Husserl, Max Horkheimer and others, Chung deals effectively with material interests, power relations and the history of race, gender and sexuality. The result is a synthesis that is at once innovative, critical, and applicable to current methodology in theology and the social sciences.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** Sociology of the Sacred Philip A Mellor, Chris Shilling, 2014-08-12 About time! Two key experts in the field remind us of the significance and power of religion as bio-political and bio-economic. - Beverley Skeggs, Goldsmiths, University of London A welcome addition to a continuing body of work by two distinguished theorists of religion. - Grace Davie, University of Exeter Mellor and Shilling cement their place at the pinnacle of the

contemporary sociological theorisation of religion and the sacred. If sociological work is going to have any future it is to be found in the inspiration and excitement of this sophisticated and intelligent book. - Keith Tester, University of Hull This book is ambitious, refreshing and rewarding. It offers the best available analysis of the complex interlacing of the sacred, religion, secularization and embodied experience. - James A. Beckford, University of Warwick Drawing on classical and contemporary social theory, *Sociology of the Sacred* presents a bold and original account of how interactions between religious and secular forms of the sacred underpin major conflicts in the world today, and illuminate broader patterns of social and cultural change inherent to global modernity. It demonstrates: How the bodily capacities help religions adapt to social change but also facilitate their internal transformation That the 'sacred' includes a diverse range of phenomena, with variable implications for questions of social order and change How proponents of a 'post-secular' age have failed to grasp the ways in which sacralization can advance secularization Why the sociology of the sacred needs to be a key part of attempts to make sense of the nature and directionality of social change in global modernity today. This book is key reading for the sociology of religion, the body and modern culture.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Introduction to Sociology 2e** Nathan J. Keirns, Heather Griffiths, Eric Strayer, Susan Cody-Rydzewski, Gail Scaramuzzo, Sally Vyain, Tommy Sadler, Jeff D. Bry, Faye Jones, 2015-03-17 This text is intended for a one-semester introductory course.--Page 1.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Durkheim on Religion** Emile Durkheim, 2011-01-27 The famous French sociologist Emile Durkheim is universally recognised as one of the founding fathers of sociology as an academic discipline. He wrote on the division of labour, methodology, suicide and education, but his most prolific and influential works were his writings on religion, which culminated in his controversial book *The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life*. Although his influence continued long after his death in 1917, this is the first book to provide a detailed look at the whole of his work in the field of religion. *Durkheim on Religion* is a selection of readings from Durkheim's writings on religion, presented in order of original publication, ranging from early reviews to articles and extracts from his books. Also included are detailed bibliographies and abstracts together with contributions by such writers as Van Gennep, Goldenweiser and Stanner. This book will be invaluable to those studying sociology and anthropology, but will also be of interest to those studying the history or philosophy of religion, as well as to anyone with an interest in Durkheim.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Sociological Analysis , 1977**

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: 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 theories that run through Durkheim's work. This includes Durkheim's attitude towards secularisation and Christian churches, as well as his notion of the contemporary cult of the individual.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: The Sociology of Religion** Malcolm B. Hamilton, 2002-06-01 *The Sociology of Religion* is a comprehensive and wide-ranging introduction to theoretical debates in the sociology of religion, placing these theories in the context of specific religious beliefs and practices. Using examples as diverse as primitive religions, Buddhism, millennial movements, the Protestant Ethic, secularisation, cults and the new religious movements, Malcolm Hamilton demonstrates the multiplicity of religious traditions and enables readers to place their own experiences in a wider context. He draws on both historical and anthropological perspectives in his examination of religious practices and outlines the work of major sociological theorists including

Marx, Durkheim, Malinowski and other Functionalists, Frazer and Weber in the examination of world religion, bringing these theories up-to-date. The significance of each theoretical perspective is illustrated by chapters on particular beliefs and practices.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: An Introduction to the Sociology of Religion** Professor Pål Repstad, Assoc Prof Inger Furseth, 2013-05-28 An Introduction to the Sociology of Religion provides an overview of sociological theories of contemporary religious life. Some chapters are organized according to topic. Others offer brief presentations of classical and contemporary sociologists from Karl Marx to Zygmunt Bauman and their perspectives on social life, including religion. Throughout the book, illustrations and examples are taken from several religious traditions.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Sociological Theory and the Question of Religion** Andrew McKinnon, Marta Trzebiatowska, 2016-04-01 Religion lies near the heart of the classical sociological tradition, yet it no longer occupies the same place within the contemporary sociological enterprise. This relative absence has left sociology under-prepared for thinking about religion's continuing importance in new issues, movements, and events in the twenty-first century. This book seeks to address this lacunae by offering a variety of theoretical perspectives on the study of religion that bridge the gap between mainstream concerns of sociologists and the sociology of religion. Following an assessment of the current state of the field, the authors develop an emerging critical perspective within the sociology of religion with particular focus on the importance of historical background. Re-assessing the themes of aesthetics, listening and different degrees of spiritual self-discipline, the authors draw on ethnographic studies of religious involvement in Norway and the UK. They highlight the importance of power in the sociology of religion with help from Pierre Bourdieu, Marx and Critical Discourse Analysis. This book points to emerging currents in the field and offers a productive and lively way forward, not just for sociological theory of religion, but for the sociology of religion more generally.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Peter L. Berger on Religion** Titus Hjelm, 2024-04-30 Peter L. Berger on Religion provides an overview and critical assessment of the work of one of the most influential sociologists of the 20th century. Situating Berger's writings on religion and secularisation in the broader framework of social constructionism, the book argues that neither he nor the research influenced by him consistently followed the constructionist paradigm. This assessment is informed by a close examination of The Sacred Canopy (1967), in particular. The volume also offers a Berger-inspired constructionist framework for the study of religion. This book is an excellent resource for students and researchers interested in the intersection of religion and social theory.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Social Theory and Religion** James A. Beckford, 2003-08-21 Many aspects of religion are puzzling these days. This 2003 book looks at ways of improving our understanding of religious change by strengthening the links between social theory and the social scientific study of religion. It clarifies the social processes involved in constructing religion and non-religion in public and private life. Taking illustrations of the importance of these boundaries from studies of secularisation, religious diversity, globalisation, religious movements and self-identity, Beckford reviews social scientific knowledge about religion and assesses the strengths and weaknesses of a wide range of theoretical attempts to account for religious change and continuity. The discussion goes in two directions. The first is towards identifying ways in which studies of religion would benefit from taking better account of themes in recent social theory. The second is towards identifying reasons for social theorists to pay more attention to the findings of empirical investigations of religion.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Religion, Work, and Inequality** Lisa Keister, 2002-04-17 Work behaviours and inequality in work-based rewards are essential to financial security and general well-being. Although the benefits of receiving work-based rewards, such as income, benefits and retirement packages, are significant, they are not enjoyed uniformly. This title articulates an agenda for better understanding these social processes.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: The Sociology of Religion** Malcolm B. Hamilton, 2012-06-12 This expanded second edition combines a discussion of the main theorists with a wide range of material illustrating the diversity of religious beliefs and practices.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Religion in the Contemporary World** Alan Aldridge, 2013-04-12 In the new edition of this widely praised text, Alan Aldridge examines the complex realities of religious belief, practice and institutions. Religion is a powerful and controversial force in the contemporary world, even in supposedly secular societies. Almost all societies seek to cultivate religions and faith communities as sources of social stability and engines of social progress. They also try to combat real and imagined abuses and excess, regulating cults that brainwash vulnerable people, containing fundamentalism that threatens democracy and the progress of science, and identifying terrorists who threaten atrocities in the name of religion. The third edition has been carefully revised to make sure it is fully up to date with recent developments and debates. Major themes in the revised edition include the recently erupted 'culture war' between progressive secularists and conservative believers, the diverse manifestations of 'fundamentalism' and their impact on the wider society, new individual forms of religious expression in opposition to traditional structures of authority, and the backlash against 'multiculturalism' with its controversial implications for the social integration of ethnic and religious minority communities. Impressive in its scholarly analysis of a vibrant and challenging aspect of human societies, the third edition will appeal strongly to students taking courses in the sociology of religion and religious studies, as well as to everyone interested in the place of religion in the contemporary world.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Religion and Social Transformations** David Herbert, 2018-04-27 This title was first published in 2002: Religion and Social Transformations examines the reciprocal relationship between religion, modernity and social change. The book focuses on the world's three major missionary religions - Buddhism, Christianity and Islam. It explores how these three traditions are responding to some of the most challenging issues associated with globalization, including the role of religion in the fall of Communism; the tension between religion and feminism; the compatibility of religion and human rights; and whether ancient religions can accommodate new challenges such as environmentalism. The five textbooks and Reader that make up the Religion Today Open University/Ashgate series are: From Sacred Text to Internet; Religion and Social Transformations; Perspectives on Civil Religion; Global Religious Movements in Regional Context; Belief Beyond Boundaries; Religion Today: A Reader

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Social Scientific Studies of Religion in China** Fenggang Yang, Graeme Lang, 2011-01-27 This book provides a sampling of recent field studies of religions in China, along with theoretical reflections by sociologists, anthropologists and religious studies scholars, both inside and outside China, on the revival of the social scientific study of religion in Chinese societies.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Religion** Seth Daniel Kunin, 2003 Over the course of the twentieth century, the way we understand the religious experience has been transformed. Various thinkers and intellectual approaches have shaped the ways in which scholars examine rituals, symbols, and belief systems. In.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Power, Trust, and Meaning** S. N. Eisenstadt, 1995-06-15 S. N. Eisenstadt is well known for his wide-ranging investigations of modernization, social stratification, revolution, comparative civilization, and political development. This collection of twelve major theoretical essays spans more than forty years of research, to explore systematically the bases of human action and society. Framed by a new introduction and an extensive epilogue, which are themselves important statements about processes of institutional formations and cultural creativity, the essays trace the major developments of contemporary sociological theory and analysis. Examining themes of trust and solidarity among immigrants, youth groups, and generations, and in friendships, kinships, and patron-client relationships, Eisenstadt explores larger questions of social structure and agency, conflict and change, and the reconstitution of the social order. He looks also at political and religious systems, paying particular attention to



great historical empires and the major civilizations. United by what they reveal about three major dimensions of social life—power, trust, and meaning—these essays offer a vision of culture as both a preserving and a transforming aspect of social life, thus providing a new perspective on the relations between culture and social structure.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Religion and Change in Modern Britain** Linda Woodhead, Rebecca Catto, 2013-03-01 This book offers a fully up-to-date and comprehensive guide to religion in Britain since 1945. A team of leading scholars provide a fresh analysis and overview, with a particular focus on diversity and change. They examine: relations between religious and secular beliefs and institutions the evolving role and status of the churches the growth and 'settlement' of non-Christian religious communities the spread and diversification of alternative spiritualities religion in welfare, education, media, politics and law theoretical perspectives on religious change. The volume presents the latest research, including results from the largest-ever research initiative on religion in Britain, the AHRC/ESRC Religion and Society Programme. Survey chapters are combined with detailed case studies to give both breadth and depth of coverage. The text is accompanied by relevant photographs and a companion website.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: The SAGE Encyclopedia of the Sociology of Religion** Adam Possamai, Anthony J. Blasi, 2020-02-14 The SAGE Encyclopedia of the Sociology of Religion takes a three-pronged look at this, namely investigating the role of religion in society; unpacking and evaluating the significance of religion in and on human history; and tracing and outlining the social forces and influences that shape religion. This encyclopedia covers a range of themes from: • fundamental topics like definitions • secularization • dimensions of religiosity to such emerging issues as civil religion • new religious movements This Encyclopedia also addresses contemporary dilemmas such as fundamentalism and extremism and the role of gender in religion.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Religion, Personality, and Social Behavior** Vassilis Saroglou, 2013-07-24 Psychological interest in religion, in terms of both theory and empirical research, has been constant since the beginning of psychology. However, since the beginning of the 21st Century, partially due to important social and political events and developments, interest in religion within personality and social psychology has increased. This volume reviews the accumulated research and theory on the major aspects of personality and social psychology as applied to religion. It provides a high quality integrative, systematic, and rigorous review of that work, with a focus on topics that are both central in personality and social psychology and have allowed for the accumulation of solid and replicated and not impressionist knowledge on religion. The contributors are renowned researchers in the field who offer an international perspective that is both illuminating, yet neutral, with respect to religion. The volume's primary audience are academics, researchers, and advanced students in social psychology, but it will also interest those in sociology, political sciences, and anthropology.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion, Volume 11** Joanne Marie Greer, David O. Moberg, 2021-11-22 The purpose of this book is to provide an outlet for original research articles examining the role and value of religious and spiritual constructs across the social sciences. The aim of the series is to include an international and interfaith voice to this research dialogue. An effort is made to be interdisciplinary and academically eclectic. The articles in each volume represent a wide array of perspectives and research projects. Most of the articles report the findings of quantitative or qualitative investigations, but some deal with methodology, theory, or applications of social science studies in the field of religion, and some are applied, demonstrating the relevance of the social sciences to religious organizations and their clergy. The value of the volume is that it gives to researchers in this area a broad perspective on the issues and methods of religious research across a spectrum of academic disciplines. The aim of the book is to stimulate a creative, integrative dialogue that will enhance interdisciplinary research.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with: An Introduction to the Sociology of Religion** Inger Furseth, Pål Repstad, 2017-03-02 Is it true that religion is weakening in modern

times, or are we facing religious resurgence? What is fundamentalism? How does it emerge and grow? What role does religion play in ethnic and national conflicts? Is religion a fundamental driving force or do political leaders use religion for their own purposes? Do all religions oppress women? These are some of the questions addressed in this book. *An Introduction to the Sociology of Religion* provides an overview of sociological theories of contemporary religious life. Some chapters are organized according to topic. Others offer brief presentations of classical and contemporary sociologists from Karl Marx to Zygmunt Bauman and their perspectives on social life, including religion. Throughout the book, illustrations and examples are taken from several religious traditions.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** Readings in the Sociology of Religion Joan Brothers, A. H. Richmond, 2016-07-02 *Readings in the Sociology of Religion*

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** A Guide to the Phenomenology of Religion James Cox, 2006-08-15 Provides an introduction and overview to the Phenomenology of Religion through describing, analysing and evaluating the ideas of key thinkers in the phenomenology of religion. This book also examines the thinking of scholars within the Dutch, British and North American 'schools' of religious phenomenology.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** **Classical Sociology** Bryan S Turner, 1999-12-06 In this book, one of the foremost sociologists of the present day turns his gaze upon the key figures and seminal institutions in the rise of sociology. This book is a systematic introduction to classical sociology and its development in the twentieth century. Accessible and authoritative, it will be required reading for anyone interested in sociology and social theory today.--BOOK JACKET.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** **Annual Review of the Sociology of Religion. Volume 3 (2012)** , 2012-08-24 This volume points to methodological innovations in social research and their potential for social scientific studies of religion. Computerization has opened for both quantitative and qualitative systematic analyses of complex materials, and the epistemological discourse after Positivism has opened for reconsidering the foundation of empirical social research. Furthermore religion is changing, and sociology of religion therefore widens its scope by including non-institutional forms of religion. This refocusing calls for new methodological considerations. As the range of available methods expands, it becomes more pressing to consider whether and how methods can be combined, such as quantitative and qualitative methods. Studying religion as a complex social phenomenon calls for a variety of methods, but an integration of the empirical findings points back to the epistemological issue.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** **In Gods We Trust** Thomas Robbins, 2017-07-12 Much has changed since publication of the first edition of this established text in the sociology of religion. Revised and expanded, this edition emphasizes new patterns of religious change and conflict emerging in the United States in the latter part of the twentieth century. Leading scholars describe and analyze developments in five main areas: The fundamentalist and evangelical revival; challenge and renewal in mainline churches; spiritual innovation and the so-called New Age; women's movements and issues and their impact; and politics and civil religion. Chapters include an examination of religious movements' responses to AIDS; Christian schools; quasi-religions; healing rites and goddess worship; recruitment of women to charismatic and Hassidic groups,; televangelists and the Christian Right; racist rural populism; contemporary Mormonism and its growth; cults and brainwashing; Jonestown; dissidence in the Catholic church; and trance-channeling, among other topics. A new introductory chapter by the editors establishes an integrating framework in terms of three themes: increasing conflict and controversy associated with American religion; increasing focus on various forms of power in American religion; and challenges to models of secularization and modernization inherent in religious revival, innovation, and politicization. A concluding chapter by the editors looks at new trends and assesses their possible impact in coming years. Like its predecessor, this outstanding collection is a significant contribution to the literature as well as a valuable resource for the classroom.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** **Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion, Volume 30** Ralph W. Hood, Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor, 2019-12-16 The 30th

volume of Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion consists of two special sections, as well as two separate empirical studies on attachment and daily spiritual practices. The first special section deals with the social scientific study of religion in Indonesia. Indonesia is a predominantly Muslim country whose history and contemporary involvement in the study of religion is explored from both sociological and psychological perspectives. The second special section is on the Pope Francis effect: the challenges of modernization in the Catholic church and the global impact of Pope Francis. While its focus is mainly on the Catholic religion, the internal dynamics and geopolitics explored apply more broadly.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** *Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion, Volume 12*, 2021-10-01 The purpose of this book is to provide an outlet for original research articles examining the role and value of religious and spiritual constructs across the social sciences. The aim of the series is to include an international and interfaith voice to this research dialogue. An effort is made to be interdisciplinary and academically eclectic. The articles in the current volume represent a wide array of perspectives and research projects. Most of the articles report the findings of quantitative or qualitative investigations, but some deal with methodology, theory, or applications of social science studies in the field of religion, and some are applied, demonstrating the relevance of the social sciences to religious organizations and their clergy. The value of the volume is that it gives to researchers in this area a broad perspective on the issues and methods of religious research across a spectrum of academic disciplines. The aim of the book is to stimulate a creative, integrative dialogue that will enhance interdisciplinary research.

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** Alienation Nathan Rotenstreich, 2022-07-04

**sociological analysis of religion is concerned with:** *Bringing Back the Social into the Sociology of Religion*, 2018-06-19 The contributors to Bringing Back the Social into the Sociology of Religion explore how 'bringing the social back into the sociology of religion' makes possible a more adequate sociological understanding of such topics as power, emotions, the self, or ethnic relations in religious life. In particular, they do so by engaging with social theories and addressing issues of epistemology and scientific reflexivity. The chapters of this book cover a range of different religious traditions and regions of the world such as Sufism in Pakistan; the Kabbalah Centre in Europe, Brazil and Israel; African Christian missions in Europe; and Evangelical Christianity in France and Oceania. They are based upon original empirical research, making use of a range of methods - quantitative, ethnographic and documentary. Contributors are: Véronique Altglas, Peter Doak, Yannick Fer, Gwendoline Malogne-Fer, Christophe Monnot, Eric Morier-Genoud, Alix Philippon, Matthew Wood.

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