Nine Theories Of Religion

Eight Theories of ReligionTheories of ReligionUnderstanding Theories of ReligionSecular Theories on ReligionSocial Theory and ReligionTheories of Religion: A ReaderInterpretive Theories of ReligionGroup Theories of Religion and the IndividualContemporary Theories of ReligionReligionGroup Theories of Religion and the IndividualReligion, Theory, CritiqueTen Theories of ReligionHow Philosophy Shapes Theories of ReligionGroup Theories of Religion and the IndividualPsychological Theories of ReligionThe Evolution of ReligionTen Theories of ReligionSociological Theory and the Question of ReligionThe Religion Toolkit Daniel L. Pals Seth Daniel Kunin Ivan Strenski Tim Jensen James A. Beckford Jonathan Miles-Watson Donald A. Crosby Clement Charles Julian Webb Michael Stausberg James Thrower Clement C. J. Webb Richard King Daniel Pals Carl Reinhold Bråkenhielm Clement Charles Julian Webb James Forsyth Joseph Bulbulia Daniel Pals Andrew McKinnon John Morreall

why do human beings believe in divinities why do some seek eternal life while others seek escape from recurring lives why

do the beliefs and behaviors we typically call religious so deeply affect the human personality and so subtly weave their way through human society revised and updated in this second edition eight theories of religion considers how these fundamental questions have engaged the most important thinkers of the modern era accessible systematic and succinct the text examines the classic interpretations of religion advanced by theorists who have left a major imprint on the intellectual culture of the twentieth century the second edition features a new chapter on max weber a revised introduction and a revised expanded conclusion that traces the paths of further inquiry and interpretation traveled by theorists in the most recent decades eight theories of religion second edition begins with edward burnett tylor and james frazer two victorian pioneers in anthropology and the comparative study of religion it then considers the great reductionist approaches of sigmund freud emile durkheim and karl marx all of whom have exercised wide influence up to the present day the discussion goes on to examine the leading challenges to reductionism as articulated by sociologist max weber new to this edition and romanian american comparativist mircea eliade finally it explores the newer methods and ideas arising from the african field studies of ethnographer e e evans pritchard and the interpretive anthropology of clifford geertz each chapter offers biographical background theoretical exposition conceptual analysis and critical assessment this common format allows for close comparison and careful evaluation throughout ideal for use as a supplementary text in introductory religion courses or as the central text in sociology of religion and courses centered on the explanation and interpretation of religion eight theories of religion second edition offers an illuminating treatment of this controversial and fascinating subject

this book provides a comprehensive selection of readings that relate to and explore the definition of religion the texts come from a wide range of approaches unified both by the questions they are addressing and their broadly social scientific perspective the disciplines covered include anthropology phenomenology psychology and sociology the editors have also included some key texts relating to the feminist approach to and critique of religion the first section of the book includes some of the foundational texts such as materials by marx freud and durkheim the remaining sections look at more recent discussions of the issues from the different disciplinary perspectives each reading is introduced by a biographical sketch of the author the book also includes introductory discussions to each section that both raise the key issues developed in a particular discipline and address the disciplinary approaches from a more critical stance theories of

religion a reader is an invaluable critical resource accessible to a broad audience as well as students of theology and religious studies

featuring comprehensive updates and additions the second edition of understanding theories of religion explores the development of major theories of religion through the works of classic and contemporary figures a new edition of this introductory text exploring the core methods and theorists in religion spanning the sixteenth century through to the latest theoretical trends features an entirely new section covering religion and postmodernism race sex and gender and religion and postcolonialism examines the development of religious theories through the work of classic and contemporary figures from the history of anthropology sociology psychology philosophy and theology reveals how the study of religion evolved in response to great cultural conflicts and major historical events student friendly features include chapter introductions and summaries biographical vignettes a timeline a glossary and many other learning aids

scholars of religious studies from europe and north america explore what a secular or scientific study of religion should be like what methods it should apply what aims and what kind of scientific thinking should be pursued they also consider scholars as public intellectuals operating within and influenced by general societal developments the 18 essays provide a survey of current thinking in the field distributed in the us by isbs c book news inc

many aspects of religion are puzzling these days this 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 james a beckford reviews the current state of social scientific knowledge about religion

the aim of this new book is to provide the student with an anthology of key texts on the broad range of social scientific theories of religion the texts included come from a wide range of approaches to religion unified both by the questions that they are addressing and the broadly social scientific perspective the disciplines covered include anthropology phenomenology psychology and sociology we have also included some key texts relating to the feminist approach to and

critique of religion the initial section of the book includes some of the foundational texts relating to the study of religion for example material by marx freud and durkheim the remaining sections look at more recent discussions of the issues from the different disciplinary perspectives the book also includes introductory discussions that raise both the key issues developed in a particular discipline and also address the disciplinary approaches from a more critical stance each reading is introduced by a paragraph giving biographical details of the author theories of religion a reader can be used either alongside james thrower s religion the classical theories and seth kunin s religion the modern theories or as a stand alone reader for courses in theories of religion

no detailed description available for interpretive theories of religion

interest in theories of religion has never been greater scholars debate single theoretical approaches in different scholarly journals while the new atheists such as richard dawkins and daniel dennett criticize the whole idea of religion for everyone eager to understand the current state of the field contemporary theories of religion surveys the neglected landscape in its totality michael stausberg brings together leading scholars of the field to review and discuss seventeen contemporary theories of religion as well as scholars of religion it features anthropologists archaeologists classicists evolutionary biologists philosophers and sociologists each chapter provides students with background information on the theoretician a presentation of the theory s basic principles an analysis of basic assumptions and a review of previous critiques concluding with a section entitled back and forth stausberg compares the different theories and points to further avenues of discussion for the future

what is religion this is the first text to review in a single volume the theories of religion which have been put forward by both believers and non believers why theories of religion after raising and answering this question the author begins his examination of theories of religion by first looking at the explanations given by religious believers revelation and religious experience he then considers the views of thinkers who have sought to transform religion into philosophy plato kant and hegel before reviewing the theories of those who have seen religion as arising out of errors in primitive thinking tylor frazer and levy bruhl and those masters of suspicion as paul ricoeur has called them feuerbach nietzsche marx and freud

who offered what they believed to be exhaustive psychological and sociological theories of the origin and nature of religion in the course of his discussion the author also engages with many contemporary thinkers whose discussions of religion have been based on these classical accounts in a brief conclusion the author tries to assess the future of the religions of the world in light of the increasingly close inter religious encounters that are becoming a feature of the global village of thetwenty first century key features comprehensive survey of the field theories will be considered against the phenomenon of religion world wide theories offered in a way that lets the student make up his or her own mind

religion theory critique is an essential tool for learning about theory and method in the study of religion leading experts engage with contemporary and classical theories as well as non western cultural contexts unlike other collections this anthology emphasizes the dynamic relationship between religion as an object of study and different methodological approaches and openly addresses the question of the manifold ways in which religion secular and culture are imagined within different disciplinary horizons this volume is the first textbook which seeks to engage discussion of classical approaches with contemporary cultural and critical theories contributors write on the influence of the natural sciences in the study of religion the role of european christianity in modeling theories of religion religious experience and the interface with cognitive science the structure and function of religious language the social scientific study of religion ritual in religion the phenomenology of religion critical theory and religion embodiment and religion the impact of colonialism and modernity theorizing religion in terms of race and ethnicity links among religion nationalism and globalization the interplay of gender sex and religion and religion and the environment each chapter introduces the topic identifies key theorists and issues and respects the pluralistic nature of the scholarship in the field altogether this collection scrutinizes the explicit and implicit assumptions theorists make about religion as an object of analysis

why do human beings believe in divinities why do some seek eternal life while others seek escape from recurring lives why do the beliefs and behaviors we typically call religious so deeply affect the human personality and so subtly weave their way through human society ideal as a supplementary text in introductory religion courses or as the main text in theory and method in religious studies or in sociology of religion courses ten theories of religion fourth edition offers an illuminating treatment of this controversial and fascinating subject

this book surveys the major theorists in the psychology of religion sigmund freud c g jung william james erich fromm gordon allport abraham maslow and viktor frankl who are all seminal thinkers and represent the classical theories in this field each of these theorists presents a more or less comprehensive theory of religion which attempts to give an account of the psychological origin and or value of religion the approach of the book in each case shows how the theory of religion emerges not only from the theorist s psychological theory but also from his own life experience each chapter contains an introductory overview of the theory biographical material on the theorist his theory of personality his theory of religion and an evaluation of the theory of religion this consistent chapter format discusses the theorists influence on the field points out some developments from and reactions to the theory and raises certain questions in order to stimulate readers own critical responses for individuals who wants to view and better understand religion from the psychological perspective

the evolution of religion is a unique transdisciplinary volume that gathers the latest research debates and programmatic visions of scholars studying religion from an evolutionary perspective anyone interested in the relationship of evolutionary science to religion will find insight and inspiration in this striking collection of fifty short essays from a diverse group of renowned international scolars here god meets darwin and the conversation that ensues provides fascinating reading for those seeking to make sense of religion s place in nature

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

this complete overview of religious studies provides students with the essential knowledge and tools they need to explore and understand the nature of religion covers the early development of religion with overviews of major and minor religions from islam to scientology considers recent developments including secularization the relationship between religion and science and scientific studies on religion health and mystical experience uses humor throughout allowing students to remain open minded to the subject explains what it means to study religion academically and considers the impact of the study of religion on religion itself contains numerous student friendly features including photos maps time lines side bars historical profiles and population distribution figures provides classroom users with a lively website wiley com go religiontoolkit including questions quizzes extra material and helpful primary and secondary sources

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