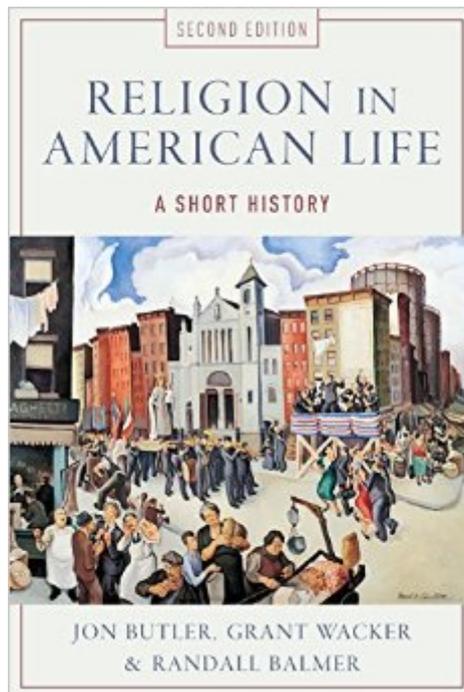


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Religion In American Life: A Short History



Synopsis

"Quite ambitious, tracing religion in the United States from European colonization up to the 21st century.... The writing is strong throughout."--Publishers Weekly (starred review)"One can hardly do better than Religion in American Life.... A good read, especially for the uninitiated. The initiated might also read it for its felicity of narrative and the moments of illumination that fine scholars can inject even into stories we have all heard before. Read it."--Church History

This new edition of Religion in American Life, written by three of the country's most eminent historians of religion, offers a superb overview that spans four centuries, illuminating the rich spiritual heritage central to nearly every event in our nation's history. Beginning with the state of religious affairs in both the Old and New Worlds on the eve of colonization and continuing through to the present, the book covers all the major American religious groups, from Protestants, Jews, and Catholics to Muslims, Hindus, Mormons, Buddhists, and New Age believers. Revised and updated, the book includes expanded treatment of religion during the Great Depression, of the religious influences on the civil rights movement, and of utopian groups in the 19th century, and it now covers the role of religion during the 2008 presidential election, observing how completely religion has entered American politics.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Basically a run down of the history of all religions. The best part is that it covers a lot of different angles to the story, like Spanish settlement in the South West, Catholicism, non Christian religions, the lot really. This makes it a good reference work. I recommend it particularly for home schoolers

and students who want more than what is in the text books.

a little bit about everyone. stuff i did not know about who thought about what when. seems i guess dated, i wonder if there is not more known. on the other hand battles over evolution have not quite finished, and religion as something to use to get people to vote your way, is an american cynical tradition. i guess i wonder that we as a people have not grown up much.

This is a required reading text for a course I am auditing at the local university. My wife was kind enough to acquire it for me to use in the course. It is an analysis of the influence of various religions but particularly Christianity in the early stages of the American republic, and the influence of the variety of religions in the current reality of the 21st century, as the nation becomes a destination for non-western-European immigration. Well written and enjoyable! Robert Stocking

This book is a relatively concise narrative of religion in American history and serves as a good introduction. There are textbooks with more detail but to get an overview for the general reader this book covers a lot of ground.

What a pleasant surprise! This book is objectively written; easily readable and accurate without bias and proved to be an incredible resource of information. So much so that I intend to use the book as our text for an OLLI course that I will be offering to Seniors in our seminars on continuing education.

this book is in good shape

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