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# Religions/Globalizations: Theories and Cases

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## Religions/Globalizations: Theories and Cases From Duke University Press Books

For the majority of cultures around the world, religion permeates and informs everyday rituals of survival and hope. But religion also has served as the foundation for national differences, racial conflicts, class exploitation, and gender discrimination. Indeed, religious spirituality, having been transformed by contemporary economic and political events, remains both empowering and controversial. *Religions/Globalizations* examines the extent to which globalization and religion are inseparable terms, bound up with each other in a number of critical and mutually revealing ways.

As the contributors to this work suggest, a crucial component of globalization—the breakdown of familiar boundaries and power balances—may open a space in which religion can be deployed to help refabricate new communities. Examples of such deployments can be found in the workings of liberation theology in Latin America. In other cases, however, the operations of globalization have provided a space for strident religious nationalism and identity disputes to flourish. Is there in fact a dialectical tension between religion and globalization, a codependence and codeterminism? While religion can be seen as a globalizing force, it has also been transformed and even victimized by globalization.

A provocative assessment of a contemporary phenomenon with both cultural and political dimensions, *Religions/Globalizations* will interest not only scholars in religious studies but also those studying Latin America, the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa.

*Contributors.* David Batstone, Berit Bretthauer, Enrique Dussel, Dwight N. Hopkins, Mark Juergensmeyer, Lois Ann Lorentzen, Eduardo Mendieta, Vijaya Rettakudi Nagarajan, Kathryn Poethig, Lamin Sanneh, Linda E. Thomas



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## Religions/Globalizations: Theories and Cases From Duke University Press Books Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2212649 in eBooks
- Published on: 2001-09-12
- Released on: 2001-09-12
- Format: Kindle eBook

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### **Review**

“By bringing religions in confrontation with globalization, this volume offers a healthy corrective to the received view that one religion, Christianity, shall be the measuring stick to evaluate all other religions and to the received view that links a given religion to a given race. *Religions/Globalizations* makes a signal contribution to understanding the changing faces of religions in an era in which the old principles of colonial domination are being redrawn under the new forms of global coloniality.”—Walter Mignolo, Duke University

“This collection places the long-standing issue of the relation between religion and politics in the context of ‘post-Cold War’ developments and the rise of neoliberal capitalist globalization. The essays explore how religion reinforces stasis and exploitation on the one hand, and motivates resistance and change on the other.”—Mark Lewis Taylor, Princeton Theological Seminary

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“Disrupting Savagism offers a theoretically nuanced reading of the struggles over representation that have been waged by marginalized inhabitants of the United States-Mexican border zone. With its remarkable breadth of examples, the book carefully unfolds the thoroughgoing legacy of racial violence in the colonized Southwest.”—Carl Gutiérrez-Jones, author of *Rethinking the Borderlands: Between Chicano Culture and Legal Discourse*

“The ‘savage’ speaks, gains voice, and articulates resistance to the forces of oppression in Aldama’s *Disrupting Savagism*. It is relentless in its rigor and perspicacious in its investigation as it dismantles the social discourses that ascribe Native Americans and mixed bloods ‘savage.’ Aldama’s efforts allow the Mestizo and Native American to take hold of the apparatus of representation and affirm self-identity. *Disrupting Savagism* is an important work, long needed to fill the gap in our collective understanding, a work that will have broad and long-lasting impact. I can think of no other work that addresses this material so capably and so thoroughly. An intelligent and powerful work.”—Alfred Arteaga, author of *Chicano Poetics: Heterotexts and Hybridities*

### **From the Back Cover**

"By bringing religions in confrontation with globalization, this volume offers a healthy corrective to the received view that one religion, Christianity, shall be the measuring stick to evaluate all other religions and to the received view that links a given religion to a given race. "Religions/Globalizations "makes a signal contribution to understanding the changing faces of religions in an era in which the old principles of colonial domination are being redrawn under the new forms of global coloniality."--Walter Mignolo, Duke University

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