



# Religious Upbringing and the Costs of Freedom: Personal and Philosophical Essays

From Penn State University Press



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The essays in *Religious Upbringing and the Costs of Freedom* are the personal stories of philosophers who were brought up religiously and have broken free, in one way or another, from restraint and oppression. As trained philosophers, they are well equipped to reflect on and analyze their experiences. In this book, they offer not only stories of stress and liberation but ruminations on the moral issues that arise when parents and other caregivers, in seeking to do good by their children, sometimes end up doing real harm to their personal development and sense of autonomy as individuals.

In addition to the editors, the contributors are Raymond D. Bradley, Damien Alexander DuPont, Diane Enns, Paul H. Hirst, Amalia Jiva, Irfan Khawaja, Christine Overall, Tasia R. Persson, and Glen Pettigrove.



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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

“Philosophy is brought to life in these personal accounts of how philosophical analysis can change a person. Here, professional philosophers provide insights into how their training affects the way in which they interpret and change their own religious beliefs. Since the book is composed of personal stories about religious indoctrination and its consequences, it will be attractive to individuals who are interested in religion. In addition, anyone who has children would benefit from this look at how religious education can affect a child—as well as the adult that child will become.”

—Julia J. Aaron, Clarion University

“*Religious Upbringing and the Costs of Freedom* is a creative compilation of essays that challenges the boundaries of philosophy by, in effect, initiating a serious dialogue with religion from the standpoint of a mostly secularist community through the medium of philosophical autobiography. These essays also challenge the meaning of religious indoctrination and examine the complex relation of religious life to cultural development.”

—Lewis Gordon, Laura H. Carnell Professor of Philosophy, Religion, and Judaic Studies at Temple University

“[The essays in *Religious Upbringing and the Costs of Freedom*] explore the ethics of responsible parenting and the demarcation of education from indoctrination, [and] are often insightful and worthy of careful study.”

—F. A. Grabowski, *Choice*

“The stories [in *Religious Upbringing and the Costs of Freedom*] are full of interesting examples and vivid details. Every story is one of quality and depth.”

—Christopher Silver, *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions*

### About the Author

Peter Caws is University Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Human Sciences at George Washington University.

Stefani Jones earned her master's degree in philosophy and doctorate in human sciences at George Washington University. She is now employed in the IT industry.

## **Users Review**

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