



## Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion)

By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley



### Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley

This unparalleled introduction to cults and new religious movements has been completely up-dated and expanded to reflect the latest developments; each chapter reviews the origins, leaders, beliefs, rituals and practices of a NRM, highlighting the specific controversies surrounding each group.

- A fully updated, revised and expanded edition of an unparalleled introduction to cults and new religious movements
- Profiles a number of the most visible, significant, and controversial new religious movements, presenting each group's history, doctrines, rituals, leadership, and organization
- Offers a discussion of the major controversies in which new religious movements have been involved, using each profiled group to illustrate the nature of one of those controversies
- Covers debates including what constitutes an authentic religion, the validity of claims of brainwashing techniques, the implications of experimentation with unconventional sexual practices, and the deeply rooted cultural fears that cults engender
- New sections include methods of studying new religions in each chapter as well as presentations on 'groups to watch'

 [Download Cults and New Religions: A Brief History \(Wiley Bl ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Cults and New Religions: A Brief History \(Wiley ...pdf](#)

# Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion)

By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley

**Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion)** By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley

This unparalleled introduction to cults and new religious movements has been completely up-dated and expanded to reflect the latest developments; each chapter reviews the origins, leaders, beliefs, rituals and practices of a NRM, highlighting the specific controversies surrounding each group.

- A fully updated, revised and expanded edition of an unparalleled introduction to cults and new religious movements
- Profiles a number of the most visible, significant, and controversial new religious movements, presenting each group's history, doctrines, rituals, leadership, and organization
- Offers a discussion of the major controversies in which new religious movements have been involved, using each profiled group to illustrate the nature of one of those controversies
- Covers debates including what constitutes an authentic religion, the validity of claims of brainwashing techniques, the implications of experimentation with unconventional sexual practices, and the deeply rooted cultural fears that cults engender
- New sections include methods of studying new religions in each chapter as well as presentations on 'groups to watch'

**Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion)** By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #795114 in Books
- Published on: 2015-06-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .50" w x 6.00" l, .71 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 240 pages

 [Download Cults and New Religions: A Brief History \(Wiley Bl ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Cults and New Religions: A Brief History \(Wiley ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online *Cults and New Religions: A Brief History* (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley

---

### Editorial Review

#### Review

The world of new religions is notoriously complex and diverse. As such, an introductory text must simplify, but without simplification. This updated edition of *Cults and New Religious Movements* achieves this admirably. With an enviable grasp of contemporary scholarship, Douglas Cowan and David Bromley provide fresh insights into particular groups, events and controversies. This wonderfully erudite and lucid volume should be required reading for all students of new religions.

**Christopher Partridge, Lancaster University**

An ideal source for those looking for a concise, authoritative introduction to the most important new religions of the past fifty years. The authors carefully and seriously tackle significant questions about the nature of new religions, helping readers navigate a controversial and complicated field.

**Benjamin E. Zeller, Lake Forest College**

The second edition of *Cults and New Religious Movements* is an astute and accessible textbook written by two eminent scholars of new religions. Through eight case studies the text examines key issues that arise in relation to new religious movements, thereby shedding light on the study of religions in general. This book is a valuable pedagogical tool that stimulates critical analysis and discussion in the classroom and beyond.

**Catherine Wessinger, Loyola University New Orleans**

#### From the Back Cover

“The world of new religions is notoriously complex and diverse. As such, an introductory text must simplify, but without simplification. This updated edition of *Cults and New Religions* achieves this admirably. With an enviable grasp of contemporary scholarship, Douglas Cowan and David Bromley provide fresh insights into particular groups, events, and controversies. This wonderfully erudite and lucid volume should be required reading for all students of new religions.”

**Christopher Partridge, Lancaster University**

“An ideal source for those looking for a concise, authoritative introduction to the most important new religions of the past 50 years. The authors carefully and seriously tackle significant questions about the nature of new religions, helping readers navigate a controversial and complicated field.”

**Benjamin E. Zeller, Lake Forest College**

“The second edition of *Cults and New Religions* is an astute and accessible textbook written by two eminent scholars of new religions. Through eight case studies the text examines key issues that arise in relation to new religious movements, thereby shedding light on the study of religions in general. This book is a valuable pedagogical tool that stimulates critical analysis and discussion in the classroom and beyond.”

**Catherine Wessinger, Loyola University New Orleans**

*Cults and New Religions, 2nd edition*, provides a concise and lively history of cults, dealing directly with the

conflicts that have marked the rise of controversial new religious movements since the middle of the twentieth century, and using these conflicts to explore the deeper meanings of new, emergent religions.

Each chapter has been completely updated to reflect the very latest developments within each movement, and includes a discussion of one of the major sources of controversy surrounding these groups, controversies that have led to them being popularly regarded as “cults.” Behind these stereotypes, however, Cowan and Bromley discuss in detail the history, central beliefs, and ritual practices of these groups, illustrating not only the range and diversity of new religions, and their rich and varied histories, but what they can teach us about religion more generally.

New to this edition is information on the emergence of important new religious groups as well as substantial new sections on researching new religious movements, the latest scholarly material in the field, and the importance of these groups in society. The result is a fascinating and informative volume suitable for students studying this area for the first time.

#### About the Author

**Douglas E. Cowan** is Professor of Religious Studies and Social Development Studies at Renison University College, at the University of Waterloo. He is the author of *Cults and New Religious Movements: A Brief History*, *Cyberhenge: Modern Pagans on the Internet* (2005), *Bearing False Witness? An Introduction to the Christian Countercult* (2003) *Sacred Terror: Religion and Horror on the Silver Screen* (2008) and *Sacred Space: The Quest for Transcendence in Science Fiction Film and Television* (2010).

**David G. Bromley** is Director of the World Religions and Spirituality Project and Professor of Religious Studies and Sociology in the School of World Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. His most recent publications include *Defining Religion: Critical Approaches to Drawing Boundaries Between Sacred and Secular* (2003) and *Cults, Religion and Violence* (2001).

#### Users Review

##### From reader reviews:

##### **Dawn Spigner:**

Now a day people who Living in the era just where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each details they get. How people have to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Studying a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specifically this *Cults and New Religions: A Brief History* (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) book as this book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

##### **Willard Griffin:**

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the reserve untitled *Cults and New Religions: A Brief History* (Wiley Blackwell

Brief Histories of Religion) can be good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

### **Elaine Davenport:**

This Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) is brand new way for you who has interest to look for some information as it relief your hunger info. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this particular book is easy to get by anyone. These books build itself in the form that is reachable by anyone, yeah I mean in the e-book web form. People who think that in publication form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is not any in reading a guide especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss this! Just read this e-book kind for your better life and also knowledge.

### **William Sanders:**

Do you like reading a reserve? Confuse to looking for your preferred book? Or your book has been rare? Why so many query for the book? But any kind of people feel that they enjoy with regard to reading. Some people likes reading, not only science book but additionally novel and Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) or others sources were given knowledge for you. After you know how the great a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science reserve was created for teacher or even students especially. Those guides are helping them to bring their knowledge. In additional case, beside science e-book, any other book likes Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) to make your spare time much more colorful. Many types of book like here.

## **Download and Read Online Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley #6LB0CVRN41Q**

## **Read Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley for online ebook**

Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley books to read online.

### **Online Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley ebook PDF download**

**Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley Doc**

**Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley Mobipocket**

**Cults and New Religions: A Brief History (Wiley Blackwell Brief Histories of Religion) By Douglas E. Cowan, David G. Bromley EPub**