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John Rawls's influential theory of justice and public reason has often been thought to exclude religion from politics, out of fear of its illiberal and destabilizing potentials. It has therefore been criticized by defenders of religion for marginalizing and alienating the wealth of religious sensibilities, voices, and demands now present in contemporary liberal societies.

In this anthology, established scholars of Rawls and the philosophy of religion reexamine and rearticulate the central tenets of Rawls's theory to show they in fact offer sophisticated resources for accommodating and responding to religions in liberal political life. The chapters reassert the subtlety, openness, and flexibility of his sense of liberal "respect" and "consensus," revealing their inclusive implications for religious citizens. They also explore the means he proposes for accommodating nonliberal religions in liberal politics, developing his conception of "public reason" into a novel account of the possibilities for rational engagement between liberal and religious ideas. And they reevaluate Rawls's liberalism from the "transcendent" perspectives of religions themselves, critically considering its normative and political value, as well as its own "religious" character. *Rawls and Religion* makes a unique and important contribution to contemporary debates over liberalism and its response to the proliferation of religions in contemporary political life.

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Rawls and Religion From Columbia University Press Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1663045 in Books
- Published on: 2014-12-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.90" h x .60" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 328 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

John Rawls's liberal theory of justice has been one of the most exciting and influential developments in political philosophy for more than a century. Yet the place of religion in his philosophy remains underexplored. *Rawls and Religion* is essential reading on this topic, featuring groundbreaking essays by leading philosophers in the field.

(Thom Brooks, Durham University)

A superb volume that takes up questions of deep and topical interest, brings together major scholars in the field, and encourages us all to rethink the role of religion in the liberal state.

(Cécile Laborde, University College London)

For those interested in religion and its role in political philosophy, this is a must read.... Highly recommended.

(*Choice*)

An excellent collection.

(Daniel A. Dombrowski *Social Theory and Practice*)

An excellent book

(Pietro Maffettone *ID: International Dialogue*)

The chapters are well written and insightful. This book will be a relevant read for critics and supporters of Rawls alike.

(*Journal of Church and State*)

About the Author

Tom Bailey teaches philosophy at John Cabot University in Rome. His research focuses on contemporary political philosophy, ethics, and the history of modern philosophy. He is the editor of *De provincializing Habermas: Global Perspectives*. Valentina Gentile is vice director of the Center for Ethics and Global Politics at LUISS University in Rome. Her research focuses on liberal tolerance, reasonable pluralism, and moral stability in divided societies, and on justice and recognition. She is the author of *From Identity Conflict to Civil Society: Restoring Human Dignity and Pluralism in Deeply Divided Societies*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kathy Natal:

Exactly why? Because this Rawls and Religion is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap it but latter it will zap you with the secret this inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who all write the book in such amazing way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

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