

Moving Beyond Sectarianism Religion Conflict And Reconciliation In Northern Ireland

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Beyond the Death of God Simone Raudino 2022-05-26 Politics and religion remain entwined

Atonement as Gift Katie M Heffelfinger 2014-06-01 Atonement as Gift: Re-Imagining the Cross for the Church and the World grows out of the conviction that the doctrine of the atonement has wide-reaching practical implications for some of the deepest pastoral and theological questions individuals and communities face today. It asks the question: 'What difference does the atonement make for ecumenics, pastoral care, theodicy, gender, ecology, and social division?' The answers given by experts in their fields point to the potential of the doctrine to renew Christian theology and spirituality. This unique book is designed not only to offer the insights of these theologians, but also to guide readers to engage the issue for themselves and to integrate the doctrine into their own theological reflection. Contents: 1. Stephen Williams, 'The Atonement Today: The State of Current

Discussion'; 2. Vincent Twomey and Stephen Williams, 'The Cross and Our Aspiration for a Common Doctrine of Redemption' followed by questions for discussion groups; 3. Ron Elsdon, 'The Cross and the Redemption of the Cosmos'; 4. Elaine Storkey, 'The Cross and the Reconciliation of Gender' followed by a creative writing workshop exercise; 5. David Tombs, 'The Cross and the Reconciliation of Enemies'; 6. Richard Bauckham, 'The Cross and God's Embrace of Suffering' followed by an exegetically driven exercise examining lament texts; 7. Robin Stockitt, 'The Cross and Our Captivity to Shame' followed by resources for conducting a bibliodrama workshop; 8. Heather Morris, 'The Cross and the Healing of the Self' followed by the description of a prayer ministry clinic related to the themes of the chapter; 9. Katie M. Heffelfinger and Patrick G. McGlinchey, 'Responses'; 10. Conclusion.

Peace and Reconciliation Pauline Kollontai 2016-05-13 Establishing a shared identity is an important part of any process

of peace and reconciliation. This book discusses issues and theories of identity formation that can be implemented for peace and reconciliation from the perspectives of theology and religious studies, whilst interacting with politics, socio-cultural studies and economics. By focusing on the theme of peace and reconciliation, and employing an interdisciplinary approach, this volume will make a significant contribution to the discussion of the situation of the Korean peninsula, and wider global contexts. The volume explores theoretical issues such as political and economic implications of reconciliation; interfaith and biblical perspectives; and the role of religion in peace making. Furthermore the contributors examine practical implications of the theme in the contexts of Germany, Northern Ireland, South Africa, India, East Asia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Korean peninsula. The book offers invaluable insights for policy-makers, academics, and lay leaders, besides being an important tool for researchers and students of theology, religion, sociology, politics and history.

Unionists, Loyalists, and Conflict Transformation in Northern Ireland Lee A. Smithey 2011-08-31 In Northern Ireland, a once seemingly intractable conflict is in a state of transformation. Lee A. Smithey offers a grassroots view of that transformation, drawing on interviews, documentary evidence, and extensive field research. He offers essential models for how ethnic and communal-based conflicts can shift from violent confrontation toward peaceful co-existence. Smithey focuses particularly on Protestant unionists and loyalists in Northern Ireland, who maintain varying degrees of commitment to the Protestant faith, the Crown, and and Ulster / British identity. He argues that antagonistic collective identities in ethnopolitical conflict can become less polarizing as partisans adopt new conflict strategies and means of expressing identity. Consequently, the close relationship between collective identity and collective action is a crucial element of conflict transformation. Smithey closely examines attempts in Protestant/unionist/loyalist communities

and organizations to develop more constructive means of expressing collective identity and pursuing political agendas that can help improve community relations. Key leaders and activists have begun to reframe shared narratives and identities, making possible community support for negotiations, demilitarization, and political cooperation, while also diminishing out-group polarization. As Smithey shows, this kind of shift in strategy and collective vision is the heart of conflict transformation, and the challenges and opportunities faced by grassroots unionists and loyalists in Northern Ireland can prove instructive for other regions of intractable conflict.

When God Took Sides Marianne Elliott 2009-09-24 The struggle between Catholic and Protestant has shaped Irish history since the Reformation, with tragic consequences up to the present day. But how do Catholics and Protestants in Ireland see each other? And how do they view their own communities and what these communities stand for? Tracing the history of religious identities in Ireland over the last three centuries, Marianne Elliott argues that these two questions are inextricably linked and that the identity of both Catholics and Protestants is shaped by the way that each community views the other. Cutting through the layers of myths, lies, and half-truths that make up the vision that Catholics and Protestants have of each other, she looks at how mutual religious stereotypes were developed over the centuries, how they were perpetuated and entrenched, and how they have defined modern identities and shaped Ireland's historical destiny, from the independence struggle and partition to the Troubles of the last four decades.

Evangelicalism and Conflict in Northern Ireland G. Ganiel 2016-04-30 This innovative book explores the role of evangelical religion in the conflict in Northern Ireland, including how it may contribute to a peaceful political transition. Ganiel offers an original perspective on the role of a 'strong' religion in conflict transformation, and the misunderstood role of evangelicalism in

the process.

Irish Quaker Hybrid Identities Maria Kennedy 2019-09-02

Kennedy's work investigates the hybrid identities of Irish Quakers within a context of sectarianism. Such diverse identities produce organisational tensions. Kennedy argues that Irish Quakers have developed a distinctive approach to complex identity management prioritising 'relational unity' and modelling inclusive identities.

Convictions, Conflict, and Moral Reasoning David J. McMillan

2021-12-14 The primary focus of this volume is to bring to the fore the contribution of McClendon and Smith's work on

convictions and the application of that work in helping

understand the processes of moral reasoning in the context of

conflict. Both were indebted to Zuurdeeg, and their concept was

incorporated in models of moral reasoning by Baptist scholars

Glen Stassen and Parush Parushev. The usefulness of the concept

is critically evaluated. The volume concludes with a case study on

the conflict in Northern Ireland, including the role of religion and

the key issues raised in the referendum on the Belfast Agreement

in 1998. It includes an examination of the contribution of four

Christian groups in Northern Ireland who publicly engaged in this

six-week period of intense and passionate debate on the

Agreement and the difficult issues it addressed, as the focus for

examining and testing the application of the model of moral

reasoning. On the basis of the case study is demonstrated that the

concept of convictions can prove to be a helpful means of getting

to the heart of what drives moral reasoning in contexts of conflict.

The purpose of this book is to issue a call to engage with,

critique, and consider the importance and application of a much

undervalued methodological approach to discerning the

convictions that are the primary influencers of thought and

action.

Religious Leaders and Conflict Transformation Nukhet Sandal

2017-02-10 Religious dimension of contemporary conflicts and

the rise of faith-based movements worldwide require

policymakers to identify the channels through which religious

leaders can play a constructive role. While religious

fundamentalisms are in the news every day, we do not hear about

the potential and actual role of religious actors in creating a

peaceful and just society. Countering this trend, Sandal draws

attention to how religious actors helped prepare the ground for

stabilizing political initiatives, ranging from abolition of apartheid

(South Africa), to the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement

(Sierra Leone). Taking Northern Ireland as a basis and using

declarations and speeches of more than forty years, this book

builds a new perspective that recognizes the religious actors'

agency, showing how religious actors can have an impact on

public opinion and policy making in today's world.

Global Change, Civil Society and the Northern Ireland Peace

Process C. Farrington 2008-01-23 Northern Ireland's Belfast

Agreement has faced continual crises of implementation over a

variety of security related issues. This book places the

implementation of the Belfast Agreement in a wide context to

provide an analysis of why implementation has been so difficult.

Italian Neofascism Anna Cento Bull 2011-01-15 During the Cold

War Italy witnessed the existence of an anomalous version of a

civil conflict, defined as a 'creeping' or a 'low-intensity' civil war.

Political violence escalated, including bomb attacks against

civilians, starting with a massacre in Milan, on 12 December

1969, and culminating with the massacre in Bologna, on 2 August

1980. Making use of the literature on national reconciliation and

narrative psychology theory, this book examines the fight over

the 'judicial' and the 'historical' truth in Italy today, through a

contrasting analysis of judicial findings and the 'narratives of

victimhood' prevalent among representatives of both the post-

and the neo-fascist right.

Extremism in the Digital Era Adib Abdulmajid 2021-07-15 This

book constitutes a journey into the obscure field of sectarian-

guided discourses of radical Islamist groups. It provides new

insights into the ideological mechanisms utilized by such organizations to incite sectarian conflicts and recruit local and foreign guardians to their alleged cause. This book examines diverse aspects and dimensions of the discourses of Sunni-based ISIS and Shia-based al-Hashd al-Shaabi and explores manipulative and ideological discursive strategies utilized by media outlets associated with these groups. It delves into linguistic and contextual activities, implicit and explicit messages within the discourses of various media outlets operating in the heart of the Middle East. It also scrutinizes and explains aspects of politicization, religionization and sectarianization within the media discourse of terrorist groups in the digital era.

A Theological Odyssey John W. De Gruchy 2014-09-01 John de Gruchy is one of the greatest and most respected South African theologians of the past five decades. His work has left an indelible mark on both the South African and international theological landscapes. In this book he describes his theological journey, revisiting core themes, periods and sources. This is an enriching read, as De Gruchy engages with some of the greatest theologians in the history of the church ? notably John Calvin, Karl Barth, Karl Rahner, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Reinhold Niebuhr ? as well as with a wide selection of his fellow South African theologians. Cas Wepener

Catholic Social Teaching and Theologies of Peace in Northern Ireland Maria Power 2020-07-07 This book investigates the response of the Catholic Church in Northern Ireland to the conflict in the region during the late Twentieth Century. It does so through the prism of the writings of Cardinal Cahal Daly (1917-2009), the only member of the hierarchy to serve as a bishop throughout the entire conflict. This book uses the prolific writings of Cardinal Daly to create a vision of the 'Peaceable Kingdom' and demonstrate how Catholic social teaching has been used to promote peace, justice and nonviolence. It also explores the public role of the Catholic

Church in situations of violence and conflict, as well as the importance for national churches in developing a voice in the public square. Finally, the book offers a reflection on the role of Catholic social teaching in contemporary society and the ways in which the lessons of Northern Ireland can be utilised in a world where structural violence, as evidenced by austerity, and reactions to Brexit in the United Kingdom, is now the norm. This work challenges and changes the nature of the debate surrounding the role of the Catholic Church in the conflict in Northern Ireland. It will, therefore, be a key resource for scholars of Religious Studies, Catholic Theology, Religion and Violence, Peace Studies, and Twentieth Century History.

Reconciliation John W. De Gruchy 2002 Whether born in the Mideast, Africa, Asia, or brought home to the streets of America, violent hatreds often threaten to swamp the minimal cooperation needed to foster life and health. Does Christianity have anything besides warmed-over pieties to offer a world torn by estrangement, alienation, and violently opposed worldviews? In this signal contribution to public theology, John de Gruchy, an internationally esteemed political theologian, emphatically affirms the possibility and necessity of reconciliation. For Christians, he says, reconciliation is the center and perennial test of their faith. De Gruchy expands reconciliation's relevance beyond personal piety and ecclesial harmony to encompass group relations, politics, and even the environment. In all cases, he argues, it involves the restoration of justice. Forged in the recent experience of South Africa, his work delineates the political and ecclesial significance of reconciliation and shows its importance for interreligious relations, addressing victimization, and international peace. Reconciliation will be welcomed by all whose faith leads them to help alleviate the world's mounting agonies. *Celebrating the Past, Present and Future of British and Irish Practical Theology* Andrew P. Rogers 2021-05-14 Practical theology has become a well-established academic discipline in

Britain and Ireland over the past half century, evidenced in its chairs, journals, books, conferences, and contribution to transformed practices. The British and Irish Association for Practical Theology (BIAPT) and its journal, *Practical Theology*, has had a significant role to play in the story of the discipline. This volume is a celebration of practical theology in Britain and Ireland in all its inventiveness and variety on the occasion of BIAPT's twenty-fifth birthday. It offers an account of its roots in its emergence from the Scottish Pastoral Association in the 1960s, its trajectories established in the journal *Contact/Practical Theology* and how human experience has been a constant companion on the journey. The book considers a range of methodologies including engagement with popular culture, public theology, the arts, and the importance of conversation. It explores new shoots in the discipline that consider how sexuality, ethnicity, and different religious traditions may be addressed within practical theology. It concludes by asking how it may be fruitful in the future, by reflecting on the challenges ahead, not least the ubiquity of ignorance. This is a landmark text in the unfolding of British and Irish practical theology in all its glorious distinctiveness, which promises to be a major contribution to international debate in the discipline. The chapters in this book were first published in *Practical Theology*.

Ethnicity and Religion Joseph B. Ruane 2014-06-11 Religion has regained political prominence in the twenty first century and not least for the manner in which it intersects with ethnicity. Many ethnic conflicts have a strong religious dimension, and religion appears as a powerful force for mobilisation, solidarity and violence. Religion and ethnicity can each act as a powerful base of identity, group formation and communal conflict. They can also overlap, with ethnic and religious boundaries coinciding, partially or completely, internally nested or intersecting. This volume maps the different forms of intersection: cases where religion is prioritised in private life and ethnicity in public, where

each coexists in tension in political life, and where the distinctions reinforce each other with dynamic effects. It maps the different patterns with case studies and comparisons from Ireland, Northern Ireland, France, Zimbabwe, Ghana and Malaysia. It shows how ordinary people construct their solidarities and identities using both ethnic and religious resources. This opens up analysis of the socially transformative, as well as politically antagonistic, potential of religion in situations of ethnic division. This book was published as a special issue of *Ethnopolitics*.

The Real Peace Process Siobhan Garrigan 2016-04-01 The Good Friday Agreement resulted in the cessation of paramilitary violence in Northern Ireland. However, prejudice and animosity between Protestants and Catholics remains. The Real Peace Process draws on extensive fieldwork in Protestant and Catholic churches across Ireland to analyse how Christian worship can become caught up in sectarianism. The book examines the need for a peace process that changes hearts and minds and not merely civic structures of their inhabitants. Aspects of everyday worship - ranging from the spatial and symbolic to the verbal, musical and interpersonal - are explored as the means by which sectarianism can be challenged and transformed.

Inclusion in Post-Conflict Legislatures Michael Potter 2019-09-10 "An excellent analysis of the complex dynamics of inclusion in post-conflict societies: theoretically grounded, empirically rich, and with a well-informed set of policy-relevant insights and recommendations with implications far beyond the cases of Kosovo and Northern Ireland." Stefan Wolff, University of Birmingham, UK "Does the promotion of political accommodation between the contending parties in an ethno-nationalist conflict disadvantage other groups in society? This important question is at the heart of Michael Potter's nuanced study of post-settlement parliaments in Kosovo and Northern Ireland, in which he probes their record of representativeness, focusing on gender and

ethnicity. His meticulous research, drawing on extensive fieldwork, shows that the domination of the parliaments by parties aligned to the conflict does indeed tend to marginalise other identities. His findings provide plenty of food for thought for practitioners in the field of conflict resolution. In particular, they underline the need for care in the design of institutional arrangements for deeply divided societies, so as to minimise potentially negative consequences that priority for accommodation and reconciliation may have for other issues and for the practice of inclusion."Adrian Guelke, Queen's University Belfast, UK "Identity is a central organising principle of politics in the 21st century. In this impressive book Michael Potter shows that a focus on gender and minority ethnic identities in newly-formed post-conflict assemblies provides a unique litmus test of the robustness of democratic politics. He analyses the cases of Kosovo and Northern Ireland with rigour and considerable insight. This book makes a highly original and lasting contribution to theory and practice in post-conflict settings world-wide."Yvonne Galligan, Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland This book examines inclusion in post-conflict legislatures, using Northern Ireland and Kosovo as case studies and gender and minority ethnicity as indicators. The analysis uses an adapted framework developed by Yvonne Galligan and Sara Clavero to measure inclusion across a range of factors associated with deliberative democratic principles. The logic is that political systems designed to accommodate communities in conflict will prioritise certain identities over others. The aim of the book is to investigate how identities not directly associated with a conflict fare in a political system designed to manage identities in conflict. The book looks comparatively at the conflicts in Kosovo and Northern Ireland, then discusses approaches to conflict management, describing how political institutions were designed in those contexts. The themes of women and minority identities in those conflicts are then explored with a view to examining the

extent of inclusion in the Northern Ireland and Kosovo Assemblies.

Moving Beyond Sectarianism Joseph Liechty 2001 A six-year research project of the Irish School of Ecumenics concerned with Christianities and sectarianism in Northern Ireland, and offering a detailed analysis of sectarian dynamics.

Assessing the Impact of Transitional Justice Hugo Van der Merwe 2009 In *Assessing the Impact of Transitional Justice*, fourteen leading researchers study seventy countries that have suffered from autocratic rule, genocide, and protracted internal conflict.

The Global Politics of Jesus Nilay Saiya 2022-06-03 A unique, timely, and wide-ranging book that formulates and applies an ethic of Jesus to the realm of global politics. Since the fourth century, Christians have wrestled with how they should interact with political authority. The most common view holds that while their ultimate loyalty rightfully belongs to God, Christians also have allegiance to their countries and a moral responsibility to transform their political systems. In *The Global Politics of Jesus*, Nilay Saiya provides a normative critique of this conventional view and advances an alternative approach. While it may seem natural for the church to fervently engage in political life and cultivate a close relationship with the state, Saiya argues that such beliefs result in a "paradox of privilege." As he shows, when the church yields to the seduction of political power when enjoying the benefits of an alliance with the state, it struggles to adhere to its tenets, and when it resists the allure of state power, it does its best work. This unique and wide-ranging book examines the paradox of privilege in some of the most important areas of global politics and considers its implications for the church itself.

Lived Religion and the Politics of (In)Tolerance R. Ruud Ganzevoort 2017-03-08 This volume explores the ways in which lived religion encourages and contributes to conflicts, as well as

fosters tolerance, in the interlocking rural, urban, and virtual social spheres. Through ten case studies with vast geographical and religious variation, the contributors address some of the shortcomings in analyses of the relationship between religion and (in)tolerance and offers a theoretically and empirically more nuanced understanding of the micro-politics of (in)tolerance and the roles of lived religion in it. The book argues that (in)tolerance and its connection to religion cannot be fully understood unless analyzed from below, which means that the focus needs to be not only on public institutions or religio-political spaces but also on (in)tolerance of ordinary people and their performativity, practices, and interests in non-institutionalized spaces. This showcases the ambiguous interconnectedness of lived religion and (in)tolerance. Lived Religion and the Politics of (In)Tolerance will be of interest to students and scholars interested in lived religion, the relationship between politics and religion, and those working in cross-cultural dialogue and through an anti-racism, and anti-violence lens.

Faith in Numbers Michael Hoffman 2021-01-18 Why does religion sometimes increase support for democracy and sometimes do just the opposite? In Faith in Numbers, political scientist Michael Hoffman presents a theory of religion, group interest, and democracy. Focusing on communal religion, he demonstrates that the effect of communal prayer on support for democracy depends on the interests of the religious group in question. For members of groups who would benefit from democracy, communal prayer increases support for democratic institutions; for citizens whose groups would lose privileges in the event of democratic reforms, the opposite effect is present. Using a variety of data sources, Hoffman illustrates these claims in multiple contexts. He places particular emphasis on his study of Lebanon and Iraq, two countries in which sectarian divisions have played a major role in political development, by utilizing both existing and original surveys. By examining religious and political

preferences among both Muslims and non-Muslims in several religiously diverse settings, Faith in Numbers shows that theological explanations of religion and democracy are inadequate. Rather, it demonstrates that religious identities and sectarian interests play a major part in determining regime preferences and illustrates how Islam in particular can be mobilized for both pro- and anti-democratic purposes. It finds that Muslim religious practice is not necessarily anti-democratic; in fact, in a number of settings, practicing Muslims are considerably more supportive of democracy than their secular counterparts. Theological differences alone do not determine whether members of religious groups tend to support or oppose democracy; rather, their participation in communal worship motivates them to view democracy through a sectarian lens.

Jihadism, Sectarianism and Politics in a Changing Middle East
Adib Abdulmajid 2021-05-07 Jihadism, Sectarianism and Politics in a Changing Middle East tackles questions of core significance for understanding the current religio-political scene in the Middle East. It addresses the doctrinal tenets associated with the emergence of influential Islamist organizations, the rise of sectarian-based extremist groups, and the challenges encountered by the culturally-diverse populations amidst such developments. It constitutes an exploration of sectarianism, Islamism, Salafism and jihadism. This book also delves into the historical events that have shaped the Middle East as we know it today. It further examines the key factors behind the rise of the most influential sectarian-guided, jihadi-based extremist groups in the recent years. The emergence and growth of sectarian Islamist militant organizations, whether Sunni or Shia, is deemed to be the fruit of the emerging radical interpretations and elucidations of the conception of jihad, and the evolution of the movement of Islamism in general. The main objective of this book is to help the reader understand the complex religio-political scene in today's Middle East and the ideological principles and

agendas of key influential movements, whose beliefs and actions constitute a serious threat to cultural diversity in the region. Politics of Identity in Post-Conflict States Éamonn Ó Ciardha 2015-12-14 Ireland and the Balkans have come to represent divided and (re)united communities. They both provide effective microcosms of national, ethnic, political, military, religious, ideological and cultural conflicts in their respective regions and, as a result, they demonstrate real and imaginary divisions. This book will specifically focus on the history, politics and literature of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Northern Ireland, while making comparative reference to some of Europe's other disputed and divided regions. Using case-studies such as Kosovo and Serbia; Lithuania, Germany, Poland, Russia and Belarus; Greece and Macedonia, it examines 'space', 'place' and 'border' discourse, the topography of war and violence, post-war settlement and reconciliation, and the location and negotiation of national, ethnic, religious, political and cultural identities. The book will be of particular interest to scholars and students of cultural studies, history, politics, Irish studies, Slavonic studies, area studies and literary studies.

Northern Ireland and the politics of boredom George Legg 2018-09-10 This book provides a new interpretation of the Northern Irish Troubles. From internment to urban planning, the hunger strikes to post-conflict tourism, it asserts that concepts of capitalism have been consistently deployed to alleviate and exacerbate violence in the North. Through a detailed analysis of the diverse cultural texts, Legg traces the affective energies produced by capitalism's persistent attempt to resolve Northern Ireland's ethnic-national divisions: a process he calls the politics of boredom. Such an approach warrants a reconceptualization of boredom as much as cultural production. In close readings of Derek Mahon's poetry, the photography of Willie Doherty and the female experience of incarceration, Legg argues that cultural texts can delineate a more democratic - less philosophical -

conception of ennui. Critics of the Northern Irish Peace Process have begun to apprehend some of these tensions. But an analysis of the post-conflict condition cannot account for capitalism's protracted and enervating impact in Northern Ireland. Consequently, Legg returns to the origins of the Troubles and uses influential theories of capital accumulation to examine how a politicised sense of boredom persists throughout, and after, the years of conflict. Like Left critique, Legg's attention to the politics of boredom interrogates the depleted sense of humanity capitalism can create. What Legg's approach proposes is as unsettling as it is radically new. By attending to Northern Ireland's long-standing experience of ennui, this book ultimately isolates boredom as a source of optimism as well as a means of oppression.

From Suffering to Solidarity Andrew P Klager 2016-04-28 As experiences of suffering continue to influence the responses of identity groups in the midst of violent conflict, a way to harness their narratives, stories, memories, and myths in transformative and non-violent ways is needed. From Suffering to Solidarity explores the historical seeds of Mennonite peacebuilding approaches and their application in violent conflicts around the world. The authors in this book first draw out the experiences of Anabaptists and Mennonites from the sixteenth-century originsthrough to the present that have shaped their approaches to conflict transformation and inspired new generations of Mennonites to engage in relief, development, and peacebuilding to alleviate the suffering of others whose experiences today reflect those of their ancestors. Authors then explore the various peacebuilding approaches, methods, and initiatives that have emerged from this Mennonite narrative and its preservation and dissemination in subsequent generations. Finally, the book examines how this combined historical sensitivity and resulting peacebuilding theory and practice have been applied in violent conflicts around the world, noting both successes and challenges.

Ultimately, *From Suffering to Solidarity* attempts to answer a question: How can a robust historical infrastructure be used to inspire empathetic solidarity with the Other and shape nonviolent ways of transforming conflict to thrust a stick in the spokes of the cycle of violence?

The Catholic Church and the Northern Ireland Troubles, 1968-1998 Margaret M. Scull 2019-09-05 Until surprisingly recently the history of the Irish Catholic Church during the Northern Irish Troubles was written by Irish priests and bishops and was commemorative, rather than analytical. This study uses the Troubles as a case study to evaluate the role of the Catholic Church in mediating conflict. During the Troubles, these priests and bishops often worked behind the scenes, acting as go-betweens for the British government and republican paramilitaries, to bring about a peaceful solution. However, this study also looks more broadly at the actions of the American, Irish and English Catholic Churches, as well as that of the Vatican, to uncover the full impact of the Church on the conflict. This critical analysis of previously neglected state, Irish, and English Catholic Church archival material changes our perspective on the role of a religious institution in a modern conflict.

Explorations in Reconciliation Joseph Liechty 2016-04-15 Theologians and scholars of religion draw on rich resources to address the complex issues raised by political reconciliation in the Middle East, the former Yugoslavia, South Africa, Northern Ireland and elsewhere. The questions addressed include: Can truth set a person, or a society, free? How is political forgiveness possible? Are political, personal, and spiritual reconciliation essentially related? *Explorations in Reconciliation* brings Catholic, Protestant, Mennonite, Jewish and Islamic perspectives together within a single volume to present some of the most relevant theological work today.

History and Hope Brian Eggins 2015-03-02 In 1970, a group of

people had what many commentators felt was a ludicrous dream, that politics in Northern Ireland 'should not be dominated by division, but should be about co-operation, partnership and reconciliation'. This dream was to become the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland. In the years since, this ambition to overcome tribal politics for a greater good has been preserved, through good times and bad. This book, the first full record of the development of the Alliance Party, charts that journey of hope and of history.

From Heart of Stone to Heart of Flesh: Evolutionary Journey from Extremism to Moderation Zeina M. Barakat 2017-08-24 This book examines the forces of human transformation from extremism to moderation. It analyzes the ethical indicators which determine making the choice of the path to take when one is faced with crucial decisions to make. The author focuses on three central values, namely, (a) moderation, reflecting balance in dealing with individual and group issues; (b) reconciliation, reflecting willingness to heal wounds and repair broken relationships by showing respect for the personal and collective narrative of the other, and feeling empathy and compassion for the pain and suffering of other and viewing the perspective of the other by putting oneself in the shoes of the other; (c) peace, coexisting with the other reflecting tolerance for the beliefs and views of other. These three concepts are linked together in consequential sequence with each leading to the other and eventually resulting prosperity and security.

Representing Irish Religious Histories Jacqueline Hill 2017-01-12 This collection begins on the premise that, until recently, religion has been particularly influential in Ireland in forming a sense of identity, and in creating certain versions of reality. History has also been a key component in that process, and the historical evolution of Christianity has been appropriated by the main religious denominations - Catholic, Church of Ireland, and Presbyterian - with a view to reinforcing their own identities. This

book explores the ways in which this occurred; the writing of religious history, and some of the manifestations of that process, forms key parts of the collection. Also included are chapters discussing current and recent attempts to examine the legacy of collective religious memory - notably in Northern Ireland - based on projects designed to encourage reflection about the religious past among both adults and school-children. Readers will find this collection particularly timely in view of the current 'decade of commemorations'.

Ireland and the Reception of the Bible Bradford A. Anderson 2018-04-19 Drawing on the work of leading figures in biblical, religious, historical, and cultural studies in Ireland and beyond, this volume explores the reception of the Bible in Ireland, focusing on the social and cultural dimensions of such use of the Bible. This includes the transmission of the Bible, the Bible and identity formation, engagement beyond Ireland, and cultural and artistic appropriation of the Bible. The chapters collected here are particularly useful and insightful for those researching the use and reception of the Bible, as well as those with broader interests in social and cultural dimensions of Irish history and Irish studies. The chapters challenge the perception in the minds of many that the Bible is a static book with a fixed place in the world that can be relegated to ecclesial contexts and perhaps academic study. Rather, as this book shows, the role of the Bible in the world is much more complex. Nowhere is this clearer than in Ireland, with its rich and complex religious, cultural, and social history. This volume examines these very issues, highlighting the varied ways in which the Bible has impacted Irish life and society, as well as the ways in which the cultural specificity of Ireland has impacted the use and development of the Bible both in Ireland and further afield.

Faith and Its Critics David Fergusson 2011-03-03 Heralded as the exponents of a 'new atheism', critics of religion are highly visible in today's media, and include the household names of Richard

Dawkins, Daniel Dennett and Sam Harris. David Fergusson explains their work in its historical perspective, drawing comparisons with earlier forms of atheism. Responding to the critics through conversations on the credibility of religious belief, Darwinism, morality, fundamentalism, and our approach to reading sacred texts, he establishes a compelling case for the practical and theoretical validity of faith in the contemporary world. An invitation to engage in a rich dialogue, *Faith and Its Critics* supports an informed and constructive exchange of ideas rather than a contest between two sides of the debate. Fergusson encourages faith communities to undertake patient engagement with their critics, to acknowledge the place for change and development in their self-understanding whilst resisting the reductive explanations of the new atheism.

A Companion to Public Theology 2017-01-23 The Companion to Public Theology offers a collection of cutting-edge essays by an international group of scholars that provides a foundation for public theology as well as engagement with a wide range of public issues in dialogue with other disciplines.

Culture and Belonging in Divided Societies Marc Howard Ross 2012 From cartoons of Muhammad in a Danish newspaper to displays of the Confederate battle flag over the South Carolina statehouse, acts of cultural significance have set off political conflicts and sometimes violence. These and other expressions and enactments of culture—whether in music, graffiti, sculpture, flag displays, parades, religious rituals, or film—regularly produce divisive and sometimes prolonged disputes. What is striking about so many of these conflicts is their emotional intensity, despite the fact that in many cases what is at stake is often of little material value. Why do people invest so much emotional energy and resources in such conflicts? What is at stake, and what does winning or losing represent? The answers to these questions explored in *Culture and Belonging in Divided Societies* view cultural expressions variously as barriers to, or

opportunities for, inclusion in a divided society's symbolic landscape and political life. Though little may be at stake materially, deep emotional investment in conflicts over cultural acts can have significant political consequences. At the same time, while cultural issues often exacerbate conflict, new or redefined cultural expressions and enactments can redirect long-standing conflicts in more constructive directions and promote reconciliation in ways that lead to or reinforce formal peace agreements. Encompassing work by a diverse group of scholars of American studies, anthropology, art history, religion, political science, and other fields, *Culture and Belonging in Divided Societies* addresses the power of cultural expressions and enactments in highly charged settings, exploring when and how changes in a society's symbolic landscape occur and what this tells us about political life in the societies in which they take place.

Conflict to peace Bernadette Hayes 2015-09-01 After three decades of violence, Northern Ireland has experienced unprecedented peace. This book, now available in paperback, examines the impact of the 1998 Agreement which halted the violence on those most affected by it – the Northern Irish people themselves. Using public opinion surveys conducted over a period of half a century, this book covers changes in public opinion

across all areas of society and politics, including elections, education, community relations and national identity. The surveys show that despite peace, Protestants and Catholics remain as deeply divided as ever. The vast majority marry co-religionists, attend religious schools and have few friends across the religious divide. The results have implications not just for peacemaking in Northern Ireland, but for other societies emerging from conflict. The main lesson of peacemaking in Northern Ireland is that political reform has to be accompanied by social change across the society as a whole. Peace after conflict needs social as well as political change.

Restoration of the Historical Title and the Kashmir Question: An International Legal Appraisal Fozia Nazir Lone 2018-05-17 In *Historical Title, Self-Determination and the Kashmir Question*, Lone offers a fresh framework, while recognising signs of spreading terrorism in the region, to understand the rights of the Kashmiri people and how they could be addressed by the international community.

Theology in the Public Sphere Sebastian Kim 2013-01-03 A substantial and definitive introduction to public theology by one of the leading experts in the field. A key text for third year undergraduate modules and MA courses in Social Ethics, Political Theology and Public Theology.