



Christian Imaginations of the Religious Other: A History of Religionization

Marianne Moyaert

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DESCRIPTION

Explores how Christians created, used, and adapted religionized categories of non-Christians through the centuries

Christian Imaginations of the Religious Other traces the genealogy of *religionization*, the various ways Christians throughout history have created a sense of religious normativity while simultaneously producing various categories of non-Christian "otherness." Covering a broad expanse of processes, practices, and socio-political contexts, this innovative volume analyzes the complex intersections of patterns of religionization in different eras while investigating their entanglements with racialization, sexualization, and ethnicization.

With a readable and accessible style, Marianne Moyaert offers a nuanced and well-balanced critical analysis of how and why Christianity's others were named, categorized, essentialized, and governed by those exemplifying Christian normativity in Western European society. The author takes a *longue durée* approach — a long-term perspective on history that extends past human memory and the archaeological record — that integrates different case studies and a variety of ecclesial, theological, and literary documents. Throughout the text, Moyaert demonstrates how religionization shaped the ways Christians classified people, organized Christian societies, interacted with different Christian and non-Christian groups, and more.

- Surveys the relationship between shifts in Christian normativity and the way non-Christians are imagined
- Helps readers connect the lasting effects of patterns of religionization with their everyday experiences
- Discusses the role of Christian expansion in the differential and unequal treatment of Christianity's others

- Examines legal regulations and disciplinary practices that were established to define the boundaries between Christians and non-Christians
- Incorporates a wide range of scholarly resources, cutting-edge research, and the most recent insights and issues in the field
- Includes textboxes with helpful summaries, illustrations, and commentary in each chapter

Christian Imaginations of the Religious Other: A History of Religionization is an excellent textbook for undergraduate and graduate courses in interreligious studies, comparative theology, theological approaches to religious diversity, Christian-Jewish-Muslim relations, race and religion, and theorizing religion.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

MARIANNE MOYAERT is Professor of Comparative Theology and the Study of Interreligious Relations at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, KU Leuven, Belgium. She specializes in the comparative theology of religions, interreligious hermeneutics, and research into the religio-racialization. She has authored and edited several books including *Fragile Identities: Towards a Theology of Interreligious Hospitality* (2011), *In Response to the Religious Other: Ricoeur and the Fragility of Interreligious Encounters* (2014), and *Interreligious Relations and the Negotiation of Ritual Boundaries: Explorations in Interrituality* (2019).

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