

The Religion Of Thinness

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with so many women approaching their diets body image and pursuit of a slender figure with slavish devotion the religion of thinness is a timely addition to the discussion of our cultural obsession with weight loss at the heart of this obsession is the belief that in order to be happy one must be slim and the attendant myths rituals images and

moral codes can leave some women with severe emotional damage idealized images in the media inspire devotees of this religion to experience guilt for behaviors that are biologically normal and necessary and lelwica offers two ways to combat this dangerous cultural message advising readers to look hard at the societal cues that cause them to obsess about their weight and to remain mindful about their actions and needs this book will not only help stop the cycle of guilt and shame associated with food it will help readers to grow and accept their bodies as they are

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secular religions the key concepts provides a concise guide to those ideologies worldviews and social political economic and cultural phenomena that are most often described as the modern counterparts of traditional religions although there are many other terms in use quasi pseudo ersatz political civil etc it is secular religion that best expresses the problematic nature of all such descriptions which maintain that modern belief systems and practices are secular on the one hand and religious on the other today the topic is as popular as ever and secular religions are discovered far and wide hence a critical summary is urgently necessary the juxtaposed title is itself an expression of ironic distance the book emphasizes inherent tensions of relevant literature in a critical and informative fashion the author provides over 100 entries from abortion to wokeness as well as a detailed introduction which gives an overview of the different definitions of religion and secular religion as well as the history of secular religious comparisons the main text reconstructs the argument of several key works on each given topic while lists of sources for further reading are provided at the end of each entry this book provides a clear

introduction to secular religions and will appeal to researchers and students of religious studies political philosophy political theology the history of ideologies and cultural studies

the pursuit of bodily perfection is a cultural impetus persistent throughout history which has become a dominating force in modern western culture where the image you present to the world on social media counts for everything a new generation of theologians are wrestling with these issues in their everyday lives and their areas of scholarship there is they argue a real need for an interdisciplinary work that is academically robust and practically meaningful to our cultural moment

hannah bacon draws on qualitative research conducted inside one uk secular commercial weight loss group to show how christian religious forms and theological discourses inform contemporary weight loss narratives bacon argues that notions of sin and salvation resurface in secular guise in ways that repeat well established theological meanings the slimming organization recycles the christian terminology of sin spelt syn and encourages members to frame weight loss in salvific terms these theological tropes lurk in the background helping to align food once more with guilt and moral weakness but they also mirror to an extent the way body policing techniques in christianity have historically helped to cultivate self care the self breaking and self making aspects of women s syn watching practices in the group continue certain features of historical christianity serving in similar ways to conform women s bodies to patriarchal norms while providing opportunities for women s self development taking into account these tensions bacon asks what a specifically feminist theological response to weight loss might look like if ideas about sin and salvation service hegemonic discourses about fat while also empowering women to shape their own lives how might they be rethought to challenge fat phobia and the frenetic pursuit of thinness as well as naming as sin principles and practices which diminish women s appetites and bodies this book forwards a number of proposals about how salvation might be performed in our everyday eating habits and through the cultivation of fat pride it takes seriously the conviction of many women in the group that food and the body can be important sites of power wisdom and transformation but channels this insight into the construction of theologies that resist rather than reproduce thin privilege and size ist norms

gregg sketches a new moral framework for political theory and public policy

each year americans spend millions of dollars on diet foods and weight loss programs bringle offers a spiritual solution to this widely misinterpreted cult of thinness and provides guidance for those who seek to understand the dynamics of food addiction

over the past thirty years much has been written about the critical theory of society that was produced by a small group of left wing hegelians in the institute of social research in frankfurt am main germany and in the united states this book seeks to make a contribution to the continued development of the critical theory of society and religion as it offers a corrective to the one sided positivistic development of the modern social sciences as well as to the increasing social irrelevancy of the contemporary christian church max horkheimer s critical theory of religion is a content analysis of the critical theory of religion of max horkheimer which was developed throughout almost all of his writings and later interviews from 1926 to 1973 the year of his death

what should the aims of education policy be in the united states and other culturally diverse democracies should the foremost aim be to allow the flourishing of social and religious diversity or is it more important to foster shared political values and civic virtues stephen macedo believes that diversity should usually but not always be highly valued we must remember he insists that many forms of social and religious diversity are at odds with basic commitments to liberty equality and civic flourishing liberalism has an important but neglected civic dimension he argues and liberal democrats must take care to promote not only well ordered institutions but also well ordered citizens macedo shows that this responsibility is incompatible with a neutral or hands off stance toward diversity in general or toward the education of children in particular extending the ideas of john rawls he defends a civic liberalism that supports the legitimacy of reasonable efforts to inculcate shared political virtues while leaving many larger questions of meaning and value to private communities macedo s tough minded liberal agenda for civic education offers a fundamental challenge to free market libertarians the religious right parental rights activists postmodernists and many of those who call themselves multiculturalists this book will become an important resource in the debate about the reform of public education and in the culture war over the future of liberalism

does truth have anything to do with the belly what difference does it make to the pursuit of knowledge whether einstein rode a bicycle russell was randy or darwin was flatulent focusing on the 17th century to the present science incarnate explores how intellectuals sought to establish the value and authority of their ideas through public displays of their private ways of life 54 photos

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