

ASR Thematic Sessions and One Day Workshop Participation (2017)

Radicalizations, extremisms and religious studies: Theories, critics and empirical research

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This is a call for abstract submissions to participate in thematic sessions at the ASR Montréal 2017 (13-14 August; 12 August opening reception), and to a one day workshop on August 15th.

Submit paper titles and abstracts to Solange Lefebvre before **March 28th**, including a title and a 300-word abstract of each paper, in which each presenter/author describes the paper's research question(s), research methodology, and preliminary results. Anyone who will present a paper or serve as a panelist or discussant **during** the conference must be an ASR member and be willing to register for the conference.*

To register:

<http://www.sociologyofreligion.com/annual-meeting/>

One day workshop on August 15th, after the ASR: Professor Lefebvre will be organizing a day long workshop, the day after the ASR concludes, on these same themes. Participants will be responsible for the costs of membership and registration to the ASR; funding for attendance and participation at the workshop will be supported by a workshop grant.

We will contact all presenters to confirm participation in: 1) ASR sessions organized from the submitted abstracts and; 2) to participate a day long workshop the day after the ASR conclude (August 15, 2017).

Version française (ENGLISH FOLLOWS)

Les thèmes de la radicalisation, de la dé-radicalisation et de la contre-radicalisation ont pris une importance grandissante en relation avec le fanatisme islamiste, même s'ils comptent une histoire ayant au-delà de cette forme plus récente de violence extrémiste, notamment autour des New Religious Movements. Au Québec, l'assassinat de six musulmans dans une mosquée de la ville de Québec, par un jeune homme, a mis à l'avant-scène les tendances d'extrême-droite et les extrémismes identitaires, de même que l'influence de certains types de médias populaires. La littérature scientifique est surtout dominée par les experts du terrorisme et de la sécurité, les criminologues et les psychologues, et l'ASR 2017, à Montréal, pourrait être une occasion idéale de mobiliser

les sciences sociales de la religion pour y réfléchir, en lien avec le thème du congrès, soit RELIGION AND DIVISION: CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND COUNTERS.

Les présentations pourront porter sur l'un des thèmes suivants :

- qu'en est-il des concepts dont on fait usage pour évoquer le passage à la violence chez un individu ou un groupe, et quel est au juste le rôle de la religion dans ce passage?
- quel rôle les médias jouent-ils dans la dynamique de la radicalisation, de la dé-radicalisation ou de la contre-radicalisation? Quelles nouveaux dilemmes et défis sont posés aux médias traditionnels et les diverses éthiques ou régulations qu'ils s'imposent?
- la sphère sauvage des réseaux sociaux paraît jouer un rôle important dans la diffusion de messages dit 'radicalisants'? Comment la recherche scientifique enquête-t-elle à ce sujet?
- quels sont les discours religieux, les croyances et les convictions mobilisées pour parler de la radicalisation et ses corollaires?
- quels sont les lieux supposés de formation de la radicalisation et qu'en est-il de la recherche à ce sujet (prisons, groupes idéologiques et leaders charismatiques, familles, etc.)?

English version

Radicalization, de-radicalization, and counter-radicalization have become increasingly important themes, particularly in relation to Islamist extremism; even though they have a longer history beyond this more recent form, especially with reference to violent New Religious Movements in the latter half of the twentieth century. In Quebec, the assassination of six Muslims in a mosque in Quebec City by a young man brought to the forefront extreme right-wing tendencies and identity extremism, as well as the influence of certain types of popular media. In light of the dominance in current scientific literature of terrorism and security experts, criminologists, and psychologists, ASR 2017 in Montreal provides an opportunity to invite scholars in the social sciences of religion to reflect on this issue in accordance with the conference theme, *Religion and Division: Causes, Consequences and Counters*. Presentations in the proposed session would focus on one or more of the following questions: what concepts do we use to understand the transition to violence in an individual or group, and what is the role of religion in this passage? What role do the media play in the dynamics of radicalization, de-radicalization or counter-radicalization? What new dilemmas and challenges do traditional media face in the context of the ethical and regulatory regimes that they seek to impose? How do we understand the important role that the untamed sphere of social networks seems to play in the dissemination of so-called 'radicalizing' discourses? How should social scientific research go about researching this issue? What religious discourses have arisen to talk about radicalization and its correlates? What are the supposed contexts of radicalization and what does research tell us about this topic (prisons, ideological groups and charismatic leaders, families, etc.)?