

Journal for the Academic Study of Religion

Calls for Manuscripts for Special Issue on *Religion and Violence*

Editor: Kathleen McPhillips, University of Newcastle

Description

The *Journal for the Academic Study of Religion* (JASR) invites article proposals for a special issue on Religion and Violence. The aim of the special issue is to explore this topic by means of publishing the best presentations from the 2019 annual conference of the Australian Association for the Study of Religion (AASR). It will be edited by conference convenor Dr Kathleen McPhillips.

The relationship between religion and violence is highly contested and has come under considerable scrutiny by scholars of religion. This special issue aims to contribute to understandings of the ways in which religion intersects with personal, familial, institutional and public forms of violence as explored through current research via an interdisciplinary lens. The issue will further current understandings of the relationship between religious traditions and tropes of violence.

As well as considering religion and violence, there has been an important counter discourse articulated by religious groups around building religious and social capital that contributes to a pluralist understanding of the value of multi-religious societies and social diversity. These discourses, most often articulated by more liberal religious groups but also increasingly by mainstream faith traditions, utilize the language of social justice and theological interpretation to construct narratives of social inclusion and equity. This brings faith traditions into conflict within themselves over the framing of social relations for current times at the same time as articulating new forms of religious discourse.

For this special issue, we invite manuscripts that address this convergence from a variety of perspectives on the function and meaning of religion and violence and its counter-discourses. The editors are particularly interested in receiving manuscripts that showcase empirical research that address, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- institutional religious violence especially sexual violence;
- the relationship between terrorism and violence;
- case studies of particular events, eg Christchurch 2019
- online and social media, religion and violence
- new religious movements and violence
- counter discourses of peace and social justice
- theoretical accounts of religious violence eg Rene Girard and symbolic violence
- constructions of religious violence in a global environment of risk and instability

Abstracts should be no more than 200 words in length and in Word document. Affiliation and bio data should also be supplied.

Submissions should be between 5000 and 8000 words in length (including abstract, footnotes and references). See Equinox's page for further information on submitting an article <https://journals.equinoxpub.com/JASR/index>.

Please send all queries and abstracts to:

Special Issue Editor

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November 2019: invitation to submit abstract for a full-length manuscript

15 January 2020: close of abstract submission

15 June 2020: manuscript submission deadline