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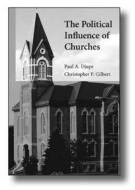
The Political Influence of Churches

Paul A. Djupe and Christopher P. Gilbert \$80.00: Hardback: 978-0-521-87165-5: 296 pp. \$22.99: Paperback: 978-0-521-69219-9

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Djupe and Gilbert investigate the political influence of church: how membership in organized religious bodies shapes the political life of members. Djupe and Gilbert's goal in this inquiry is to re-center scholarly attention on the voluntary association as an essential element of American civic and political life. They develop a theoretical framework that captures the multifaceted elements of church life that affect individual political attitudes and actions. Political information from dergy, small groups, and social networks flows plentifully in churches, but individuals

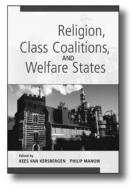


process that information differently depending on their motivations related to their status in the church. Articulating a more fully specified model of how associations expose individuals to political information and norms will help us understand the political opinions and behavior of citizens and the contribution of that pattern to sustaining democracy.

Religion, Class Coalitions, and Welfare States

Edited by Kees van Kersbergen and Philip Manow \$80.00: Hardback: 978-0-521-89791-4: 320 pp. \$24.99: Paperback: 978-0-521-72395-4

This book radically revises established knowledge in comparative welfare state studies and introduces a new perspective on how religion shaped modern social protection systems. The interplay of societal cleavage structures and electoral rules produced the different political class coalitions sustaining the three welfare regimes of the Western world. In countries with proportional electoral systems the absence or presence of state–church conflicts decided whether class remained the dominant source of coalition building or whether a political logic not exclusively based on socio–economic interests (e.g., religion) was introduced into politics, particularly social policy. The political class-coalitions in countries with majoritarian systems, on the other hand, allowed only for the residual-liberal welfare state to emerge, as in the US or the UK. This book also reconsiders the role of Protestantism. Reformed Protestantism substantially delayed and restricted modern social policy. The Lutheran state churches positively contributed to the introduction of social protection programs.



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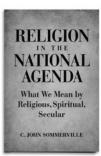
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