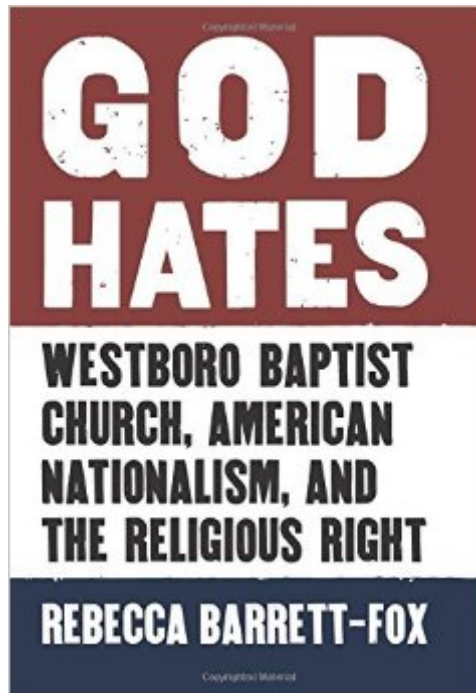


The book was found

God Hates: Westboro Baptist Church, American Nationalism, And The Religious Right



Synopsis

The congregants thanked God that they weren't like all those hopeless people outside the church, bound for hell. So the Westboro Baptist Church's Sunday service began, and Rebecca Barrett-Fox, a curious observer, wondered why anyone would seek spiritual sustenance through other people's damnation. It is a question that piques many a witness to Westboro's more visible activity—the "GOD HATES FAGS" picketing of funerals. In *God Hates*, sociologist Barrett-Fox takes us behind the scenes of Topeka's Westboro Baptist Church. The first full ethnography of this infamous presence on America's Religious Right, her book situates the church's story in the context of American religious history—and reveals as much about the uneasy state of Christian practice in our day as it does about the workings of the Westboro Church and Fred Phelps, its founder. *God Hates* traces WBC's theological beliefs to a brand of hyper-Calvinist thought reaching back to the Puritans—an extreme Calvinism, emphasizing predestination, that has proven as off-putting as Westboro's actions, even for other Baptists. And yet, in examining Westboro's role in conservative politics and its contentious relationship with other fundamentalist activist groups, Barrett-Fox reveals how the church's message of national doom in fact reflects beliefs at the core of much of the Religious Right's rhetoric. Westboro's aggressively offensive public activities actually serve to soften the anti-gay theology of more mainstream conservative religious activism. With an eye to the church's protest at military funerals, she also considers why the public has responded so differently to these than to Westboro's anti-LGBT picketing. With its history of Westboro Baptist Church and its founder, and its profiles of defectors, this book offers a complex, close-up view of a phenomenon on the fringes of American Christianity—and a broader, disturbing view of the mainstream theology it at once masks and reflects.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: University Press of Kansas (June 10, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0700622659

ISBN-13: 978-0700622658

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #752,500 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #214 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Religious Intolerance & Persecution #425 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Nationalism #1149 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Sociology

Customer Reviews

Rebecca Barrett-Fox tackles a tough topic in an easy-to-read way. She doesn't shy away from the uncomfortable and, indeed, realizing that mainstream American Christianity shares roots with Westboro Baptist Church is more than uncomfortable...it's downright thought-provoking and scary. This book is a great read for student, scholar, and laymen alike.

1. It is nuanced . Even Fred Phelps, whom Barrett-Fox seem not to have interviewed (and why would you want to interview someone who wishes God would kill his son and tells him so?) is credited with a streak of decency given his time in the '50s as a civil rights supporter.2. I loved how It made Calvinism clear, with its nightmarish vision of God.3. Its vigorous defense of free speech.4. The way it led me to understand why Fred's folk began to picket the funerals of dead military men.5. And how its author achieved all this within the constraints of an academic book, which, it seems to me, is destined to be a hit for a wider audience.It blew me away.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

God Hates: Westboro Baptist Church, American Nationalism, and the Religious Right Religious Therapeutics: Body and Health in Yoga, Ayurveda, and Tantra (SUNY Series in Religious Studies) (SUNY Series, Religious Studies) A God Who Hates: The Courageous Woman Who Inflamed the Muslim World Speaks Out Against the Evils of Islam When "Spiritual but Not Religious" Is Not Enough: Seeing God in Surprising Places, Even the Church Slaves, Soldiers and Saints: Two Hundred Years of Baptist Witness in Trinidad: 1816-2016 The Story of Baptist in the Bahamas: An Historical Survey Books of Breathing and Related Texts -Late Egyptian Religious Texts in the British Museum Vol.1 (Catalogue of the Books of the Dead and Other Religious Texts in the British Museum) The Records of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, Wilmington, Del., From 1697 to 1773, With an Abstract of the English Records From 1773 to 1810 and Catalogue and Errata of the Records of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church What Would Jesus Deconstruct?: The Good News of Postmodernism for the Church (The Church and Postmodern Culture) CHURCH and SOCIETY IN TRINIDAD Part I & II:THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN TRINIDAD 1498-1863 Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages (The Penguin History of the Church) (v. 2) Remarriage after Divorce in

Today's Church: 3 Views (Counterpoints: Church Life) The Multi-Site Church Revolution: Being One Church in Many Locations (Leadership Network Innovation Series) Vertical Church: What Every Heart Longs for. What Every Church Can Be. The Catholic Church in Micronesia: Historical Essays on the Catholic Church in the Caroline-Marshall Islands The Early Church (The Penguin History of the Church) (v. 1) Church STILL Ain't A Showplace for Saints (Church Saints Book 2) How the Religious Right Shaped Lesbian and Gay Activism (Social Movements, Protest and Contention) Using Terri: The Religious Right's Conspiracy to Take Away Our Rights The Religious Right: A Reference Handbook

[Dmca](#)