

Call for Papers

Special Issue: Right-Wing Religious Ecologies

Co-editors:

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With right-wing movements on the rise globally, scholars and journalists have increasingly taken note. The environment has not typically been at the center of these inquiries, but as we enter a century of growing climate instability, researchers have increasingly begun to explore what these movements portend for environmental politics and policy (e.g., Kulin et al., 2021; Malm et al., 2021; Forchtner, 2019; Bjork-James, 2020; Lockwood, 2018). Building on this literature, our special issue will explore what we are calling *right-wing religious ecologies*, or right-wing religious teachings, beliefs and practices that reference or conceptualize the natural world and/or ecological relationships.

Many right-wing movements have religious affinities, but thus far there has been little systematic research exploring how these affinities shape members' environmental views. Instead, terms like "spiritual ecology" and "religious ecology" have most commonly been invoked in reference to environmentalisms that are linked (sometimes implicitly) to the political left (e.g., Sponsel, 2012; Grim and Tucker, 2014; Gottlieb, 2006; but see Griffin, 2005; Shnirelman, 2005). Flowing from this assumption, existing scholarship on religion and ecology has typically envisioned religion as a vehicle for *increased* environmental concern (e.g., Grim and Tucker, 2014: 11). Right-wing movements disrupt this expectation in several ways. They may employ environmental tropes, for example, but harness them toward very different political ends than are typically sought by the mainstream environmental movement (e.g., Taylor, 2020). Other right-wing religious ecologies, such as the US-based evangelical climate denial movement, explicitly oppose left-wing secular and religious environmental movements (Alumkal, 2017; Veldman, 2019). Exploring religious ecologies that exist across the political spectrum will enable us to paint a more nuanced portrait of religion and environmental attitudes.

To create as broad and generous a conversation as possible, we invite contributions from disciplines across the humanities and social sciences. Papers covering any geographical region and type or angle of religiosity are welcome. While we are particularly interested in contemporary movements, historical works shedding light on the origins or nature of contemporary movements are also welcome. Proposals should be less than 500 words, and clearly indicate the author(s) title, methods and argument. Please include a CV or short description of your scholarly background. **Paper proposals should be submitted by January 15, 2022**, with an eye toward a July 15, 2022 completion date. Authors should expect to prepare manuscripts of approximately 8,000 words.

Proposals should be submitted by email to rgv@tamu.edu. Inquiries are welcome. Please communicate with all three co-editors at rgv@tamu.edu, sjodonnell@gmail.com, and matthew.ronald.hartman@gmail.com.

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