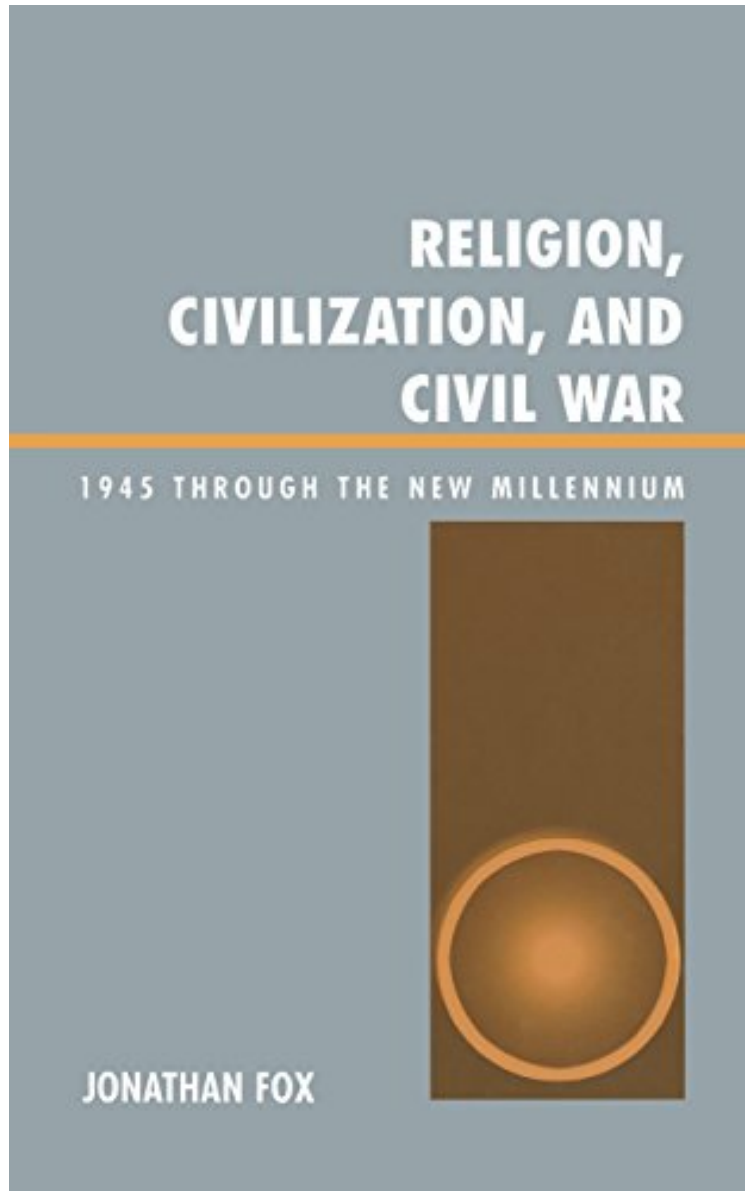


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Religion, Civilization, and Civil War: 1945 through the New Millennium

Jonathan Fox

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Jonathan Fox : Religion, Civilization, and Civil War: 1945 through the New Millennium before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Religion, Civilization, and Civil War: 1945 through the New Millennium:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy A CustomerThis is perhaps the most comprehensive fact-based analysis of the religious causes of conflict to date. Rather than selecting examples that support a previously decided upon argument, the author gathered data on all violent conflicts for a fifty-six year period, asked the correct questions and got some surprising answers. His basic finding is that religion is an important influence on conflict but it is less important than other causes like nationalism. Nevertheless conflict can not be fully understood without including religion in the paradigm. Furthermore, using this data, the author provides a comprehensive analysis of Huntington's famous "clash of civilizations" theory and finds it wanting. In addition, the book provides the theoretical background for all of the above. In short, this book accomplishes a lot for a single book and is a must-read for anyone who wants to fully understand religion's role in conflict as well as anyone who wants to understand, violent conflict in general.

In *Religion, Civilization, and Civil War* author Jonathan Fox carves out a new space of research and interrogation in conflict studies. As a preeminent observer of religious trends on domestic conflicts, Fox utilizes new statistical analysis in the Minorities at Risk (MAR) dataset - which tracks several hundred politically active ethnic groups across the globe, to examine the impact of religion and religious practice on rebellion, protest, discrimination, and international intervention. Fox also employs the State Failure (SF) dataset, which tracks internal wars and failed governances. Fox expertly uses this information to analyze ethnic wars, mass killings, and civil wars between 1948 and 2001. Covering over five decades, this study provides the most comprehensive and detailed empirical analysis of the impact of religion and civilization on domestic conflict to date and will become a critical resource for both international relations and political science scholars. Like his first book, *Ethnoreligious Conflict in the Late 20th Century: A General Theory*, which was touted as closing gaps in the concept of ethnoreligious conflict, *Religion, Civilization, and Civil War* provides the data to substantiate, expand, and transform the way scholars understand global conflict since World War Two.

Religion, Civilization, and Civil War is a fascinating book. Fox provides a thorough analysis of ethnoreligious conflict in the era after World War II. His data analysis is a welcome change from polemics for or against the idea of a clash of civilizations in fact, religion's impact on conflict is revealed systematically to be greater than that of civilization. The study also shows that religious conflict can be distinguished from other kinds along various significant dimensions. Fox's book should be required reading for all of those interested in conflict processes, religious or otherwise. (Patrick James, University of Missouri-Columbia) Fox gives us a reasoned, insightful and comprehensive approach to the role of religion in international conflict. He avoids the pitfalls of the current debate, moving discussion to a deeper intellectual level. This is a must read for policy makers and scholars of international relations. (Rachel McCleary, Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs) Highly Recommended. (CHOICE) From the Puritan Revolution to the Reverend Martin Luther King to the Ayatollah Khomeini, religion has been central to resistance, rebellion, and revolution. Jonathan Fox's important new book explores the impact of religion on many different types of internal wars from 1945 to the present. His synthesis of existing data sets and theoretical propositions sheds new light on the interrelationship of religion and ethnicity and on the civilizational basis of contemporary conflicts. Students of comparative and international politics, especially those interested in contentious politics, will want to extend and refute his findings. (Mark Irving Lichbach, University of Maryland) About the Author Jonathan Fox is Lecturer in the Political Studies department of Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan, Israel. He has been the recipient of the Israel Science Foundation grant and has written numerous articles on the influences of religion on politics.