Religious Diversity in Southeast Asia and the Pacific

National Case Studies

Religious diversity is now a social fact in most countries of the world. While reports of the impact of religious diversity on Europe and North America are reasonably well-known, the ways in which Southeast Asia and Asia Pacific are religiously diverse and the ways this diversity has been managed are not. This book addresses this lack of information about one of the largest and most diverse regions of the world. It describes the religious diversity of 27 nations, as large and complex as Indonesia and as small as Tuvalu, outlining the current issues and the basic policy approaches to religious diversity. Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands are portrayed as a living laboratory of various religious blends, with a wide variance of histories and many different approaches to managing religious diversity. While interesting in their own right, a study of these nations provides a wealth of case studies of diversity management – most of them stories of success and inclusion.

Features
- Describes the critical global issue of religious diversity and how it is managed in Southeast Asia and Asia Pacific
- Provides an easily searchable, country-by-country description of the religious constituency and its history
- Is the result of a project of the UNESCO Chair in Interreligious and Intercultural Relations for Asia Pacific

Fields of interest
Religious Studies; Sociology; Regional and Cultural Studies

Target groups
Scholars, researchers, students, journalists, policy makers and others interested in religion in comparative political and social contexts

Type of publication
Monograph

The Gülen Movement
A Sociological Analysis of a Civic Movement Rooted in Moderate Islam

This is one of the first academic books about Fethullah Gülen, a Turkish scholar and preacher, and the civic movement he inspired in Turkey and ultimately throughout the world. The movement is rooted in moderate Islam and is committed to educating youth, fostering interfaith and intercultural dialog, assisting the needy in society and contributing to global peace. Based on interview data and visits to Gülen-inspired institutions, the book describes the movement from a sociological perspective, especially through the lens of social movement theory. It is the first book, grounded in empirical methodology, to describe the movement to a Western audience. It will be of special interest to social scientists interested in religious movements, religious scholars seeking information on Islamic movements and the general public eager to discover a moderate Islam that promotes humanitarian projects.

Features
- The first book to describe Fethullah Gülen and the Gülen Movement from a sociological perspective
- Offers an interesting insight into the theological and socio-political views of one of the largest moderate Islamic movements
- Contains a chapter on the mechanisms of finance in the movement, a topic of great interest in the light of recent news events regarding Islamic financing of charities

Fields of interest
Sociology; Religious Studies; Regional and Cultural Studies

Target groups
Academics in social movements, sociology of religion, religious studies and Islamic studies

Type of publication
Monograph

Policy Initiatives Towards the Third Sector in International Perspective

Over the past decade, the third sector has had tremendous growth worldwide in both size and importance. As many countries struggle to address this changing reality, many have adopted policy initiatives aimed at changing the ways the third sector is addressed. It is a complex process, involving different fields of practice, different levels of government, and different types of third sector organizations.

Features
- Comparative, comprehensive analysis of policy initiatives towards the third sector
- Detailed case studies from 8 diverse countries, with applications for related countries
- Covers every aspect of implementation, from the old policy, the need for change, and the results

Contents

Fields of interest
Sociology; Political Science; Economic Policy

Target groups
Researchers in the third sector, nonprofit studies, public policy, or international relations

Type of publication
Contributed volume
**The Control of Violence in Modern Society**

*Multidisciplinary Perspectives, From School Shootings to Ethnic Violence*

The Control of Violence in Modern Society, starts from the hypothesis that in modern society we will face an increasing loss of control over certain phenomena of violence. This leads to unpredictable escalations and violence can no longer be contained adequately by the relevant control regimes, such as police, state surveillance institutions, national repression apparatuses and international law. However, before investigating this hypothesis from an internationally and historically comparative perspective, the terms and “tools” for this undertaking have to be rendered more precisely. Since both “control” and “violence” are all but clear-cut terms but rather highly debatable concepts that may take multiple connotations. The main question is whether an increase in certain forms of violence can be explained by the failure or, in turn, “overeffectiveness” of certain control mechanisms.

**Features**
- Provides unique perspectives on how the phenomenon of violence can be controlled, even when the traditional control-mechanisms don’t work anymore
- Brings together a group of top violence-researchers from Europe (Heitmeyer, Michel Wieviorka) and the US (Charles Tittle, Steve Messner)

**Fields of interest**
- Criminology & Criminal Justice; Political Science

**Target groups**
- Criminologists, sociologists, political scientists interested in (state) violence and its control

**Type of publication**
- Contributed volume

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**Aging in Advanced Industrial States**

*Riding the Age Waves – Volume 3*

Population growth slowed across the world in the last decades of the 20th century, changing substantially our view of the future. The 21st century is likely to see the end to world population growth and become the century of population aging, marked by low fertility and ever-increasing life expectancy. These trends have prompted many to predict a gloomy future caused by an unprecedented economic burden of population aging. In response, industrialized nations will need to implement effective social and economic policies and programs. This is the final volume in a series of three. The papers included explore many examples and strengthen the basis for effective economic and social policies by investigating the economic, social, and demographic consequences of the transformations in the structures of population and family.

**Features**
- Is unique in its breadth of international and comparative analysis
- Considers the three key policy dimensions: health, economics, and demography
- Takes a close look at social and cultural change and the effects on behavior
- Presents a broad cross-country comparison of trends in demography and health
- Explores policy implications of quantitative and qualitative shifts in family and society

**Fields of interest**
- Demography; Geriatrics/Gerontology; Population Economics

**Target groups**
- Demographers, gerontologists, population economists

**Type of publication**
- Contributed volume

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**Social Perspectives on the Sanitation Challenge**

This collection presents a timely collection of social scientific papers dealing with innovative sanitation issues and concepts, perceptions and decision-making support. It comprises a valuable resource for political scientists, environmental engineers and urban planners involved in the study, design and implementation of sanitation projects worldwide and whose work relates to meeting the ambitious Millennium Development Goal of halving, by 2015, the number of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

In developed countries the sanitation challenge is to initiate a transition from strongly centralized, water-based infrastructure regimes towards more sustainable, source-separation oriented, sanitation regimes. This calls for social scientific research and demonstration on different levels and scales, including concept development, institutional learning and governance building.

**Features**
- The book highlights social and institutional aspects of Sanitation issues
- Reference book for all committed to the UN Millennium Development Goal of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
- Unique collection of comparative European and African case studies

**Fields of interest**
- Social Sciences, general; Waste Management/Waste Technology; Environmental Management

**Target groups**
- Researchers, students and public and private practitioners of sanitation projects worldwide, which include universities, polytechnics, international education institutes involved in water and development (IHE Delft, ISS), EAWAG, UN Habitat, UNEP, GTZ (Ecosan division), IRC, ministries of development cooperation, consultancy firms in water and sanitation

**Type of publication**
- Contributed volume

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