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978-0-521-17318-6 - Religion in Mind: Cognitive Perspectives on Religious Belief, Ritual, and Experience

Edited by Jensine Andresen

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## RELIGION IN MIND

*Religion in Mind* summarizes and extends the last decade's advances in the cognitive study of religion using empirical research from psychology and anthropology to illuminate various components of religious belief, ritual, and experience. The book examines cognitive dimensions of religion within a naturalistic view of culture, while respecting the phenomenology of religion and drawing together teachers of religion, psychologists of religion, and cognitive scientists. Expert contributors focus on phenomena such as belief-fixation and transmission; attributions of agency; anthropomorphizing; counterintuitive religious representations; the well-formedness of religious rituals; links between religious representations and emotions; and the development of god concepts. The work encourages greater interdisciplinary linkages between scholars from different fields and will be of interest to researchers in anthropology, psychology, sociology, history, philosophy, and cognitive science. It also will interest more general readers in religion and science.

JENSINE ANDRESEN is Assistant Professor of Theology at Boston University where she teaches in the graduate program in Science, Philosophy, and Religion. She has published in *Isis: An International Review Devoted to the History of Science and its Cultural Influences*; *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*; *Religion and Education*; and *The Journal of Religion*. With Robert K. C. Forman, she has edited *Cognitive Models and Spiritual Maps: Interdisciplinary Explorations of Religious Experience* (2000).

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Unit at LENA (Laboratory of Cognitive Neurosciences and Brain Imaging) at the Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris. His interests have centered on the biological mechanisms of cognitive phenomena and human consciousness, at both the level of experimental research in cognitive neuroscience and conceptual foundations. He has contributed 150 articles to scientific journals on these matters, and he also is the author and/or editor of thirteen books, including *The Embodied Mind* (The MIT Press 1992); and, more recently, *Naturalizing Phenomenology: Contemporary Issues in Phenomenology and Cognitive Science* (Stanford University Press 1999); and *The View from Within: First-person Methods in the Study of Consciousness* (Imprint Academic 1999).