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Edited by Susanna Mancini, Michel Rosenfeld  
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## THE CONSCIENCE WARS

In this work, Professors Mancini and Rosenfeld have brought together an impressive group of authors to provide a comprehensive analysis of the greater demand for religious exemptions to government mandates. Traditional religious conscientious objection cases, such as refusal to salute the flag or to serve in the military during war, have had a diffused effect throughout society. In sharp contrast, targeting practices like abortion, LGBTQ adoption, and same-sex marriage, these authors argue that today's most notorious objections impinge on the rights of others. The dramatic expansion of conscientious objection claims has revolutionized the battle between religious traditionalists and secular civil libertarians, raising novel political, legal, constitutional, and philosophical challenges. Highlighting the intersection between conscientious objections, religious liberty, and the equality of women and sexual minorities, this volume showcases this political debate and the principal jurisprudence from different parts of the world and emphasizes the little-known international social movements that compete globally to alter the debate's terms.

**Susanna Mancini** is a full professor of law and the chair of comparative constitutional law at the University of Bologna School of Law.

**Michel Rosenfeld** is the University Professor of Law and Comparative Democracy and the Justice Sydney L. Robins Professor of Human Rights at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University in New York.

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# The Conscience Wars

RETHINKING THE BALANCE BETWEEN RELIGION,  
IDENTITY, AND EQUALITY

*Edited by*

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*To our children,  
Lucrezia and Federico (SM)  
Maia and Alexis (MR)*

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This book is the result of a long collaboration on the subject of religion, law, and the state that has involved many scholars and institutions since its inception in 2008. More particularly, all the contributions included in this volume originated in an international interdisciplinary symposium called “The Conscience Wars” held at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York City in the fall of 2015. This symposium was held under the auspices of Cardozo’s Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy and of Cardozo’s Program on Global and Comparative Legal Theory. We wish to thank all those who contributed to the symposium’s great success and especially Cardozo’s dean, Melanie Leslie, for her generous support and inspiring encouragement; and Cardozo’s Professor Kate Shaw, the codirector of the Floersheimer Center, for her superb and indefatigable intellectual and organizational input, which greatly contributed to the symposium’s collegial atmosphere and scholarly achievements.

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