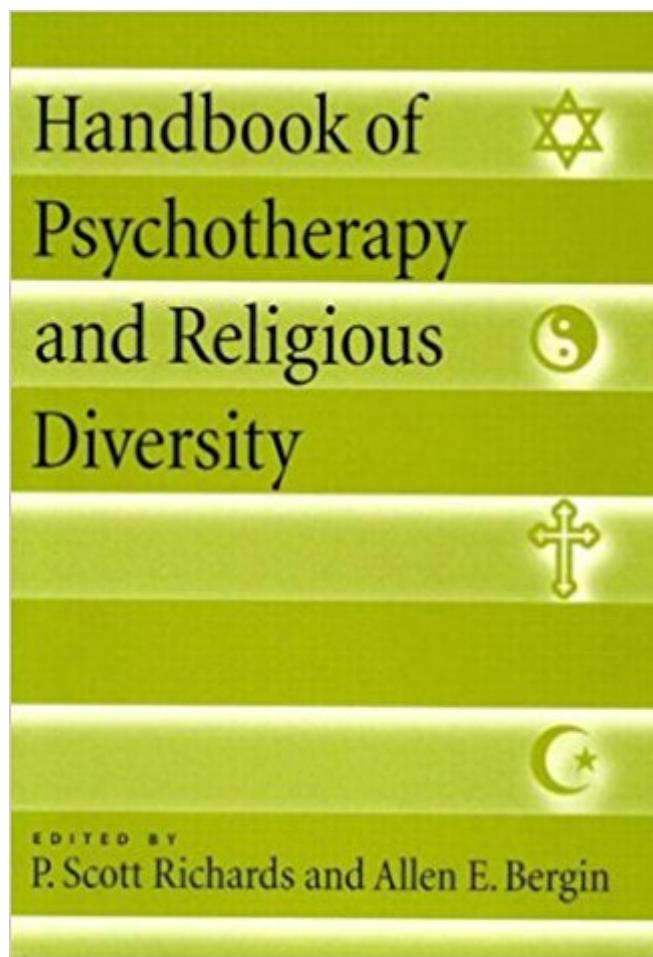


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# Handbook Of Psychotherapy And Religious Diversity



## **Synopsis**

A deep appreciation for the diversity of human spirituality informs this volume, which examines over two dozen religious traditions in the context of clinical practice. Knowledge of religious diversity, now considered part of multicultural competency in the mental health professions, is particularly crucial when the client's faith differs from one's own. This book provides readers with the information needed to increase their competency in working sensitively with members of each of the major faith communities in North America. Chapter authors, each accomplished clinicians and active in the religions they describe, help the reader understand the unique history, beliefs, rituals and practices of the religion as well as commonly held views on such issues as divorce, homosexuality, birth control, abortion, suicide and euthanasia. Within the context of the particular faith, chapter authors describe the therapeutic, focusing on building relationships, assessment and diagnosis, and common clinical issues. By providing therapists with in-depth denominationally specific information and clinical guidelines, this book will help all psychotherapists more fully honour and make use of the unique religious beliefs and spiritual resources of their clients.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I say that this book gets five stars for two very simple reasons. 1. It's outstanding for academics who are doing research on anything remotely related to psychology of religion. Whether it's learning about how fundamentalist Christians tend to avoid psychotherapy, insights on how to effectively counsel other religions, or research on the effects of religion on subjective well being, it's in this book. It's almost like a meta-analysis of the entire topic. 2. It reads very easily and almost anyone

who reads at a college level can understand the research, ideas, and feedback from prominent psychologists. My only criticism of the book is that it seems to take kind of a "pro-religion" stance, but it still maintains a five star rating because the intro explains why the book does so. However, it cannot be ignored that there is plenty of contemporary research demonstrating that religion is not necessarily always good for the psychological well being of all people! Much of that research was missing from this text.

this book is a good general overview of many different religions in north america, including catholicism, many forms of protestantism (lutheran, methodist, episcopal, latter-day saints, seventh-day adventists, etc.), judaism, islam, buddhism, hinduism and native american religions. it is a collection of chapters written by different authors, many of whom are members in the religion they write about or are experts on the religion. this would be a useful clinical tool for any psychologist.

I had to order this for one of my classes. It was good information to see the differences, but I still would have to counsel people from my view, that Christ in a persons life is the only way to achieve complete healing of mental, emotional and spiritual issues in a person's life.

This book's insightful overviews of various religious populations are valuable references. As an Orthodox rabbi and PsyD student, I found Aaron Rabinowitz's chapter, "Psychotherapy with Orthodox Jews" to be a more clear and thorough treatment of the topic than any I have come across.

This is a very thorough and thoughtful book. It is also very accessible and easy to read. I would recommend it.

This was an extremely important reference book when I wrote "Spiritual Health Psychology" (ISBN: 0966841735). The authors present the pros and cons of using spiritual and religious interventions with patients in need. Therapists and religious counselors alike will benefit from reading this pioneering book.

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