



We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom

By Tisa Wenger

 Download

 Read Online

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger

For Native Americans, religious freedom has been an elusive goal. From nineteenth-century bans on indigenous ceremonial practices to twenty-first-century legal battles over sacred lands, peyote use, and hunting practices, the U.S. government has often acted as if Indian traditions were somehow not truly religious and therefore not eligible for the constitutional protections of the First Amendment. In this book, Tisa Wenger shows that cultural notions about what constitutes "religion" are crucial to public debates over religious freedom.

In the 1920s, Pueblo Indian leaders in New Mexico and a sympathetic coalition of non-Indian reformers successfully challenged government and missionary attempts to suppress Indian dances by convincing a skeptical public that these ceremonies counted as religion. This struggle for religious freedom forced the Pueblos to employ Euro-American notions of religion, a conceptual shift with complex consequences within Pueblo life. Long after the dance controversy, Wenger demonstrates, dominant concepts of religion and religious freedom have continued to marginalize indigenous traditions within the United States.

 [Download We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Danc ...pdf](#)

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom

By Tisa Wenger

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger

For Native Americans, religious freedom has been an elusive goal. From nineteenth-century bans on indigenous ceremonial practices to twenty-first-century legal battles over sacred lands, peyote use, and hunting practices, the U.S. government has often acted as if Indian traditions were somehow not truly religious and therefore not eligible for the constitutional protections of the First Amendment. In this book, Tisa Wenger shows that cultural notions about what constitutes "religion" are crucial to public debates over religious freedom.

In the 1920s, Pueblo Indian leaders in New Mexico and a sympathetic coalition of non-Indian reformers successfully challenged government and missionary attempts to suppress Indian dances by convincing a skeptical public that these ceremonies counted as religion. This struggle for religious freedom forced the Pueblos to employ Euro-American notions of religion, a conceptual shift with complex consequences within Pueblo life. Long after the dance controversy, Wenger demonstrates, dominant concepts of religion and religious freedom have continued to marginalize indigenous traditions within the United States.

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger Bibliography

- Rank: #129126 in Books
- Brand: Brand: The University of North Carolina Press
- Published on: 2009-05-01
- Released on: 2009-05-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x .89" w x 6.10" l, 1.15 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 360 pages

 [Download We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Danc ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger

Editorial Review

Review

While [Wenger's] rich history of the intersection of Pueblo customs and American law will doubtless be useful for those within American Indian studies, her historically routed mediations on the category of religion makes this book essential reading for everyone who studies American religions, and arguably many others in religious studies as well. Wenger's meticulously researched and theoretically sophisticated work is exceptional in any number of ways. . . . So often, books engage well with either theoretical ideas or with detailed historical work. Wenger is able to do both.--*Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies*

A stellar display of original archival research and conceptual nuance. . . . A masterpiece of exposition and interpretation. Very highly recommended.--*Choice*

This is a work of exemplary archival research and conceptual nuance. I cannot overstate the importance of the insights Wenger provides for our understanding of the concepts of religion and religious freedom for Native Americans today.--*Journal of Arizona History*

Well-researched and eminently readable. . . . This rich book is highly recommended. . . . Copious endnotes and a serviceable index increase the scholarly value of the book.--*Western Historical Quarterly*

Well-researched and intelligent. . . . Offers a compelling cultural history. . . . This approach to discourse of religion serves up a rich helping of analysis for religious studies and cultural and intellectual history.--*Journal of Religion*

The reader is provided with an overview of various perspectives . . . which Wenger shares from her extensive research in archives across the nation. . . . [Wenger's] analysis offers Indigenous scholars a vehicle for navigating the confluence between 'documented' history and narratives of oral tradition.--*American Indian Quarterly*

Groundbreaking and important. . . . A seminal study of American Indian affairs in the early twentieth century recommended for all libraries and academic programs in which modern Native American and indigenous religious issues are discussed.--*American Historical Review*

Review

An absolutely terrific book. . . . Deserves a symposium session all its own, with multiple native and non-native commentators and discussants. Wenger identifies a categorical shift in how both Indians and non-Indians talk about Native American belief systems . . . and really provides the foundation for another way to look at the discourse about American Indian 'sacredness' thereafter. I shall be recommending it everywhere.--Peter Nabokov, University of California, Los Angeles; author of *Where the Lightning Strikes: The Lives of American Indian Sacred Places*

Although the debate is not well remembered today, the Pueblo Dances affair is one of the most important legal and political conflicts over religious freedom in American history. In this well-researched study, Tisa Wenger does a fine job of describing the affair and vividly highlights the cast of activists on both sides.--Philip Jenkins, author of *Dream Catchers: How Mainstream America Discovered Native Spirituality*

Wenger's book makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the strange career of 'religion' by doing a superb and unmatched job of recovering the full complexity of how that idea related to the Puebloan dance controversy.--Joel Martin, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

About the Author

Tisa Wenger is assistant professor of American religious history at Yale University.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Tibbs:

In this 21st century, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a e-book your ability to survive improve then having chance to stand up than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading the book, we give you this specific We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom book as beginner and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Dave Thomas:

Here thing why this We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom are different and trusted to be yours. First of all looking at a book is good however it depends in the content of the usb ports which is the content is as scrumptious as food or not. We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any guide out there but there is no publication that similar with We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your eyes about the thing that will happened in the world which is maybe can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in park your car,

café, or even in your means home by train. If you are having difficulties in bringing the imprinted book maybe the form of We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom in e-book can be your alternative.

Aaron Eldred:

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom can be one of your nice books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom but doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information could drawn you into new stage of crucial thinking.

Lavonne Yates:

Do you like reading a e-book? Confuse to looking for your favorite book? Or your book has been rare? Why so many issue for the book? But any kind of people feel that they enjoy regarding reading. Some people likes examining, not only science book but in addition novel and We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom as well as others sources were given information for you. After you know how the great a book, you feel need to read more and more. Science publication was created for teacher or students especially. Those ebooks are helping them to increase their knowledge. In some other case, beside science guide, any other book likes We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom to make your spare time a lot more colorful. Many types of book like here.

Download and Read Online We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger #DY7WZE503HV

Read We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger for online ebook

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger books to read online.

Online We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger ebook PDF download

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger Doc

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger Mobipocket

We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom By Tisa Wenger EPub