

# International Association for the Psychology of Religion

Announcements



Research



Conferences



*The International Association for the Psychology of Religion (IAPR) is an international organization promoting the scientific research and exchange within the field of the psychology of religion. The Association is not partial to any particular trend but aspires to provide a platform for the entire spectrum of the scientific-psychological study of religion for psychologists of religion from all over the world.*

Website: [www.iaprweb.org](http://www.iaprweb.org)

**Become a member or renew your membership :**

<http://www.iaprweb.org/membership.html>

Benefits of membership:

1. Regular membership with the IAPR includes the subscription to the *Archive for the Psychology of Religion*. For regular members, print and online version are free.
2. Members of the IAPR pay reduced conference fees for the organization's conferences.
3. IAPR members receive special discounts for their subscriptions to:
  - a) The *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*: \$43/£26/€34 instead of \$62/£37/€49.
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4. IAPR members receive the Association's e-mail newsletters which keep you in touch with the scientific community and inform you about conferences, job advertisements, funding opportunities, key publications, and the Association's latest developments and activities.

## Announcements



Dear IAPR members,

If you would like to add information in future newsletters please e-mail me the text. This may concern general announcements, conferences (future and report from past ones), job opportunities, key publications, or any other information you think IAPR members might be interested in.

If you are an early career researcher (PhD student or postdoc) and would like to see your work featured in the newsletter, contact me also.

Thank you,

Valerie van Mulukom  
*Editor of the IAPR newsletter*

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## The Cognitive Science of Religion

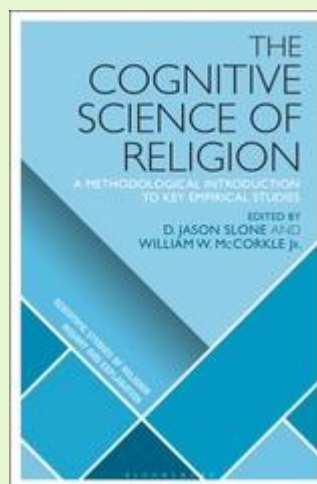
*A Methodological Introduction to Key Empirical Studies*

Editor(s): D. Jason Slone, William W. McCorkle Jr.

*The Cognitive Science of Religion* introduces students to key empirical studies conducted over the past 25 years in this new and rapidly expanding field. In these studies, cognitive scientists of religion have applied the theories, findings and research tools of the cognitive sciences to understanding religious thought, behaviour and social dynamics. Each chapter is written by a leading international scholar, and summarizes in non-technical language the original empirical study conducted by the scholar. No prior or statistical knowledge is presumed, and studies included range from the classic to the more recent and innovative cases.

Students will learn about the theories that cognitive scientists have employed to explain recurrent features of religiosity across cultures and historical eras, how scholars have tested those theories, and what the results of those tests have revealed and suggest. Written to be accessible to undergraduates, this provides a much-needed survey of empirical studies in the cognitive science of religion.

Published: 10-01-2019  
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 Series: Scientific Studies of Religion:  
 Inquiry and Explanation  
 Dimensions: 234 x 156 mm



### More information / order:

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/the-cognitive-science-of-religion-9781350033689/>

## Research profile



### Research profile: Maxinne Connolly



My name is Maxinne Connolly. I am currently in the final year of my PhD at Glasgow University under the supervision of Dr. Georgina Wardle and Prof. Stephen McKinney. Originally from South Africa, I completed a BA (Hons) in Psychology at the University of the Witwatersrand before moving to Glasgow.

My research focuses on the psychological underpinnings of religious conversion. In particular, my research illuminates the conversion experiences of Iranian migrants, who have converted from Islam to Christianity.

My research was inspired by the recently reported mass conversions, from Islam to Christianity, among migrants from the Middle East and Iran in particular. I have conducted deep, immersive, longitudinal field work among an Iranian migrant Christian community here in Glasgow. My research positions the conversions within a psychological perspective, through meaning systems and terror management theory.

Broadly speaking, I am interested in the causes and effects of religious experiences on the individual within their cultural contexts. I would like to investigate the constructions and interpretations of religious experiences across a variety of cultures. I aim to conduct further research into religious conversion and syncretism, particularly among non-western communities.

I also aim to develop a Psychology of Religion course in Scotland to support the growth of this field within the United Kingdom. Please feel free to get in contact should you have any ideas for collaboration or advice:

[m.connolly.1@research.gla.ac.uk](mailto:m.connolly.1@research.gla.ac.uk)

All the very best, Maxinne



## Children's drawings of gods: an interdisciplinary approach

*International workshop*

**Location:** University of Lausanne, Switzerland

**Date:** 24-25 May 2018

The concept of god, at least in some religious traditions, is one of the most difficult concepts to grasp, and presupposes a long evolution in an individual. The interdisciplinary project "Drawings of gods: A multicultural and interdisciplinary approach to children's representations of supernatural agents" aims to demonstrate the richness of drawing as a method for studying representations of god in children and thus contribute to our understanding of this concept, its origins and its development. In this perspective, drawings from a variety of cultural and religious traditions (Switzerland, Japan, Russia, Iran, Brazil, Netherlands and so on) were collected and analysed by the project team and their partners from different countries.

The purpose of this workshop is to bring together these researchers with the objective on one side of sharing the results of their research, and on the other side critically examining the contributions and limitations of this methodology, which deals with research conducted with children. It is also an opportunity to launch a discussion on new research avenues to study this material and especially to reflect on the new empirical and theoretical perspectives within the broader framework of the study of this concept.

More information: <https://www.unil.ch/issr/home/menuinst/colloques-et-conferences/colloques-et-conferences/2018/childrens-drawings-of-gods.html>

