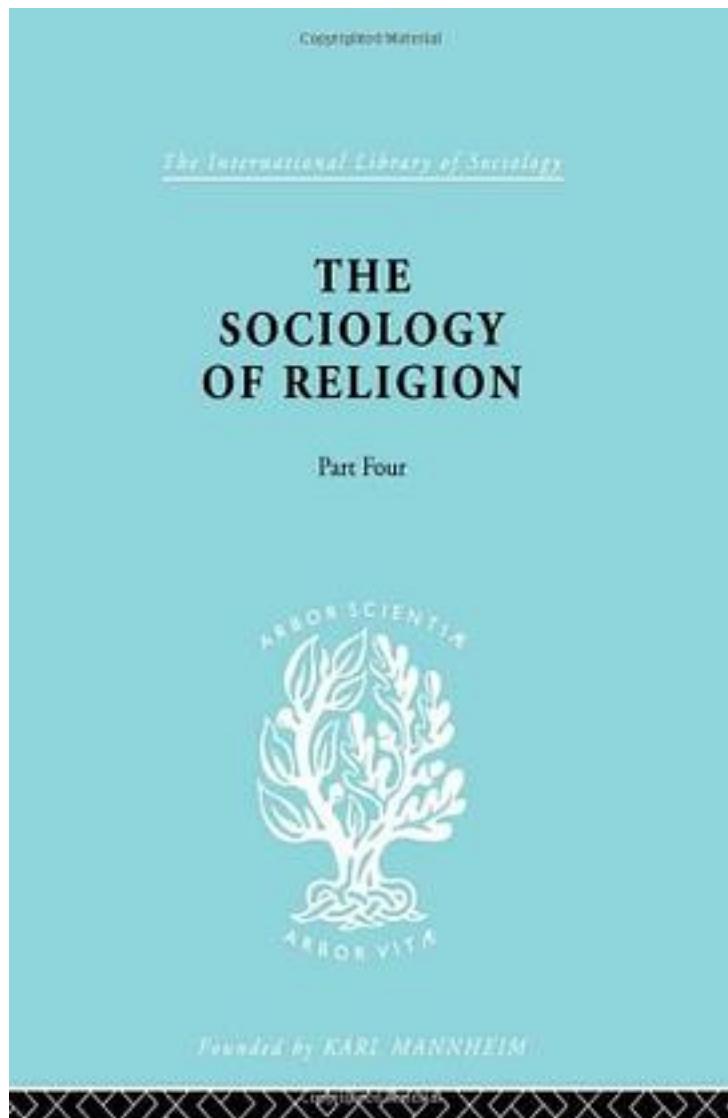


The Sociology of Religion



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著者:Grace Davie

出版者:SAGE Publications Ltd

出版时间:2007-4-30

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780761948926

'Grace Davie is one of the best analysts of religion in contemporary sociology. This book caps a distinguished record of studies of religion - first of Britain, then of Europe, then globally. This is a magisterial work, which should be read by anyone interested in the place of religion in the modern world' -Peter L. Berger, Boston University 'This book offers both an expert survey of contemporary sociology of religion and the personal reflections of one of the leading scholars in the field. Grace Davie is a good model for students and their teachers: she is clear, engaging and fair minded but unafraid to express a point of view' -David Voas, University of Manchester Why is religion still important? Can we be fully modern and fully religious? The Sociology of Religion works at two levels. First it sets out the agenda - covering the key questions in the sociology of religion today. At the same time, it interrogates this agenda - asking if the sociology of religion, as we currently know it, is 'fit for purpose'. If not, what is to be done? This book: "describes the origins of the sociology of religion" demystifies secularization as a process and a theory "relates religion to modern social theory" unpacks the meaning of religion in relation to modernity and globalization "grasps the methodological challenges in the field" provides a comparative perspective for religions in the west "introduces questions of minorities and margins" sets out a critical agenda for debate and research. In a single volume, Grace Davie captures the nature and forms of modern religion, the current debates in the field and the prospects for future development.

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