

# Race and the Rise of the Religious Right

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In recent years, the Religious Right has emerged as a powerful force in American politics. But how did this movement come to be? And what is its relationship to race?



## Bad Faith: Race and the Rise of the Religious Right

by Randall Balmer

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1857 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 91 pages



In his groundbreaking book, *Race and the Rise of the Religious Right*, Kevin Kruse argues that the Religious Right is not simply a product of religious revivalism. Rather, it is a product of white backlash to the Civil Rights Movement and the rise of black political power.

Kruse shows how, in the wake of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, white Southern politicians began to use racial appeals to win elections. These politicians argued that civil rights laws were a threat

to white supremacy and that black people were trying to take over the country.

These racial appeals resonated with many white voters, particularly those who were feeling anxious about the changing racial landscape of America. As a result, white voters began to flock to the Republican Party, which was seen as the party of white resistance.

The Republican Party, in turn, began to embrace the Religious Right. Religious leaders saw an opportunity to use their influence to further their own political goals, such as opposing abortion and gay rights. And Republican politicians saw an opportunity to use the Religious Right to mobilize white voters.

As a result of this alliance, the Religious Right has become a powerful force in American politics. The Religious Right has helped to shape the Republican Party's platform and has played a key role in electing Republican candidates to office.

Kruse's book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the past and present of American politics. *Race and the Rise of the Religious Right* is a powerful and insightful account of how race and religion have shaped the course of American history.

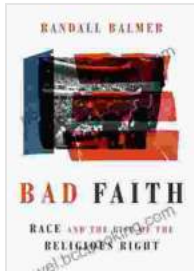
## **Reviews**

"A brilliant and groundbreaking work. Kruse has written the definitive account of the relationship between race and religion in American politics."

- **Eric Foner, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877***

"A must-read for anyone who wants to understand the rise of the Religious Right. Kruse's book is a powerful and insightful account of how race and religion have shaped the course of American history." - **Michael Kazin**, author of *The Populist Persuasion: An American History*

"A tour de force. Kruse has written the definitive account of the relationship between race and religion in American politics. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the past and present of American politics." - **Ira Katznelson**, author of *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*



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