

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910793683503321
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Titolo	America's religious wars : the embattled heart of our public life // Kathleen M. Sands
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, CT : , : Yale University Press, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	0-300-24537-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (347 pages)
Disciplina	970.980
Soggetti	Religion and politics - United States United States Religion History United States Politics and government United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Check Your Baggage Here -- Part I. Genealogies of Religion -- Part II. Religion against Religion -- Part III. The Religious against the Secular -- Conclusion: Heart Conditions -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	How American conflicts about religion have always symbolized our foundational political values When Americans fight about "religion," we are also fighting about our conflicting identities, interests, and commitments. Religion-talk has been a ready vehicle for these conflicts because it is built on enduring contradictions within our core political values. The Constitution treats religion as something to be confined behind a wall, but in public communications, the Framers treated religion as the foundation of the American republic. Ever since, Americans have translated disagreements on many other issues into an endless debate about the role of religion in our public life. Built around a set of compelling narratives-George Washington's battle with Quaker pacifists; the fight of Mormons and Catholics for equality with Protestants; Teddy Roosevelt's concept of land versus the Lakota's concept; the creation-evolution controversy; and the struggle over sexuality-this book shows how religion, throughout American history,

has symbolized, but never resolved, our deepest political questions.

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