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For The Emancipation of Muslim Women



No religion fears the emancipation of women to the degree that Islam does. The headscarf serves to maintain the traditional power structure. It symbolizes the power the men have over the women, and leads to self-control of women. But is the headscarf really a requirement of the religion or merely a by-product of the patriarchy? In 2017 Claudius published the heavily discussed debate book, "Reform of Islam". Now the author speaks in clear, easy to grasp terms, mainly to girls, mothers and educators, but also all people who are looking for good arguments in seeking a clear position on the subject of headscarves.

- **The new book from the pioneer of liberal Islam**
- **Theme for Debate: Why is the headscarf an expression of oppression and parallel society**

Abdel-Hakim Ourghi was born in Algeria in 1968. Since 2011, he has headed the Department of Islamic Theology and Religious Pedagogy at the *Freiburg School of Pedagogy*.

Abdel-Hakim Ourghi
You Do Not Need to Wear a Headscarf
Informing instead of concealing

144 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62821-8

Published September 2018

The Joy of Watching Others Suffer



Why do people film badly injured people instead of helping them? Why do millions of people spend hours playing make-believe war games on their computers? There seems to be an age-old need, a deep desire to watch people suffer and die- in the audience of the ancient colosseums of Rome, in front of the Guillotines of France, in Internet. Modern society, as enlightened and thoughtful as it may seem, has not overcome crudeness. It only administers or represses it. Ninety years after Sigmund Freud's famous treatise on "Civilization and Its Discontents", Peter Fischer and Eva Lerner analyse the connection between boredom, lack of empathy and destructiveness from a socio-psychological point of view.

- Exploring the causes of increasing aggression in today's society
- Intensive analysis: Where in the world did this desire for violence come from?

Peter Fischer occupies the Chair for Social Psychology at the *University of Regensburg*
Eva Lerner is a psychologist and sociologist. She researches and teaches at the *FOM University* in Munich and at the *University of Regensburg*. Her research focuses on risk behavior, decision making and positive psychology.

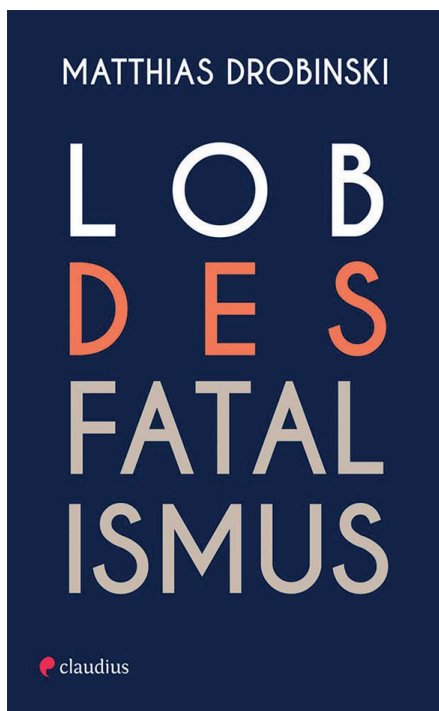
Peter Fischer / Eva Lerner
Discomfort in Times of Peace
The New Joy of Watching Others Suffer

160 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62825-6

Published November 2018

Fatalism is the new way of living



- **A mature attitude of resignation instead of self-optimization**
- **Inspiration to more coolness and serenity**

Fatalism has always had a bad reputation. Philosophers, theologians and politicians fought against it in the name of freedom of the will. Yet- it is time to rediscover fatalism – as a virtue, an attitude and as a possible way of mastering life. Modern man devotes himself totally to sovereignty and wants to force his will upon life, but fails regularly. Every plan has its limits when one is suddenly confronted with the unexpected. Bert Brecht testified to this.

Fatalism in contrast means serenity. There are so many things in the course of the world that we can't change – and we don't have to be able to change them. It makes much more sense, not to overestimate your own power and to pay tribute to the inevitable.

Matthias Drobinski, born in 1964, studied history, catholic theology and German literature and language. He's been writing for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* since 1997 and is the paper's editor for Religion and Church matters in Germany.

Matthias Drobinski
Praising Fatalism

132 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62811-9

Published March 2018

Rediscovering an ancient meditation path with children



Children are naturals in meditation: Observing, marveling, just being present and perceiving-many qualities, which have to be relearned slowly by adults on their search for inner peace. The experienced teacher of meditation Maike Schmauß has written a guideline for those who accompany and teach children the art of heart prayer. Step by step the author explains breathing exercises, contemplation games and imaginary journeys, which lead children to inner peace and to an encounter with nature and god. The book contains helpful tips on how to integrate a practice of meditation into the child's everyday life and gives detailed descriptions of various challenging meditation exercises.

- **Accompany children on their way to god**
- **Tested in practice with children**
- **Practical step by step manual for all age groups**

Maike Schmauß, born 1939, has been giving lectures and holding church services for many years. She teaches seminars at *Spirituelles Zentrum St. Martin* in Munich and at *Kloster Bernried*. She uses various methods in her work such as bibliology, meditation and body work, to give people impulses for their spirituality.

Maike Schmauß
Heart Prayer With Children.
The Practice book

120 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62824-9

Published September 2018

A gift book for those in grief: empathic and touching



This book is an empathetic companion in times of grief. It enables one to make the transition between unbearable grief over a loss, and learning to accept it and say yes to the present finding comfort and new hope. The combination of poetic language in the lyrical texts and the warm ambience in the photographs of Cemetery Island in Venice helps the reader feel a connection, allowing both grief and comfort at once. It is a book not only for those who have lost a loved one, but also for those who are conscious of the fact that we will all have to part someday.

- **A gift book for those in grief: empathic and touching**
- **Excellent quality with atmospheric photographs**

Elizabeta Karlstetter, born in 1958, is an author (previous book: Venice – So Close to the Sky) and freelance artist. She has shown her work in numerous exhibitions, two of them in Venice.

Georg Karlstetter, born 1954, is a sales representative in publishing. His passions are photography and music.

Elizabeta and Georg Karlstetter
Back To Life.
My Companion in Times of Grief

120 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62829-4

Published June 2018

What does it mean to be Christian in a digital world



Yuval Noah Harari, in his best-selling book, *Homo Deus*, predicted that immersion in the digital world will make human beings god-like, able to conquer death in the long run. Volker Jung, Bishop, in charge of Media presence in Germany, heartily disagrees. Especially now in a world in which the advancements in Genetics and Nanotechnology offer seemingly infinite possibilities, we must work to understand the finite properties of humans, and learn what separates us from machines and artificial intelligence. The prominent theologian campaigns for the emancipation of the human race from the unforeseen side-effects of an over-exaggerated turboevolution.

- **Current issue digitization: Clear perspectives for a technology which remains under control by humans**
- **The long awaited Christian answer to Yuval Noah Harari's bestseller *Homo Deus***

Volker Jung, born in 1960, got his post-doctorate in Theology and is president of the *protestant church in Hessen and Nassau*. His home office is in Darmstadt. He is chairman of the board of the *Protestant Association for Media Communication*, and Media Bishop of the Lutheran Church

Volker Jung
Staying Human in a Digital Age

136 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62826-3

Published September 2018

Point Of Dispute: Ecumenism



In times in which the major denominations speak more and more often with one voice, but ecumenical statements are hardly able to promote the public discourse, the Munich pastor Gerson Raabe asks the provocative question: Has Christianity become so defensive that we no longer want to know anything about differences? That the border can no longer be drawn between denominations, but between Christians and atheists. And he is convinced: Before Protestantism sinks into meaninglessness, it must remember its denominational background knowledge. And genuine ecumenism can only be an ecumenism of profiles.

- **For those readers who are critical of the ecumenism line of the Lutheran Church**
- **Debate Text for Catholics and Protestants**

Gerson Raabe, born 1960, studied theology and philosophy. He is the Minister at *Erlöserkirche* in Munich-Schwabing

Gerson Raabe
Ecumenism At Any Price?
A Protestant Interjection

176 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62822-5

Published September 2018

Answers today to everlasting questions



Does God exist? Do we have a free will? Is death the end? What is truth? Questions which have always occupied us and to which science has no satisfying answers. With humour and wit Ralf Frisch gives us answers we can understand to the big questions. He is saying it is ideology- the opposite of reason- to think that not believing in God is reasonable or even natural . He encourages his reader to practice transcendence and offers an elegant yet entertaining introduction into the basic questions of theology and philosophy in his book. A vade mecum for all those who feel that religion in general is exposed to a growing animosity, and christianity especially.

- **Why God is not a delusion:
An answer to Dawkins and co.**
- **A contemporary introduction
into the basic questions of
theology and philosophy**

Ralf Frisch, born 1968, is professor for Systematic Theology and Philosophy at *Evangelische Hochschule Nürnberg*

Ralf Frisch
Say goodbye to Atheism
Why what we see, isn't all there is

208 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62819-5

Published September 2018

The alphabet of friendship



Aristotle said no man can live without friendship. In today's world, where families live so far apart, and relationships are more and more difficult to maintain, friendship is increasingly crucial. But what exactly is a friendship? How many different types of friendship are there? How do you keep a friendship alive? The author answers all these questions, in a down-to-earth manner, based on his psychological insights. Luckily, friendship is something we can actually practice. Friends are a family we can choose ourselves.

- **Those who cultivate friendships live longer and healthier lives**
- **Why friendship becomes more and more important in today's society**

Bodo Karsten Unkelbach, born in 1969, is a specialist for psychiatry and psychotherapy. Since 2006 he is the head physician in the department of Addiction Medicine and Psychotherapy in the *Center for Mental Health* in Marienheide in Bergisches Land, in Germany.

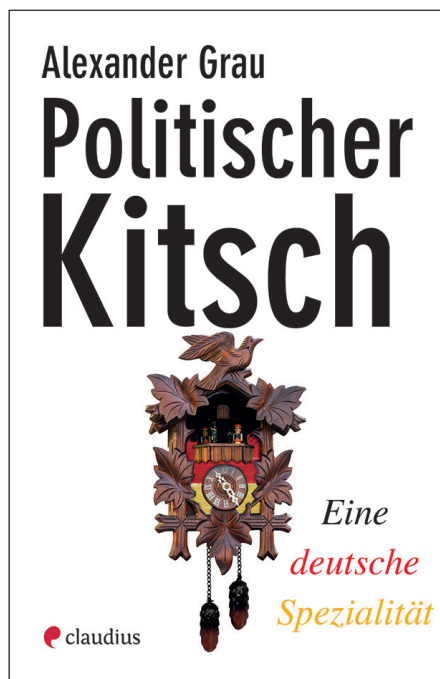
Bodo Karsten Unkelbach
Friendship
The path to a Good Life

160 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62828-7

Published March 2019

The axis of stupidity



Political kitsch is booming , in all political camps: Rhetoric of concern, protest vigils, expressions of solidarity . All in the name of diversity, humanity or decency. Sentimental catchphrases, glorified intensity of feelings, nostalgia for the „good old days“ and childishly staged events for the media are ruling public debate nowadays. Social debates are characterized by aggressive emotionalism and embarrassing political rituals. Empty phrases seem to be the preferred mode of discussion in Germany. The philosopher and publicist, Alexander Grau, discovers the reasons for the rampant growth of political kitsch and analyses the role it plays in today's social arguments.

- **Analysis of the German state of mind**
- **Plea for rational thinking in political debates**

Alexander Grau has a doctorate in philosophy and works as a freelance journalist for culture and science. For the political magazine Cicero he writes the highly acclaimed online column „Grauzone.“

Alexander Grau
Politischer Kitsch
A German Speciality

128 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62830-0

Published October 2019

To think is to transcend



- „Theological world-literature“ (DER SPIEGEL)
- Clear, encouraging thoughts in times of change

Jürgen Moltmann played a vital role in the mood of uprising in the 60's. Now he is raising his voice in a time when the need for security seems to take precedence over reform. But another world is possible. When hope rules our thoughts, to think is to transcend. Reality's solid shores are surrounded by dreams and possibilities. The personal conclusion of a theologian of great importance in these times: If you believe in God, you'll expect his gifts.

Jürgen Moltmann, born in 1926, studied Theology while a prisoner of war in England. After returning to Germany, he continued his studies in Göttingen. From 1967 to 1994 he was Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of Tübingen. Since then he has accepted numerous international guest professorships and been on lecture tours all over the world. With his *Theology of Hope* (1964) he has had more influence on today's Theology than almost anybody else, since 1945.

Jürgen Moltmann
Christian Renewal in difficult times
Christian Renewal in difficult times

128 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62831-7

Published January 2019

The spirituality of green Christianity



- **Rediscovery of an ancient, almost forgotten tradition**

Based on his experience with a very unconventional Irish priest, Dirk Grosser describes Celtic Christianity as a way to experience a real connection to the miracle of creation and to feel one's own faith as heartfelt reality.

In the inspiring encounters with the priest we can share the author's experience of a profound and vivid christianity, with an authentic relationship with the holy, believing that the world is basically good and inviting us all to the celebration at God's big table. A wonderful book, full of humor, while also introducing, with profound wisdom, an ancient and almost forgotten tradition, which still has a lot to tell us, even today.

Dirk Grosser, born in 1971, is the author of various books on nature-spiritual topics and the mystical branches of the world religions. In addition, he writes for various spiritual magazines, teaches seminars in meditation and counsels people who are having a spiritual crisis.

Dirk Grosser
God Goes Fishing On Sunday
The Wisdom of Celtic Christianity

208 pages

ISBN 978-3-532-62839-3

Published September 2019

The symbol of life



This cross can be a real pain in the back. Even some Christians find it a nuisance. They see it as a symbol of violence, and abuse, with a strong connection to an outdated concept of sin and victimization. It is time to take a new, closer look at the cross.

Nothing is so closely related to the human body. Standing up straight with our arms spread, we form a cross. If we cross our arms, there it is. The cross is at the center of life. In the cross the contrasts become obvious: Illness and healing, banishment and redemption, heaven and earth, life and death.

Uwe Wolff tells the real life story of the symbol of the cross, helping us to see the cross as a universal symbol, which everyone can connect to.

- **Thinking about the cross today**
- **Spiritually urgent call, existentially fundamental**

Uwe Wolff, born in 1955 is a writer and lives in Bad Salzdetfurth.

Uwe Wolff
The denial of the cross
Impulses for a debate long overdue
160 pages
ISBN 978-3-532-62846-1
Published October 2019