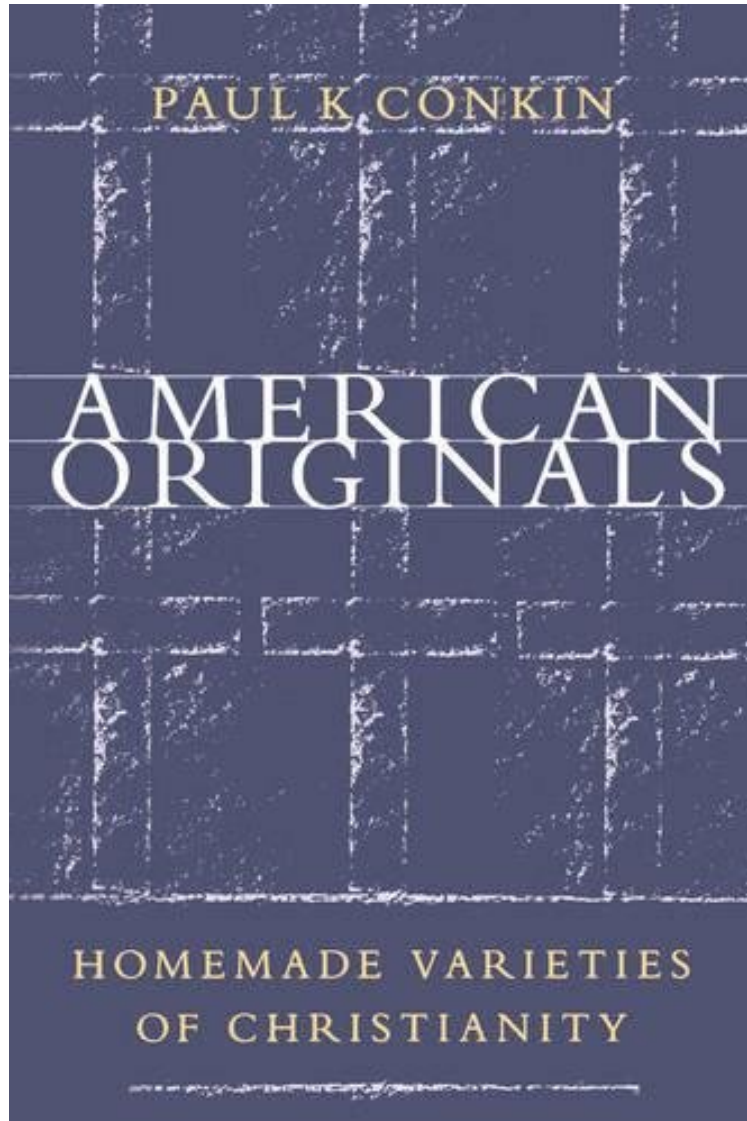


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American Originals: Homemade Varieties of Christianity

Paul K. Conkin

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Paul K. Conkin : American Originals: Homemade Varieties of Christianity before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Originals: Homemade Varieties of Christianity:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. One of the best Books you can buy on American forms of Christianity!By ProblackThis book was very enlightening and truly gives you an objective review of the 6 major forms of non-traditional or non-mainstream Christianity that was formed in this country mostly in the 19th century. I do feel that the author should do a revision to this book since some information is dated especially when it comes to info on

JW's and Mormons. However the book is very thoroughly research and shows great objectivity when considering each religion. I also believe people research the history of Christianity as a whole before judging any of these groups and their beliefs. I believe no one should join any group unless they understand the basics:- History- Leadership figures- Belief/Teachings- Organizational structure- Biblical accuracy- Plan for salvation

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. for more on Mormons I recommend my own book By Scott T This is an important narrative in contemporary Christian history. A must read for anyone confused about Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventist, Christian Scientist, Unitarians, and Mormons. Although, for more on Mormons I recommend my own book: 'Day of Defense: Positive Talking Points for the Latter Days,' which can be found here on .com. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book for someone interested in this topic By Danyelle Mulin Great book for someone interested in this topic. Mostly a matter of historical context than anything else, but very good.

In a work of striking breadth and clarity, Paul Conkin offers an even-handed and in-depth look at the major American-made forms of Christianity--a diverse group of religious traditions, each of which reflects a significant break from western Christian orthodoxy. Identifying six distinctive types, Conkin examines the major denominations representative of each original variety of American Christianity: restoration (Churches of Christ, Disciples of Christ); humanistic (Unitarians, Universalists); apocalyptic (Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses); Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints); spiritual (Christian Science, Unity); and ecstatic (Holiness and Pentecostal denominations). Focusing on the early years and maturation of these groups, he discusses their founders and leaders, origins and Old World roots, and essential doctrines and practices. Conkin closes each chapter with a guide to further reading. The first comprehensive survey of these American originals, this book will serve as a valuable resource on a number of religious traditions whose members not only comprise a significant percentage of the American population but also make up an increasing proportion of Christian converts worldwide.

From Library Journal The author (history, Vanderbilt Univ.) offers a history of the largest and most influential new or original forms of Christianity in the United States. He divides these by chronological cluster, defining the forms as restoration (Christian Disciples), humanistic (Unitarians Universalists), apocalyptic (Adventists Jehovah Witnesses), Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints), spiritual (Christian Science Unity), and ecstatic (Holiness Pentecostal Movements). In dealing with these distinctive types of Christianity, Conkin highlights new departures in basic doctrines and in practices. Respective chapters have been reviewed by Adventist, Restoration, and Mormon scholars, though Conkin is careful to point out that none fully agrees with his interpretations. Each chapter ends with a reading guide. Helpful for all readers who need a nonbiased account on these groups that are sometimes misrepresented in the public arena. Leroy Hommerding, Citrus Cty. Lib. System, Inverness, Fla. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. [U]p to date and useful. "Catholic Historical "[I]ts greatest value will be found in ConkinUs integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly"Up to date and useful. "Catholic Historical "The most comprehensive and insightful study of its kind on the market."Journal of Church and State"Its greatest value will be found in Conkins integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly"Explains so much about the foundations of our religious thinking and behavior that Americans ought to read it."Seventeenth-Century News"[T]he most comprehensive and insightful study of its kind on the market."Journal of Church and State"[I]ts greatest value will be found in Conkins integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly"[E]xplains so much about the foundations of our religious thinking and behavior that Americans ought to read it."Seventeenth-Century News"Helpful for all readers who need a nonbiased account on these groups that are sometimes misrepresented in the public arena."Library Journal"[I]ts greatest value will be found in Conkina[s] integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly"[I]ts greatest value will be found in Conkin_s integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly"[I]ts greatest value will be found in Conkin 's integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly"[I]ts greatest value will be found in Conkin s integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. "Georgia Historical Quarterly" A well-conceived work, suitable for reference or classroom use.--ChoiceAs the most comprehensive and insightful study of its kind on the market, American Originals should become required reading for students in undergraduate and graduate level classes in American religious history."Journal of Church and StateThis thoroughly excellent book explains so much about the foundations of our religious thinking and behavior that Americans ought to read it, not only for its profound insight into our common historical experience, but also for its enthusiasm, lucidity, and wit.--Seventeenth-Century NewsA volume of great value to anyone wishing to survey those distinctly American contributions to the evolvement of Christian diversity. . . . [This book] will be useful as an initial reference source for the student who seeks basic history and doctrinal exposition relative to any of these 'American Originals,' but its greatest value will be found in Conkin's integrative sweep of the movements and submovements. This is a study that provides far more than just a fact-based encyclopedic approach to religious leaders, theological doctrines, and behavioral variances: it engages the reader in an exploration that is analytically astute and thought provocative.--Georgia Historical QuarterlyAmerican Originals sheds

light on the background, origins, development, and distinctive theological views of the most successful 'new religious movements' in the United States derived from Christianity. Conkin's judgements are informed, incisive, independent, and at times intellectually provocative--a valuable reminder of the innovative contributions coming from the religious margins in America.--Stephen J. Stein, Indiana University
With great skill, Paul Conkin . . . plows this fertile soil of religious novelty in America. . . His careful 'reading guides' . . . are up to date and useful.--Catholic Historical The
incomparable Paul Conkin has provided us, once again, with an authoritative, analytically sophisticated, highly personal interpretation of a broad swath of American religious history. Anyone even remotely interested in the subject should read this volume, especially those with a taste for theology and definitional precision. This is a model of democratic intellectual history that takes seriously the ideas and practices of the common people as well as the elite.--John B. Boles, Rice University
Helpful for all readers who need a nonbiased account on these groups that are sometimes misrepresented in the public arena.--Library Journal