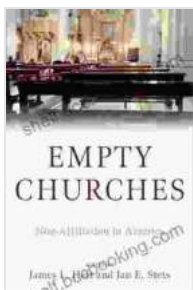


# Empty Churches: The Rise of Non-Affiliation in America

By David Campbell

In the early 21st century, the United States is experiencing a dramatic decline in religious affiliation. According to the Pew Research Center, the percentage of Americans who identify with a religion has fallen from 84% in 1990 to 70% in 2014. This trend is particularly pronounced among young people, with only 60% of Americans under the age of 30 identifying with a religion.

The decline of religious affiliation has been accompanied by a rise in the number of Americans who identify as non-affiliated. In 2014, 23% of Americans identified as non-affiliated, up from 16% in 1990. This group includes atheists, agnostics, and those who simply do not identify with any particular religion.



## Empty Churches: Non-Affiliation in America by Jan E. Stets

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 384 pages  
Lending : Enabled

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The rise of non-affiliation is a complex phenomenon with a variety of causes. Some of the most important factors include:

- **The increasing diversity of the American population.** The United States is becoming increasingly diverse, with more and more people coming from non-Christian backgrounds. This is leading to a decline in the Christian majority and a rise in the number of Americans who do not identify with any religion.
- **The secularization of American society.** American society is becoming increasingly secular, with less and less emphasis on religion in public life. This is leading to a decline in the social pressure to conform to religious norms.
- **The rise of individualism.** Americans are becoming more and more individualistic, with less and less emphasis on traditional institutions such as religion.

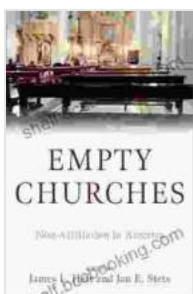
The rise of non-affiliation has a number of important implications for American society. First, it is leading to a decline in the influence of religion in public life. This is likely to have a significant impact on the way that Americans think about issues such as abortion, same-sex marriage, and the role of government in society.

Second, the rise of non-affiliation is leading to a more diverse religious landscape in the United States. This is likely to lead to a greater tolerance for religious diversity and a more open and inclusive society.

Finally, the rise of non-affiliation is leading to a redefinition of what it means to be American. For many Americans, religion has been a central part of

their identity. As the number of non-affiliated Americans grows, it is likely that Americans will begin to define themselves in new and different ways.

Empty Churches is a groundbreaking book that provides a comprehensive overview of the decline of religious affiliation in the United States. Author David Campbell draws on extensive research to provide a nuanced and insightful analysis of this important trend. Empty Churches is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the changing religious landscape of America.



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