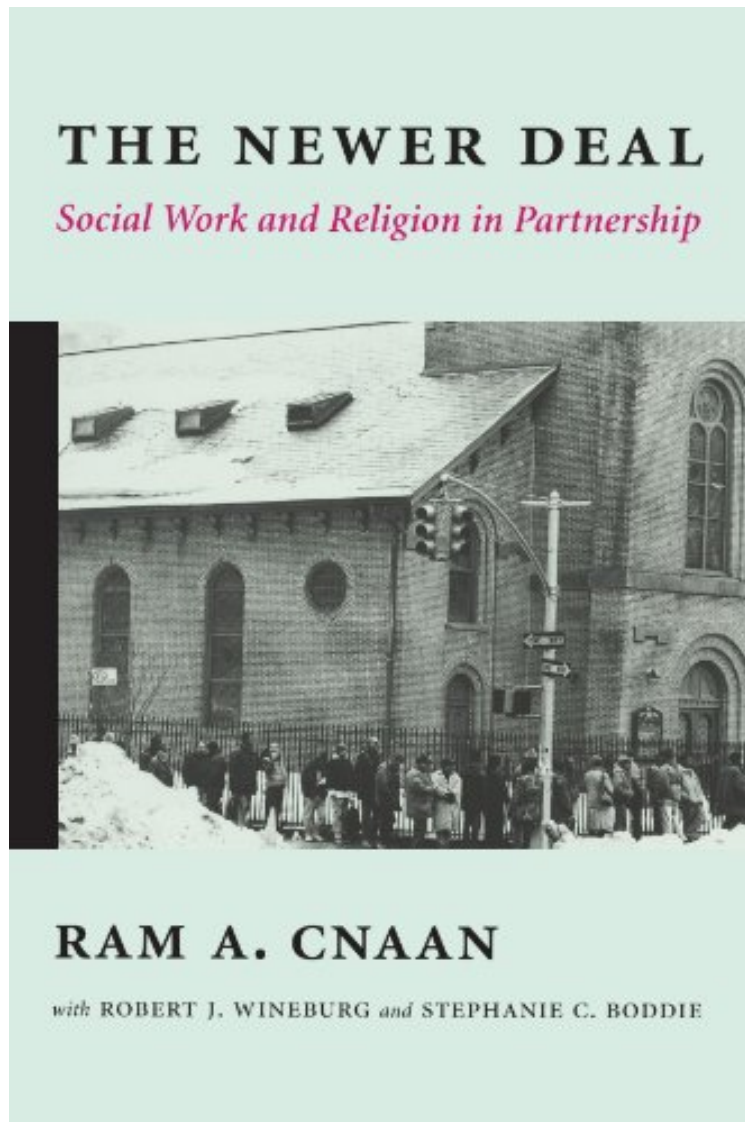


(Mobile book) The Newer Deal: Social Work and Religion in Partnership

The Newer Deal: Social Work and Religion in Partnership

Ram A. Cnaan, Robert J. Wineburg, Stephanie C. Boddie
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Ram A. Cnaan, Robert J. Wineburg, Stephanie C. Boddie : The Newer Deal: Social Work and Religion in Partnership before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Newer Deal: Social Work and Religion in Partnership:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An engaging overview of an important topic By K. From I recently read this book as part of a class on the intersection of religion and social work. Not a topic traditionally dicussed in our graduate schools of social work, it will grow dramatically in importance as the way social services are provided to people in need. The book begins by defining the meaning of religiously based social work. Various entites can provide

social services in a religious setting, among them local congregations, interfaith agencies, national projects such as Habitat for Humanity and sectarian agencies like Catholic Social Services, relief organizations, and religiously affiliated international organizations. The book details the purposes each of these types of organizations serve, and discusses the role that they play in the provision of social services. Part two of the book discusses the theological bases and the historical emphases on religion in social work. It reflects upon the fact that many social services started out as religiously affiliated agencies, but as social work became a profession rather than a beneficent activity, the rift between social work and religion began to grow. The authors discuss how infrequently religion arises today in the professional educational activities of social workers, such as MSW programs and professional conferences. The book then discusses the religiously based social services provided in two locales: Philadelphia and Greensboro. The examination of religiously-based services in two areas can serve as a jumping-off point for how other locales examine their provision of services. The intersection of religion and social work is sure to grow in importance as the federal government continues devolving responsibility for social programs to state and local government, and permits more involvement by religiously affiliated agencies. *The Newer Deal* is an excellent book to consider both the good and bad aspects of this fundamental change in social work.

As the federal system of entitlements and social services long provided by New Dealera programs is dismantled and shifted to the states, the religious community finds itself relied upon more than ever to assist with social services for the needy. *The Newer Deal* calls upon religious-based organizations and the social worksocial service community to put aside their differences and forge a "limited partnership" to provide the social and welfare services that millions depend on. The proposed partnership focuses on joint care for those in needwith attention to services for people of color, gays and lesbians, women, and programs for community empowerment and economic developmentwhile maintaining the values and other interests each partner traditionally holds. The authors discuss different types of religious-based social services and draw on case examples and research findings to show how the religious community's role in providing social services is stronger than ever. They examine the relationship between the religious and the social worksocial service communities, as well as the issues that have divided the two, and explain the ways in which concern for the poor is integral to the major faith groups.

"A clear-headed and valuable book on the complex connections between religion and social work, one that is essential reading not just for social work professionals but for anyone interested in this subject." -- Mark Chaves, "Sociology of Religion"
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About the Author
Ram A. Cnaan is an associate professor of social work at the University of Pennsylvania and has published over two hundred articles in social work, psychology, and sociology journals on the topics of religion and social work, administration, and community organization. He is the director of the Program for the Study of Organized Religion and Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work. He has also coedited *The Impact of Information Technology on Social Work Practice*.