

Righteous Rhetoric: Sex, Speech, and the New Christian Right

A free public lecture with Dr. Leslie Dorrough Smith

Thursday, October 3 at 7:00 pm in Meyer Library 101



Brendan Hoffman, New York Times

Scholars who study the New Christian Right (NCR) often claim that the movement's distinction lies in its absolutist theologies, religious fervor, and embrace of seemingly anti-modernist platforms. In this presentation, Dr. Leslie Dorrough Smith (Avila University, Kansas City) considers how changing the way that we look at religion may help create new models for thinking about the intersection between religion and American political life. Through a discussion of the rhetoric produced by one of the nation's most prominent conservative Christian women's organizations, Concerned Women for America (CWA), she will discuss how the power of such organizations actually lies in a series of sophisticated rhetorical strategies that, although highly effective, are also surprisingly mundane.

This free public lecture is sponsored by Missouri State University's Department of Religious Studies and the College of Humanities and Public Affairs.