

Queer Faith: Marginalization, Citizenship, and Nationhood

La foi et le queer : marginalisation, citoyenneté et nationalisme en contexte minoritaire

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Queer people who are members of minority religious groups must often navigate marginalizations from multiple angles. Those perceived as members of minority religious groups face an increasing wave of bigotry, manifested in the transnational right wing's string of victories in recent years. For example, in the West, a racialized Muslim, immigrant other has been central to the justification of extremist positions, such as Donald Trump's and Geert Wilders' proposed "Muslim bans" and Marine Le Pen's proposed moratorium on both illegal and legal immigration. The mainstreaming of racist, anti-immigrant discourses and policies in the political sphere has affected the everyday lives of visible religious minorities across the West.

In addition to race- and religion-based discrimination and violence, the marginalization of queer people in minority religious groups is often compounded by queerphobic rejection from their ethno-religious social groups and broader society. The pervasiveness of queerphobic attitudes in minority ethnic and religious communities—manifested recently in the highly publicized Birmingham protests against LGBT-inclusive education and the "Journées de retrait de l'école" strikes in France—makes it all the more difficult for queer members of these groups to navigate their seemingly competing identities. Moreover, religious and counter-normative gender and sexual identities are often specifically pitted against each other in both religious and political hegemonic national and transnational discourses.

With these issues in mind, this symposium aims to build upon recent developments in emerging literature on the intersection of queer and religious identities, with a particular focus on marginalization, citizenship, and the nation. Proposed papers may respond to the following questions, or other related areas of interest:

- How are queer minority religious identities constructed and negotiated? How might homonationalist and exclusionary narratives influence this process?
- How might different national understandings of citizenship shape subjectivities and feelings of belonging among queer people who are members of minority religious groups?
- How might religion and queerness interact and shape one another in minority contexts?
- How do national ideals of multiculturalism and secularism determine who can publicly *speak for* minority religious communities, queer communities, and those with intersecting identities?

We welcome submissions **in English or French**, from researchers of diverse disciplinary backgrounds studying queer and religious identities. Submissions should have a focus on marginalization, citizenship, othering, or the nation. There is no regional or temporal requirement.

Proposals should be submitted no later than **4 March 2020** to queerfaith.submissions@gmail.com. Submissions should include the title of your paper, your name and university affiliation, and an abstract of no more than 500 words.