

DANGEROUS IDEAS IN THE UNITED STATES

THE RESEARCH UNIT FOR THE HISTORY OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC IDEAS HEREBY INVITES ALL TO JOINS US FOR TWO PUBLIC LECTURES

Time: Monday May 29th; 1415-1600. Venue: 1467-515. No registration required.





The mid-twentieth-century political scientist Louis Hartz forcefully argued that liberalism was the only political ideology that had taken hold in the United States because American history, unlike European history, lacked a feudal past. This explains why American leftists have looked to Karl Marx since the late nineteenth century as a way to distinguish their political philosophy from the liberal tradition.

Andrew Hartman is a Professor of History at Illinois State University, was the Danish Fulbright Distinguished Chair of American Studies in 2013-14, and is the author, most recently, of A WAR FOR THE SOUL OF AMERICA: A HISTORY OF THE CULTURE WARS.





Raymond Haberski, Jr.: War in American Thought and Religion

War is American thought: it has helped shape American identity, found the nation, redefine freedom, build an empire, and test American exceptionalism. War is also an American religion. The nineteenth century witnessed an explosion of religion in American society and a dangerous intertwining of God and war. And while American religiosity changed significantly throughout the twentieth century, an American faith in war has offered a spiritual connection to a manufactured mythical past.

Raymond Haberski, Jr., is Professor of History and Director of American Studies at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. He is the author of five books, including God and War: American Civil Religion since 1945.