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Transnational Religious Connections

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Abstract

Globalization, defined as the increasing flow of people, information, goods, services, and other resources across national boundaries, is altering social contexts in ways that influence religious practices. Increasingly, religion is not only instantiated in local communities and national societies, but is also

linked with networks that span societal borders. Immigration is the most studied example. However, other flows of people and resources need to be considered, as do the transnational political and economic influences that shape religion. We review recent work in these disparate literatures and show how they point to the growing variety and importance of religious connections that span borders. We discuss evidence of the ways in which religious communities in the United States connect with people in other societies and consider these and other multilateral influences in parts of the Global South.

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