



University
of Victoria

Centre for Studies in
Religion and Society

SCHOLARS IN THE SQUARE



Kristen Cheney



“God is not a child protection policy”

Recognizing their damaging effects on children’s development, child protection systems around the world phased out orphanages in the 20th century. Yet, in the 21st century, orphanages have proliferated in many developing countries—many of them funded by faith-based organizations from the global North. As part of my research on the Orphan Industrial Complex, I delve deeper into faith-based dimensions of global orphan care, considering religious motivations that may run counter to established local and global child protection policy and practice.

Kristen Cheney’s research deals with the politics of international development and humanitarian intervention for children. She is the author of *Crying for Our Elders: African Orphanhood in the Age of HIV and AIDS*.

29 February 2024
5:00–6:00pm PT

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