



University
of Victoria



Sectarianism and the extreme-right: Québécois and Muslim identity in «La Meute»

Martin Geoffroy

Thursday, June 7

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Hickman Building, Room 116

“La Meute” (The Wolf Pack) is an extreme-right Quebec based group founded in 2015. In this lecture I will analyze recent La Meute discourse in press, tweets and internet posts in order to understand how the group redefines Quebec identity and justifies its extreme-right program. Of particular interest is the way in which La Meute reinterprets First Nations, Neo-pagan, and Christian spiritual traditions in order to develop a new cultural identity for Quebecers. The group’s writings, especially its hostile portrayals of Islam, reveal the currents of uncertainty and frustration that drive their exclusionary and populist message. I will look at the content and promotion of this right-wing ideology—including their criticism of “traditional media”—and compare it to other sectarian groups.

Dr. Martin Geoffroy is Professor in Sociology at Cégep Édouard-Montpetit in Longueuil, Québec. He studies religious fundamentalisms and the process of radicalization in Canada, the United States and France. He is currently working on a book about Catholic fundamentalism in Quebec. In 2016 he was awarded a SSHRC social innovation grant to form the Centre for Expertise and Training on Religious Fundamentalism and Radicalization (CEFIR).

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