



University
of Victoria



Disciples by Default: Growing Up in Alternative Religious Movements

Jessica Pratezina

Thursday, September 26

5:00-6:00 p.m.

David Turpin Building, Room A110

Growing up in alternative, often controversial, religions can leave a distinct impression on the identities of those raised in these communities. This experience can have particularly significant effects on a young person's sense of cultural and spiritual identity. In this lecture, I argue that these "alternative religion kids" might be thought of as a subculture with a shared sense of belonging and identity based on their experience as religious "others." Those raised in alternative religions may be able to connect and find community through a powerful, shared experience not paralleled with other peers.

Jessica Pratezina is a graduate student at the School of Child and Youth Care at the University of Victoria. Her research focuses on childhood religiosity and spiritual experiences, religious identity and belonging, faith transitions, and the intersection of child welfare and controversial religious groups.

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