

Gastvortrag

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With or Without You: Faith, Commitment, and the Religious Imagination

Mi., 04. 11. 2015, 18.00 Uhr s.t., Seminarraum VI (Karl-Rahner-Platz 3)

The relationship between commitment and doubt is by no means an antagonistic one. Commitment is healthiest when it is not without doubt, but in spite of doubt. – Rollo May

There has been a recent movement in Analytic Philosophy of Religion toward so-called "non-doxastic" accounts of religious faith. Such accounts attempt to make faith compatible with degrees of doubt (or "non-belief"). However, these models of faith tend to rule out both complete certitude and all-out disbelief. I this talk, I attempt to defend an alternative model of religious faith – one which decentralizes the epistemic role of belief in faith and focuses instead on the volitional aspect of commitment. As a substitute for the cognitive element of faith, I focus on the role that the imagination (necessarily) plays in the religious life, and I argue that imaginative engagement with religious propositions and concepts is sufficient to give rise to the affective states and actions relevant to religious faith.

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research areas include Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Action and Emotion, and Philosophy of Sport. Her current research focuses primarily on the nature of religious faith and experience, though she is also engaged in projects on the spiritual senses, character development in interreligious contexts, divine hiddenness and action, and self-deception.