



## SIN, SEX, AND DEMOCRACY

### Antigay Rhetoric and the Christian Right

CYNTHIA BURACK

*Explores the Christian Right's use of tailored rhetorics to advance multiple and varied antigay political projects.*

While the Christian Right has spearheaded a variety of antigay projects over the past fifteen years, including interventions in public schools, antigay-rights initiatives, and support for a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, observers of the institutionalized Christian Right have also noted a softening of antigay public rhetoric. *Sin, Sex, and Democracy* analyzes these two ostensibly conflicting phenomena. Examining Christian witnessing tracts, the ex-gay movement, and recent linkages between gays and terrorists, Cynthia Burack argues that as the Christian Right has become a more sophisticated interest group, leaders have become adept at tailoring different messages for mainstream audiences and for the internal pedagogical processes of Christian conservatives. Understanding the rhetoric and the theological convictions that lie behind them, Burack claims, is essential to better understand how American politics work and how to effectively respond to exclusionary forms of political thought and practice.

"This book offers a meticulously detailed account of the way in which antigay discourse is constructed and employed by the Christian Right and those closely associated with it. It is a topic of significance and central to the academic study of politics and cultural practice of politics, particularly in the United States."  
—Angelia R. Wilson, author of *Below the Belt: Sexuality, Religion, and the American South*

"The appeal of this book is the niche it fills: at a time when critics take well-worn and cheap shots at the Christian Right ill fitting the seriousness of the times, this author demands that critics take the Christian Right seriously, not only politically, but theologically."  
—Amy E. Ansell, editor of *Unraveling the Right: The New Conservatism in American Thought and Politics*

**CYNTHIA BURACK** is Associate Professor of Women's Studies at the Ohio State University. She is the author of *Healing Identities: Black Feminist Thought and the Politics of Groups*.

A volume in the SUNY series in Queer Politics and Cultures  
Cynthia Burack and Jyl J. Josephson, editors

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## QUEER YOUTH CULTURES

SUSAN DRIVER, EDITOR

*Essays explore the contemporary contexts, activism, and cultural productions of queer youth and their communities.*

Engaging a wide range of cultural practices, including zine-making, drag performance, online chatting, music, gay porn, and organizing resistance, the essays in Susan Driver's

*Queer Youth Cultures* explore the creative, political, energetic, and artistic worlds of contemporary queer youth. The research in this collection bridges the perspectives of academics and queer youth, and the voices of the youth resonate throughout the analyses of their communities and lives. Through a variety of methodological approaches, the contributors bring into focus the institutional regulations of youth sexuality and gender, the complex and changing embodied experiences of queer youth, and the visual and textual languages through which the experiences of the youth are represented. Rather than seeing queer youth as victims, contributors celebrate the creative ways that sexual and gender minority youth forge subcultures and challenge exclusionary and heteronormative ways of understanding young people.

"This book begins with the premise that queer youth are not pathologized, can and do exercise agency, and are legitimate actors in the public sphere. I am extremely pleased to see a book that successfully integrates transgender youth, politics, and culture as these topics have been sorely missing in ostensibly LGBT work."  
—Susan Talburt, Director, Women's Studies Institute, Georgia State University

**SUSAN DRIVER** is Assistant Professor of Social Sciences at York University and the author of *Queer Girls and Popular Culture: Reading, Resisting, and Creating Media*.

A volume in the SUNY series, INTERRUPTIONS:  
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Henry A. Giroux, editor

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### CONTRIBUTORS

Cass Bird  
Brooklyn, NY  
Megan Davidson  
Brooklyn, NY  
Cristyn Davies  
U. of Western Sydney,  
Penrith South DC, Australia  
Susan Driver  
York U., Toronto, Canada  
Andil Gosine  
York U., Toronto, Canada  
Judith Halberstam  
USC  
Valerie Harwood  
U. of Wollongong, Australia  
Anna Hickey-Moody  
Monash U., Clayton, Australia  
Mark Lipton  
U. of Guelph, Canada  
Ziyah D. Markson  
Peterborough, Canada  
David McInnes  
U. of Western Sydney,  
Penrith South DC, Australia  
Mary Louise Rasmussen  
Monash U., Clayton, Australia  
Jackie Regales  
Baltimore, MD  
Melissa Rigney  
Omaha, NE  
Neal Ritchie  
Carrboro, NC  
Jama Shelton  
Brooklyn, NY  
Zeb J. Tortorici  
Carlsbad, CA  
Angela Wilson  
Montreal, Canada