Morals Not Knowledge

John H. Evans

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abortion, 135, 141, 151
academia: specialization within, 60. See also schools
academic debate, 8, 17; implications for, 163–64. See also advocates; analysts
advocates, 13, 16–43, 61–62. See also scientists; theologians
African Americans: civil rights movement, 95, 191n39; Protestants, 95, 123, 139, 191–92n39, 198n15; Tuskegee syphilis study, 113
age of the Earth, 5; belief and knowledge about, 7, 9; Catholics and, 89; conservative Protestants and, 92–96, 160, 163; fundamentalist Protestants and, 6, 23, 64–65, 92–96; lack of coherence in beliefs about, 98–99; theological synthesizers and, 28
Allum, Nick, 175n7
American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), 19, 36–40
American Civil Liberties Union, 78
American Scientific Affiliation, 38, 40
analysts: academic, 13–14, 44–62. See also historians; sociologists
angels, belief in, 106–7
Anglicans, 45, 47, 104–5
anthropology, 58
Are Science & Religion at War?, 161
Arizona, sterilization laws, 80
Armageddon, 4
assisted dying, 24
atheists, 121, 161; new, 64–65, 72, 176n23; scientist, 10, 13, 21–25, 39–40, 43, 57
Atkins, Peter, 25
Augustine, St., 21, 40, 89, 190n4
avoidance: of appearance of knowledge conflict, 100–101; of science, 52, 121–22, 136, 147
Baconian science, 90–93, 131–34, 136
Ball, Jim, 4–5
Barbour, Ian, 28–31, 36, 94, 162, 177–78n35
BBC, Orphan Black, 112–14
belief, 7, 108; in angels, 106–7. See also faith/confidence
belief systems, 7–9, 108, 174n11; conservative Protestants’ educational attainment and, 54; logical consistency, 96–97, 118, 174n12; religions as, 17, 111. See also propositional belief conflict
Benedict XVI, Pope, 89
Berg, Paul, 76
Berger, Peter, 50, 65, 103–4
Beyerlein, Kraig, 55
Bible, 21, 32, 33, 109; and age of the Earth, 9, 95; BioLogos and, 34, 35; Catholic authority and, 88–89; common sense philosophy and, 91–93; conservative Protestants’ educational attainment and, 54–55; creation science based on, 81; evangelicals and, 40, 65, 94–95, 136; evolution vs., 92–93, 134; fundamentalist Protestants and, 43, 64–65, 92–96, 105;
Constitution, First Amendment Establishment Clause, 82–83
Copernicus, N., 1, 47
Cornwall Alliance, 4
Coyne, Jerry A., 23–25
creationism, 3, 12–13, 55, 77, 78–84, 162; creation science, 81–83, 162; dictionary, 91; evolutionary, 34–35; geocentrist and, 132; intelligent design (ID), 20–21, 25, 77, 83–84, 89, 132–33, 136; Muslims and, 187n49, 199n27; status politics and, 135; Young Earth Creationism, 77, 78–83, 94, 120, 196–97n2
Crick, Francis, 25
Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 41
Darnell, Alfred, 183n40
Darrow, Clarence, 11
Darwin, Charles, 78–81, 174n12; Descent of Man, 78; The Origin of Species, 78
Darwinism, 1, 11–14, 29, 63–64, 77–84; African Americans and, 191–92n39; Anglicans and, 45, 104–5; atheists and, 25, 176n23; Baconian science and, 133; Catholics and, 89; Collins and, 21, 98; “evil fruits,” 82; historians and, 46, 47; Huxley vs. Wilberforce, 11, 174n18; materialist, 30, 83; moral conflict, 12–14, 77–85, 136; neo-Darwinism, 89; Protestants and, 3, 45, 55, 77, 92–93, 131–36, 139–41, 147–48, 162; Scopes trial, 11, 13, 78–83, 176n10, 191n39; social, 79; sociologists and, 49–50. See also evolution
Davis, Bernard, 71
dawn of, 77–78
dialogue: associations, 33–40, 42, 162; theological synthesizers and, 30, 31, 33, 36–37, 42, 162
Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion (DoSER), 36–40
diabetes, 75–76
embryoology, 145
embryonic stem cell research, 12, 15, 24, 74–76, 141–46, 148, 163, 178–79n51
Enlightenment, 56–60, 67, 93, 94, 160; Scottish, 92
environmental problems, 139
Epperson v. Arkansas, 82
“ether theory,” 46
eugenics, 73, 78–81, 112–13, 150, 155, 170
Eugenics Record Office, 80, 112–13
Europe: Muslims, 187n49, 199n27; secularization theory, 67, 68; sociology, 58–59, 61. See also Britain; Germany
euthanasia, 24
evangelicals, 90–96; and Bible, 40, 65, 94–95, 136; BioLogos and, 36; and doctrine, 105; DoSER and, 38–40; educational attainment, 55; Evangelical Environmental Network, 4–5; and evolution, 134, 135; and global warming, 126–27; National Association of Evangelicals, 38, 40; propositional belief conflict, 131; vs. Prosperity Gospel, 110–11; scientists, 21, 34–36, 38, 51; “symbolic boundary” with the secular United States, 135; Templeton, 41
Evans, Michael, 60, 168
evolution: African Americans and, 191–92n39; Bible vs., 92–93, 134; Catholics and, 89; cloning and, 112; collapse of doctrine and, 104–5; educational attainment and, 99; “evil fruits,” 82; evolutionary creationism, 34–35; Huxley vs. Wilberforce, 11, 174n18; logical coherence about, 99; moral conflict, 12–14, 77–85, 136; Muslims and, 187n49, 199n27; Protestants and, 3, 45, 55, 77, 92–93, 131–36, 139–41, 147–48, 162;
in schools, 6, 78, 80, 81, 141; scientific atheists and, 25, 176n3; "scientific evidence," 30; Scopes trial, 11, 13, 78–83, 176n10, 191n39; social, 89; sociologists and, 49–50; systemic knowledge conflict, 77–84, 178n51; theistic, 34–35; theological development on, 29. See also Darwinism

Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed, 84

faith/confidence, 199n6; in institutions, 15, 137, 147–50; in religion, 138–39; in science, 138–39, 147–50, 202n38. See also belief

faith healing, 24

Faith versus Fact (Coyne), 23–25

Fall, doctrine of, 104–5, 193n69

Fallmore, Charles and Myrtle, 41

"The Folly of Faith" (Stenger), 3–4

The Foundations of Dialogue in Science and Religion (McGrath), 32

Fox News, 4, 129

Frankenstein monster, 114

Franklin, Benjamin, 109

Frayling, Christopher, 115

Frazer, James, 58

Freudian psychology, 107

fundamentalism, 23. See also fundamentalist Protestants

fundamentalist Protestants, 90, 92–96; and age of the Earth, 6, 23, 64–65, 92–96; Baconian science, 92–93, 132–33; and Bible, 43, 64–65, 92–96, 105; BioLogos and, 35–36; creation science, 162; and doctrine, 105; educational attainment, 55; and evolution, 3; vs. liberal Protestants, 90, 94, 134; propositional belief conflict, 95, 134; scientific atheists and, 23, 43; truth, 53

Galileo Galilei, 1, 162; Catholic Church and, 16, 27, 64, 76, 189–90n4

Galton, Francis, 80

Garroutte, Eva, 90

Geertz, Clifford, 65, 66

gender, and religiosity, 123

General Social Survey (GSS), 120, 124 table, 128 table, 138, 140 table, 141–44, 149 table, 197n7

Genesis, 28, 40, 65, 94, 132, 134, 182–83n36

The Genesis Flood (Whitcomb and Morris), 81–82


geocentrists, 132

Germany, World War I, 13, 81

Gieryn, Thomas, 26


“Global Warming and Religion" (Stenger), 4

God: climate controlled by, 2–3; Enlightenment and, 57; existence of, 10, 22–23, 28, 57, 94; “The God Problem," 100–101; human genetic role, 155–58; humans made in image of, 94, 141; nonreligious belief in, 121; playing, 71, 145, 156; sociologists and, 57, 60; Templeton and, 41, 42; two books of, 35, 40, 91–92

The God Delusion (Dawkins), 22

Google searches, 161, 202n2

Gould, Steven J., 30, 36, 79, 94

Greeley, Andrew, 54

Guhin, Jeffrey, 135

Gusfield, Joseph, 135

“Habits of the Heart," 107

Hameed, Salman, 187n49

Harris, John, 73

Harrison, Peter: on new atheists, 72; on religion, 9, 17, 18; on religion and science, 9, 26, 49, 77

Hawking, Stephen, 27, 31

Haycraft, John, 80

Haynes, Roslynn, 115, 194–95n105

Hebrew Union College, 88

Hegel, G. W. F., 66

hermeneutics, biblical, 91, 95, 133–34

Hill, Jonathan, 196n12

historians, 13–14, 44–49, 62, 164; recent, 63, 69–86.

historical science, 132–33

history: natural, 17; recent, 63, 69–86; stages of, 58. See also historians

History of Science and Religion in the Western Tradition encyclopedia, 46–47, 177n28

A History of the Warfare of Science with Theology in Christendom (White), 1

Hitler, A., 84

Hollinger, David, 69–70

Holocaust, 81

horror movies, about scientists, 114

Hout, Michael, 54

Huffington Post: and climate change, 2, 24; on science vs. religion, 3, 4–5, 8, 8 fig. 161
human body, 146–47, 170–71; biomedical technologies, 76, 141; embryonic stem cell research, 12, 15, 24, 74–76, 141–46, 148, 163, 178–79n51; eugenics, 73, 78–81, 112–13, 150, 155, 170; human genome mapping, 34, 73; moral concerns with, 145–59; sexuality, 24, 78, 145, 146. See also genetic modification; reproduction

humanism, of public education, 183n40

Human Longevity, 73

human origins, 29, 95, 104–5, 127–36, 147–48; intelligent design (ID), 20–21, 25, 77, 83–84, 89, 132–33, 136. See also creationism; evolution

Hurlbut, J. Benjamin, 74–75, 76

Huxley, Aldous, 112

Huxley, Thomas Henry, 11, 47, 174n17

identity formation, conservative Protestants, 134–35, 136

ideology, 174n11; political conservatives, 96, 97, 126–29, 142. See also belief systems

Immigration Reform Act, U.S., 81

independence relationship, 30, 36, 94

individualism: of American culture, 94, 193n79; religious, 107–8; therapeutic, 108–11, 118

inductive science, 132–33

Inglehart, Ronald, 68

Inherit the Wind, 80

Inquisition, 76

institutions: AAAS, 36; faith/confidence in, 15, 137, 147–50. See also religion; science integration, of scientific and religious knowledge and values, 28–31

intellectual gospel, 69–70

intelligent design (ID), 20–21, 25, 77, 83–84, 89, 132–33, 136

Jakes, T. D., 110

Jehovah’s Witnesses, 24

Jewett, Andrew, 69

Job, social and moral message about suffering, 65–66

John Paul II, Pope, 88, 89, 189–90n4

Johnson, David R., 202n38

Judaism, 13, 87, 88, 95

Jurassic Park, 114

Kansas sterilization laws, 80–81

Kantianism, 113

Kevles, Daniel, 81

Kitzmiller v. Dover, 84

knowledge: defined, 7; existence of God claim, 22–23; Genesis and, 182–83n36; neutral, 66–67, 163; science as only real, 169–70. See also knowledge systems

knowledge deficit model, 19, 36, 175n7

knowledge systems: doctrine, 106; low coherence in, 96–102, 111; studies of religion and science as, 98–100. See also pyramid, knowledge; systemic knowledge conflict

Kosmin, Barry A., 183n38

Krauss, Lawrence, 20–21

Kuhn, Thomas S., 174n12

LaHaye, Beverley, 183n40

Larson, Edward, 79

Legare, Cristine, 99

Leiserowitz, A., 198n13

Lessl, Thomas, 27

liberal Christians, 59–60, 90, 93–95, 168, 191n36; and Bible, 60, 136; propositional belief conflict, 130–31, 134–35, 136; Social Gospel movement, 111; systemic knowledge conflict, 123, 125. See also synthesizers, theological liberal politics, 2–4

Lightman, Bernard, 48

Limbaugh, Rush, 2–3, 7

literalists, biblical, 120–21, 123, 125, 134; Baconian science, 132; and children becoming scientists, 130; and Darwinism/evolution, 30, 99, 135; educational attainment, 55, 99; faith in scientists, 139, 148–50; and global warming, 127, 142–43; in knowledge pyramid, 7; liberal Christians and, 60, 95, 134; self-interestness of scientists, 144–45

Louisiana, Creationism Act, 83

Luther, Martin, 71, 73–74

Madsen, Richard, 193n79

mainline Christians. See liberal Christians

Marsden, George, 90–93

Marx, Karl, 58–59, 61

materialism, 46; Darwinian, 30, 83; positivist, 90; scientific, 52–53, 54, 72

McGrath, Alister, 31–32, 176n23, 178n44

McLean v. Arkansas, 82–83

Medawar, Sir Peter, 19

media: science education from, 112. See also movies; television; individual periodicals and books

“medieval synthesis,” 1
politics: Bryan, 78–79; civil rights movement, 95, 191n39; conservative, 96, 97, 126–29, 142; liberal, 2–4; logical consistency, 96–97; religious right, 146, 168, 201n34; Republican party, 4, 76, 126–27, 142; scientists’ moral projects, 74–76; status, 134–35
Polkinghorne, John, 32–33, 162
proposition, 11–12
prayer: power of, 101; therapeutic, 109
Protestants; liberal Christians
Prosperity Gospel, 110–11
Public understanding of science, 119
Principia Mathematica (Newton), 89
printing press, 17
positivism, 57–59
pragmatism, 62;
persecution of scientists, 116; propositional belief conflict, 9, 11–13
Proposition 71, California, 75–76
Prosperity Gospel, 110–11
Protestants, 87, 90–96; African American, 95, 123, 139, 191–92n39, 198n15; Christian Social Ethicists, 33; proper belief, 18; Reformation, 9, 17, 50; sociologists and, 50; theological synthesizers, 28. See also conservative Protestants; evangelicals; fundamentalist Protestants; liberal Christians
Provine, William, 25
psychology: cognitive, 97; Freudian, 107; and perceptions of scientists, 116, 117; systemic knowledge conflict model, 99
pyramid, knowledge, 7–11, 8 fig, 162, 174n12; dialogue associations and, 34–35, 37; historians and, 45, 47; intelligent design and, 21; perfect religion and, 17; Protestantism and, 90, 95, 126, 131; public and, 96–106; scientific atheists and, 22–25; sociological researchers and, 52, 56; Templeton foundations and, 42; theological synthesizers and, 28–31
quantum physics, 29, 31–33, 37, 42
racial hygiene, 80, 81. See also eugenics
radiometric dating, 7, 9
Ramsey, Paul, 70–71, 73, 138, 145
rationalism, 67–68. See also Enlightenment
Rauschenbusch, Walter, 60
Reformation, 16th Century, 9, 17, 50
Reform Jews, 88
regression analysis, 122–23, 144, 147, 196–97n7, 200n19
religion: anthropology and, 58; changes in, 63–85, 102–18; collapse of doctrine, 104–6; defined, 17, 23–24, 26, 64–68; “dwelling,” 106, 107; faith in, 138–39; First Amendment Establishment Clause, 82–83, 84; functional definitions, 64, 65; Marx and, 59; metaphysical naturalism and, 57–58; moral values, 2, 12, 66, 111, 169; non-participation in, 121; of science, 170; “seeking,” 105, 106–9; sociology of, 33, 50–53, 98–118; substantive definitions, 64; therapeutic, 108–11, 118; transhumanism and, 73–74. See also Christians; conflict; Judaism; Muslims
religiosity: decline in, 99; and gender, 123; of scientists, 51–52, 162–63
religious minorities, 13, 87, 121, 175n23
religious right, 146, 168, 201n34
reproduction, 146; abortion, 135, 141, 151; technologies, 15, 46, 75, 135, 145–46, 151–59, 202n41
Republican party, 4, 76, 126–27, 142
research: embryonic stem cell, 12, 15, 24, 74–76, 141–46, 148, 163, 178–79n51; ethics, 113–14; on public, 85–136; social science, 9, 14, 49, 52–55, 86–87, 96–159, 168–71. See also survey research
Resurrection, 87
Index

rewards, for academics and other elites, 9, 11, 17, 96, 160
right, religious, 146, 168, 201n34
Roberts, Jon H., 27, 59, 60, 94
Robertson, Pat, 55, 101
Roos, J. Micah, 197n7
Ross, Dorothy, 184n52
Royal College of Physicians, 80
Royal Society, 48
"Rush Limbaugh: If You Believe In God . . . You Cannot Believe In Man-Made Global Warming," 2–3
Russell, Colin, 47, 177n28
Scheitle, Christopher, 52, 101–2
"schema alignment," 101
schools: African American, 191n39; biology curriculum, 78–82; creationism, 81–82, 135; evolution, 6, 78, 80, 81, 141; intelligent design (ID), 83–84; religious right and, 146; Tennessee, 79. See also education
science: aggressive, 160; avoidance of, 52, 121–22, 136, 147; Baconian, 90–93, 131–34, 136; "can-do attitude," 160; creation science, 89–93, 162; in dialogue associations, 33–40; education in, 99, 112; established scientific facts, 122; ethics of, 69, 70; faith/confidence in, 138–39, 147–50, 202n18; historical, 132–33; inductive, 132–33; mid-eighteenth-century American, 45; morally expressive nature, 170–71; moral values, 2, 12–13, 40, 71, 111, 166–71; natural, 57–61; neutral, 66–67, 163; nomological, 132; norms of, 143; operation, 132; origins, 132; public’s view of, 111–12; religion of, 170; scientific method, 122, 125, 132; theological synthesizers, 13, 27–33, 36–37, 41–42, 43, 87, 89; "tree of," 182n36; as worldview, 103. See also conflict; knowledge; scientists; social science
Science and Religion: An Introduction (McGrath), 31–32
Science and Religion: Some Historical Perspectives (Brooke), 45–46, 47
science communication, 18–19
Science magazine, 34, 36
Scientific Creationism (Morris), 82
scientific materialism, 52–53, 54, 72
scientific revolution, 29, 57
scientific sociologists, 60
scientism, 169–70
Scopes, John, 78, 79
Scopes trial, 11, 13, 78–83, 176n10, 191n39
Scottish Common Sense Realism, 90–93, 132–33
Secord, James, 48
secularization, 52, 60, 66–68, 103, 134
"seeking" religion, 105, 106–9
Sewell, William Jr., 97
sexuality, 24, 78, 145, 146
Shapiro, Adam, 79
Sherkat, Darren, 53–54, 183n40
Silicon Valley, 73
Singularity University, 73
skepticism, organized, 143
Smith, Christian, 60, 61, 103, 109–10
Smith, N., 198n13
Snow, C. P., 169
social Darwinism, 79
Social Gospel movement, 60–61, 111
"social power," 47
social relationships: religion about, 65–67, 102, 108–11; science about, 112; of scientists, 117
social science: origins of, 56–60; recent, 64–68; research, 9, 14, 49, 52–55, 86–87, 96–159, 168–71; scientists, 51, 56; specialization within, 60
sociologists, 13–14, 26, 44–62, 98–118; cultural analysis, 97; and moral conflict, 54–57, 63, 164; and public, 44–62, 66, 164; recent, 63–85; scientific, 60; Social Gospel, 60–61
sociology, 44, 49–62; America, 59–85; bias toward seeing knowledge conflict, 56–61; birth of, 56, 57; classical, 58–59, 61; Europe, 58–59, 61; of religion, 33, 50–53, 98–118;
research, 52–55, 96–159; of science, 66–67; of scientific knowledge, 67; surveys, 52–55, 96–159, 195–200
specialization, within academia, 60
Spencer, Herbert, 60, 80, 89
Stanford Medical Magazine, 76
Stanford Medical School, Dean, 76
Star Trek, 113–14
statistical significance, 123
status politics, 134–135
symbols: identity, 135, 136; religious, 65, 105
synthesizers, theological, 13, 27–33, 43, 87, 161, 162; Catholics, 28, 89; DoSER and, 36–37; evangelicals, 94–95; sociologists and, 59; Templeton and, 41–42, 43
systemic knowledge conflict, 2–5, 7–12, 15, 16–43, 86, 102, 119–36, 159–63, 168–69; avoidance of appearance of, 100–101;
technology: biomedical, 76, 141; evangelicals and, 94; moral conflict over, 15, 138, 139, 141–59, 203n19; morally expressive nature, 170–71; and transhumanism, 73
television: The Big Bang Theory, 116–17;
documentaries on religion and science, 161; Fox News, 4, 129; Orphan Black, 112–14; Osteen, 110; scientist portrayals, 112–15; Star Trek, 113–14
temperance movements, 135
Templeton, Sir John M., 41–42
Templeton foundations, 41–42, 43
Templeton Prize, 28, 32
Templeton Religion Trust, 41
Templeton World Charity Foundation, 41
Tennessee, public education, 79
Terry Lectures (2005), Yale, 20, 25
theistic evolution, 34–35
theologians, 16–18, 189n4; bioethics, 138, 147; dichotomy between God and humans in creation, 155–56; logical consistency, 96, 174n12; moral, 33; and moral conflict, 29–30, 32, 33, 63–64, 69–85, 138, 147, 164; and public, 29, 31–32, 33, 164; recent, 69–85; systemic knowledge conflict, 16–18, 27–33, 69–85, 104–6, 164; theoretical rationality, 96. See also synthesizers, theological theology, defined, 33
“theology of nature” tradition, 31
therapeutic individualism, 108–11, 118
Thomas Aquinas, 89
Thomson, Keith, 20
Time magazine, 110
transhumanism, 73–74
truth: fundamentalist Protestants and, 53; “two truths,” 88; uncertainty about, 103–4
Turner, James, 59, 60
Tuskegee syphilis study, 113
two books of God, 35, 40, 91–93
“two truths,” 88
Tylor, Edward, 58
Tyndall, John, 26
Tyson, Neil deGrasse, 162
United States, 13, 161–63; changes in religion, 63–85, 102–18; common sense philosophy, 90–93; Darwinism, 79; diversity of religion, 86–87; evangelical “symbolic boundary,” 135; government ethics commissions, 71–72; Jews, 88; megachurches, 105–6, 109, 110–11; mid-eighteenth-century science, 45; secularization theory, 68; social structure, 107; sociology, 59–85; sterilization laws, 80–81; surveys, 120; temperance movements, 135. See also public
Unity Church (Unity School of Christianity), 41
universalism, 143
utilitarianism, 113

Venter, J. Craig, 73
Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation, 48
Victorian era, 44, 45, 48, 78, 176n28
The View, Osteen on, 110
Visala, Aku, 99

Wallace, Anthony, 67
Waters, Brent, 73–74
Weber, Max, 50, 58–59, 61, 64, 96
Wedge Document, 83
Weissman, Irving, 75–76
Wells, HG, 58
Wheaton College, 40

“When God and Science Meet: Surprising Discoveries of Agreement” (DoSER and National Association of Evangelicals), 40

When Science and Christianity Meet, 161

When Science Meets Religion: Enemies, Strangers or Partners (Barbour), 29
Whitcomb, John C. Jr., 81–82, 84
White, Andrew Dickson, 1
Wikipedia, 28, 162–63
Wilberforce, Bishop Samuel, 11, 174n18
Williams, Malcolm, 58
Wilson, David, 47
Wilson, E. O., 25, 72
Wolfe, Alan, 105, 109
women, religiosity, 123
worldviews, 174n11, 12; logical consistency, 96–97, 174n12; and truth, 103. See also belief systems
World War I, 13, 59, 78–79, 81
Wuthnow, Robert, 98–101, 103, 106–8, 169

Yale Divinity School, 20; Terry Lectures (2005), 20, 25
Young Earth Creationism, 77, 78–83, 94, 120, 196–97n2
In a time when conservative politicians challenge the irrefutability of scientific findings such as climate change, it is more important than ever to understand the conflict at the heart of the “religion vs. science” debates unfolding in the public sphere. In this groundbreaking work, John H. Evans reveals that, with a few limited exceptions, even the most conservative religious Americans accept science’s ability to make factual claims about the world. However, many religious people take issue with the morality implicitly promoted by some forms of science. Using clear and engaging scholarship, Evans upends the prevailing notion that there is a fundamental conflict over the way that scientists and religious people make claims about nature and argues that only by properly understanding moral conflict between contemporary religion and science will we be able to contribute to a more productive interaction between these two great institutions.

“John H. Evans successfully relocates religious concerns about science from the realm of knowledge to that of moral value. He is by far the most sophisticated of the sociologists.” RONALD L. NUMBERS, Hilldale Professor Emeritus of the History of Science and Medicine, University of Wisconsin–Madison

“This is just the kind of volume that academics, journalists, and policymakers who are concerned about the future of science need. The kind of synthetic field-building work that Evans does is necessary in this burgeoning area.” ELAINE HOWARD ECKLUND, Herbert S. Autrey Chair in Social Sciences, Rice University

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