
THE

CULTURE

OF

DISBELIEF

How American Law
and Politics
Trivialize Religious Devotion

STEPHEN L. CARTER



BasicBooks

A Division of HarperCollins Publishers

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments vi

I

THE SEPARATION OF FAITH AND SELF

-1	The Culture of Disbelief	3
2	God as a Hobby	23
-3	From Civil Religion to Civil Exclusion	44
4	Political Preaching	67
5	The "Christian Nation" and Other Horrors	83

II

THE FIRST SUBJECT OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT

--6	The Separation of Church and State	105
7	The Accommodation of Religion	124
8	Religious Autonomy in the Welfare State	136
9	In the Beginning	156
10	God: A Course of Study	183

III

THE CLOTHED PUBLIC SQUARE

11	(Dis)Believing in Faith	213
12	Matters of Life and Death	233
13	Religious Fascism	263
	<i>Postscript</i>	275
	<i>Notes</i>	279
	<i>Index</i>	319