Peter L. Berger and the Sociology of Religion

50 Years after The Sacred Canopy

Edited by Titus Hjelm
## Contents

List of Contributors vii
Preface and Acknowledgements x

1 Introduction: Peter L. Berger and the Sociology of Religion
   *Titus Hjelm* 1

2 Vulnerability and Plausibility Structures: Peter L. Berger, Arnold Gehlen and Philosophical Anthropology
   *Bryan S. Turner* 13

3 From Canopies to Conversations: The Continuing Significance of ‘Plausibility Structures’
   *Nancy T. Ammerman* 27

4 *The Sacred Canopy* as a Global Construction Project:
   Incorporating both Emotional and Cognitive Resources
   *Doyle Paul Johnson* 43

5 *The Sacred Canopy* as a Classic: Why Berger’s Conceptual Apparatus Remains Foundational 50 Years Later
   *David Feltmate* 67

6 Sacred Canopies and Invisible Religions: The Dialectical Construction of Religion in Berger and Luckmann
   *Hubert Knoblauch and Silke Steets* 85

7 Secularization: From Sacred Canopies to Golf Umbrellas
   *Steve Bruce* 103

8 Islamic Revivalism and Europe’s Secular ‘Sacred Canopy’:
   Exploring the Debunking Capacity of Public Religion
   *Riyaz Timol* 119
9 Religious American and Secular European Courts, or vice versa?
A Study of Institutional Cross-Pollination
Effie Fokas 135

10 Assessing the Influence of The Sacred Canopy: A Missed
Opportunity for Social Constructionism?
Titus Hjelm 157

Notes 175
Bibliography 179
Index 202