

As recently as the 1960s, more than half of all American adults belonged to one of a handful of mainline Protestant denominations. But today, those denominations cover scarcely ten percent of the population. In this volume, experts in American religious history and the sociology of religion examine the decline of mainline Protestantism over the past half century and assess its future. Contributors discuss Protestant institutions; the demographics of mainline Protestants; their beliefs and practices; their political views and partisan affiliations; and the social and moral questions that unite and divide Protestant communities. The book argues that the mainline Protestant movement will continue to be a vital remnant in a culture torn between the contending forces of secularism and evangelicalism.

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