



AUTUMN LECTURES

2014

WORLDVIEWS

Prof. Mia Lövheim & Prof. Alf Linderman
Uppsala University & Sigtuna Foundation

The Resurgence of Religion? A study of Religion and Modernity in Sweden with the Daily Press as Case

Thursday, October 16, 2014

19:00

The latest decade has seen a debate about the “resurgence” of religion in the public sphere of Western European societies. Yet, few studies have scrutinized these claims through systematic and longitudinal empirical work. Our presentation focuses on findings and methodological considerations from a quantitative and qualitative content analysis of indicators of religion and of values associated with modernity in Swedish editorials between 1975-2010. We analyze changes in the frequency of references to religion over this period as well as how these are related to the most frequent modernity values. Our results indicate an increase in the numbers of editorials mentioning religion, but it would be too hasty to interpret this as new political interest of religion in Sweden. The picture is more complex, which calls for a discussion of methods as well as perspectives in studies of the public presence of religion in contemporary society.

Alf Linderman is the Executive Director of the Sigtuna Foundation, and also an associate professor of the Sociology of Religion at Uppsala University. Linderman is specialized in research at the nexus of media, religion, and culture. He has worked on media reception, on comparative studies of media and religion, and on various kinds of content analysis primarily on Swedish newspapers.

Mia Lövheim is Professor in Sociology of Religion at the Department of Theology, Uppsala University. Her research covers the topics of youth and religion, digital media and religion, and gender and religion. She has worked on discussion forums on religion, personal blogs and existential issues and representations of religion in daily press.

Discussant: Dr. Alparslan Nas, Faculty of Communication, Marmara University, Istanbul

*For attendance, registration at helins@sri.org.tr is necessary
with your name and university or other affiliation*

Refreshments are served after the lecture

SWEDISH RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN ISTANBUL
İstiklal caddesi 247
Tünel - Beyoğlu - ISTANBUL
Tel: +90 (212)-252 41 19