

# Cult research paper



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Cults are often viewed as having unsanitary beliefs and viewpoints, and modern society frequently sees them as unrelenting sores on current culture. Cult leaders use religious doctrine to brainwash and seduce unwary victims, as seen in modern society and literature such as George Rowel's 1984, something made easy by the dependence modern culture has on religion.

Religion and cults may be closely related, but there are some very key differences. In order for a religion to become a cult, it needs to develop into a negative form of a religion, expressed in its ideals and philosophies.

Cults are often damaging to people, and everyone around them because cult leaders are often after money or revenge on a particular person or aspect of society. In 1984, the government's sole purpose is to take advantage and exploit their citizens, just as a cult leader exploits the followers of their cults. Religion tends to have a much more positive form of expression.

They often have a large following, because most of their ideals appeal to a person's deepest inner morals, and therefore enrich their follower's lives.

Many times, people who are having trouble with their own lives will turn to religion or cults in order to find themselves. These newly devoted people will spread their religion across countries and across continents, whereas a cult, since it confines its members, would be lucky to reach a thousand people. Since religion spreads so thoroughly in many cases, entire cultures begin to base themselves upon their teachings, and sets up the basic morals of their society on their religious beliefs. This sets up for the introductions of cults, the religious form of which can be much more extreme versions of a particular religion.

Modern American cults are regularly portrayed in the media because society views their ideas to be absurd or dangerous, and so they become almost an obsession for society.

Many pieces of Literature follow suit and begin to focus on aspects of life within a cult, particularly brainwashing, but on a much larger scale. 1984 is written about about a society whose whole system is that of a religious cult.