



THE RELIGION AND DIVERSITY PROJECT/RELIGION ET DIVERSITÉ



### **Donald L. Boisvert**

Co-investigator (strand 3)

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### **Biography**

Donald L. Boisvert is a retired affiliate associate professor of religion at Concordia University in Montréal, and formerly served as Principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College (Anglican). His PhD was awarded in 1990 by the University of Ottawa, with a dissertation examining aspects of the interplay of religion and nationalism in Québec society.

For several years, he was Co-chair of the Gay Men's Issues in Religion Group of the American Academy of Religion (2000-07). He has served as a guide and board member of the Montréal Holocaust Memorial Centre and Museum (2002-09).

In addition to a number of articles, he has published the following books: *Out on Holy Ground: Meditations on Gay Men's Spirituality* (2000), *Sanctity and Male Desire: A Gay Reading of Saints* (2004), nominated for the Lambda Literary Award, *Gay Catholic Priests and Clerical Sexual Misconduct: Breaking the Silence* (edited with Robert E. Goss, 2005) and a two-volume collection, *Queer Religion* (edited with Jay Emerson Johnson, 2012), a two-volume collection, *Queer Religion* (edited with Jay Emerson Johnson, 2012), *Education about Religion and Worldviews* (edited with Anna Halafoff and Elisabeth Arweck, 2016), and, forthcoming in 2016/17, *The Bloomsbury Reader in Religion, Sexuality and Gender* (edited with Carly Daniel-Hughes).

### **Research Statement**

My current research activities are focused primarily on two broad themes: the construction of sexual pedagogies within religious communities, and masculinities and same-sex desire.

I am working on a collection of essays which examines the ways in which the Roman Catholic Church has used adolescent saints as a privileged means of elaborating a sexual pedagogy for Catholic young people. Parallel with this, I am interested in looking at the place of children and youth within religious communities, their expectations and experiences, and the dynamics of their interchange with adult believers.

A second area of research, tied more generally to my already published work, is concerned with furthering my exploration of issues of same-sex desire, but more specifically how masculinity is understood and lived out within religious communities. I am currently looking at this experience within the Anglican and Roman Catholic traditions. My abiding interest remains that of same-sex relations and how they are understood, challenged and integrated within the religious experience.