

Thanks for the suggestion, Mark! I have just posted it to our Faith & Form Linked-In Group. You can access it at: <http://linkd.in/1g32GU5>  
--Mike Crosbie

Michael J. Crosbie, Ph.D., FAIA  
Editor-in-Chief  
Faith & Form  
47 Grandview Terrace  
Essex, CT 06426  
860-575-4702

[www.faithandform.com](http://www.faithandform.com)

[www.linkedin.com/in/michaeljcrosbie](http://www.linkedin.com/in/michaeljcrosbie)

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: <http://twitter.com/faithandform>

---

**From:** "Mark Johnson" <[ecotone.mail@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:ecotone.mail@EMBARQMAIL.COM)>  
**To:** AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 5, 2014 1:38:23 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Is Religion Losing Ground to Sport (Article in the Washington Post)

Looks like we need to start a LinkedIn group for this type of discussion. It is starting to fill up my "in" box.

Regards,

Mark L. Johnson, RLA, MLA, ASLA

-----Original Message-----

**From:** ACS is a new scholarly forum on architecture and spiritualit [<mailto:AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU>] **On Behalf Of** Michael Karassowitsch

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 3:15 PM

**To:** AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU

**Subject:** Re: Is Religion Losing Ground to Sport (Article in the Washington Post)

I guess, in answer to Norman Crowe, if it *is* that easy, seeming, then maybe equating spirituality with religion might be a bit on the facile side of things. That is where it seems to me most people maintain a cultural blind-spot. Maybe religion has gotten all too empty in its available forms so that it is no longer able to bring spirituality? Then maybe turning to sports is not a big loss, especially if the church(es) promise to do/give something which can only be got by self effort. Spectating: Religion only 'looks' at spirituality. The power structures it have long ago passed their peak. Those ties it developed no longer apparently really work. In fact, it should be clear that individualistic emancipation is not only against non-democratic rule but also religion, which had been its most powerful tool. The current religions can not gain ground.

Religion is not spirituality, hence the two words.

The problem is the freed masses need to find something to fill the need that is original to being human. But the prohibitions against spiritual freedom, religion's main enemy, seem to outlast the church.

Therefore, entertainment. Sadly.

I personally rarely watch a game. I feel so bad spending that much time watching other people do stuff. 10 minutes a day on stats (NHL) suffices for me.

Cheers,  
Michael Karassowitsch  
Architect

On Feb 4, 2014, at 17:34, Norman Crowe <[ncrowe@ND.EDU](mailto:ncrowe@ND.EDU)> wrote:

'interesting that "the spirituality impulse" can be so easily re-directed -- i.e., sports. In times of war it is applied to sacredness of country or creed set against the enemy who is all evil and therefore easy to kill. Maybe spectator sports, for those who are so inclined, provides at least a less dangerous re-direction of the impulse than war, as Travis suggests. Perhaps we need to somehow re-position humanism with a new urgency and intensity? We are a curious specie!

Norman Crowe

Architect  
Professor Emeritus, University of Notre Dame  
Adjunct Professor, University of New Mexico

On Feb 4, 2014, at 9:16 AM, Travis Price wrote:

Lest, we forget. The Coliseum, the relished love of War and the God of War was a very organized Greco-Roman act of worship well before humanism of Christ, Buddha and others came into the "game". These combat driven spiritual states are still highly prevalent in most remote cultures of the world today. Not pretty, but as real as the super bowl and far more vicious. T

Travis L Price III, FAIA  
Travis Price Architects  
1028 33rd St NW - 320  
Washington, DC 20007  
202 . 965 . 7000

[www.TravisPriceArchitects.com](http://www.TravisPriceArchitects.com)  
[www.SpiritofPlace-Design.com](http://www.SpiritofPlace-Design.com)  
[www.ArchaeologyofTomorrow.com](http://www.ArchaeologyofTomorrow.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: ACS is a new scholarly forum on architecture and spiritualit [<mailto:AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU>] On Behalf Of Eric ROSS

Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 4:27 AM

To: [AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU](mailto:AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU)

Subject: Re: Is Religion Losing Ground to Sport (Article in the Washington Post)

Dear freinds

I also think that organized sport replaced [organized] religion as the opiate of the people some time ago.

Eric Ross, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

School of Humanities and Social Sciences Al Akhawayn University [E.Ross@au.ma](mailto:E.Ross@au.ma)

<http://ericrossacademic.wordpress.com/>

P.O.Box 1889, Ifrane, 53000

Morocco

tel.: +212 (0) 535 86 24 81

fax: +212 (0) 535 86 29 77

-----ACS is a new scholarly forum on architecture and spiritualit <[AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU](mailto:AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU)> wrote: -----To: [AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU](mailto:AM-CARC-ACS-L@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU)

From: Julio Bermudez

Sent by: ACS is a new scholarly forum on architecture and spiritualit

Date: 02/02/2014 10:37PM

Subject: Re: Is Religion Losing Ground to Sport (Article in the Washington Post)

Dear ACS friends

I read a provocative but intelligent article this morning in the Washington Post. I think it's worth your time reading it. Its title says it all: "Is Religion Losing Ground to Sports?"; The authors, one history professor and the other a religious studies academic provide a nuanced argumentation. This is particularly timely given the SUPERBOWL tonight.

For those not familiar with American Culture (and there are plenty of you in ACS that fit this description), the SUPERBOWL is arguably the most watched (and awaited) event in American Television ... It is the championship game of American Football (sorry for this explanation for those familiar with it)

Anyway, here is the article. Enjoy (or disagree with it &#8212; either way, good to check it out)

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/is-religion-losing-ground-to-sports/2014/01/31/6faa4d64-82bd-11e3-9dd4-e7278db80d86\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/is-religion-losing-ground-to-sports/2014/01/31/6faa4d64-82bd-11e3-9dd4-e7278db80d86_story.html)

Julio

-----

Julio Bermudez, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

The Catholic University of America  
School of Architecture and Planning  
Crough Center of Architectural Studies  
620 Michigan Ave NE  
Washington, DC 20064

(202) 319-5755 (phone)

[bermudez@cua.edu](mailto:bermudez@cua.edu) (email)

<http://faculty.cua.edu/bermudez> (web)

"leap and the net will appear"