

## Films on New Religious Movements

1. **Attack at Waco** / produced by Kurtis Productions, Ltd., and Towers Productions, Inc., in association with A&E Network. New York: A&E Home Video: distributed by New Video Group, 1995. 1 videocassette (ca. 50 min.). [U of Cincinnati]  
A painstaking examination of the assault on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. The federal authorities' case is taken apart, with the timing, techniques and tactics that led to the gruesome outcome being thoroughly analyzed.
2. **Aum Supreme Truth Cult** / Journeyman Pictures, 1995 (16 min.)  
Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81uvbbsJC7M>
3. **Buddhism comes to America** / The Living Dharma Center; Hartley Film Foundation; producer, director, Elda Hartley. Cos Cob, Ct.: The Hartley Film Foundation, 1990 (30 min) [Video 00.0289]  
Dr. Richard Clarke, spiritual head of the Living Dharma Center, talks about what attracted him and his students to Buddha and what Buddhism means to him.
4. **Challenge of the cults. Part 1, The appeal of the cults** / presented by Video Publishing. St. Paul, Minn.: Seraphim Communications, Inc., 1981. 1 videocassette (28 min.). [Wooster]  
During the 1960s and 1970s, many young Americans left mainstream churches to join alternative sects and cults. Some cults are potentially dangerous while others are benign, and it is important to distinguish the difference. Dr. Skarsten lectures on the push and pull factors that push people out of churches and into cults. Push factors include the breakdown of the family, disillusionment with America, the scientific revolution, and the hypocrisy of mainline churches. Pull factors includes the spiritual vacuum of the 60s and the 70s, the spiritual awakening of the 70s, appeal of the new, alternative lifestyles, and idealism.
5. **Children at risk.** Ukiah, CA : Cavalcade Productions, [1992]. 1 videocassette (57 mins. 30 sec.).  
Cults, Satanism. [Pontifical Col Josephinum]
6. **Children of God** / A presentation of ABC News; producer, Alice Irene Pifer. Northbrook, IL: MTI Film & Video, 1988. 1 videocassette (30 min.). [Kent State U]  
Originally shown on the ABC television program, 20/20. True life saga of Vivian Shillander and her quest to free her four children from the fanatical religious cult, "The Children of God." Tom Jarrell narrates this documentary, examining the cult's activities.
7. **Children of Jehovah.** Princeton, N.J.: Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 1996. 1 videocassette (60 min.). [OhioLink]  
Jehovah's Witnesses are a fast growing, media shy religious sect that believe that Armageddon is rapidly approaching. Children are often torn between the rewards of conforming to its laws and the freedoms of a secular world. This program focuses on the pressures adolescents and adults come under as they decide to stay in the church or leave, and on the impact of the terrible penalty faced by those who do leave.
8. **Coming home: recovery from satanic ritual abuse.** Ukiah, CA: Cavalcade Productions, [1992]. 1 videocassette (1 hr. 45 min.). [Pontifical Col Josephinum]

9. **Cults, charisma, and mind control** / Human Relations Media; [produced by] Word Image; writers, Justin Tavers, Ed Robbins. Pleasantville, NY: Human Relations Media, 1987. 1 videocassette (40 min.). [OhioLink]  
Program that explores both the symptoms and the deeper roots of the spiritual search many young Americans have taken part in during the last decade. It takes the cults out of the newspapers and places the problem before students to be considered intelligently, maturely, and in light of their own experience
  
10. **Cults: Heaven's Gate & Branch Davidians** / A&E Television Networks. New York: A&E Television Networks; New Video Group [distributor], 1996. [OhioLink]  
Why would 39 people from all walks of life believe that committing suicide would open the door to a "higher reality" among the stars? Why would a militant religious group set fire to their compound, contributing to the death of 75 of their own? In the tragic tales of the Heaven's Gate cult and the Branch Davidians, a window is opened to the enigmatic world of cults today. This video takes an unflinching look at these two cases through extensive CBS News footage and interviews with federal agents, law enforcement officials, and reporters. life, are they now more likely to go to extremes? See extensive footage of the raid on the Davidians' compound in Waco, Texas, and hear from former members of Heaven's Gate.
  
11. **Cults: saying no under pressure** / a production of Inservice Video Network in collaboration with the National Association of Secondary School Principals. [United States]: Inservice Video Network, 1990. 1 videocassette (30 min.). [Wooster]  
Narrator: Charlton Heston. Focuses on practical advice for resisting deception, psychological manipulation, and mind-control techniques used to recruit cult members
  
12. **Cults** / produced by Bill Brummel Productions for the History Channel. [New York]: A & E Television Networks, 2000. 1 videocassette (ca. 50 min.). [OhioLink]  
Originally broadcast on television in the series, "History's mysteries," by the History Channel in 1996. Host: Arthur Kent. From the Dionysian revels of ancient Greece to the tragedy of Heaven's Gate, this is an illuminating look at cults and their beliefs
  
13. **Devil worship: the rise of satanism** / Jeremiah films presentation. [S.I.]: Devilfilm Associates, 1990. 1 videocassette (VHS) (63 min) [OhioLink].  
A documentary to educate & to protect people against satanism. Satanists worship the Devil, hope to draw on the power of evil & destroy whatever is good.
  
14. [Different paths: Shamanism, cults, and religion on demand](#) / produced by La Cinquième & Vidéa. Princeton, N.J: Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 1998. Streaming video (57 min.) (Sects: 34 min - 45 min)  
Shamanism, Millennialism, Astrology, the upsurge of New Age religions, and other less traditional beliefs, practices, and rituals are the topics of this program
  
15. **Different worlds: hippies & cults in America**. New York: Produced by CBS News in association with A&E Network; History Channel: distributed by New Video Group, [1996], 1994. 1 videocassette (45 min.). [OhioLink]  
Looks at alienated subcultures, from the hippies of the 60's to such cult leaders as David Koresh in modern times. Examines the social impact such groups cause at many levels

16. **Divine Horsemen: the living Gods of Haiti** / by Maya Deren. New York, N.Y.: Cherel Ito, 1985. 1 videodisc (52 min.). [Denison]  
Documentary of the Voudoun religions of Haiti. Presents rituals performed by the Rada, Petro, and Congo cults, whose devotees commune with cosmic powers through invocations, sacrifices, and possession. The narration was adapted from the book by Maya Deren, *Divine Horsemen: The Living Gods of Haiti*.
17. **Gods of the New Age** / Jeremiah Films. Huntington Beach, CA: Jeremiah Films, 1988. 1 videocassette (103 min.). [Wooster]  
Looks at the New Age movement from a fundamentalist Christian perspective
18. **Heavens Gate** (55 min.)  
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBTLThA0wOw>
19. **Heaven's Gate cult** / ABC News. Princeton, N.J.: Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 1998. 1 videocassette (23 min.). [OhioLink]  
ABC News *Nightline*, originally broadcast March 31, 1997. Ted Koppel uses the 1997 mass suicide of the members of the Heaven's Gate cult as a starting point for a discussion among scholars and cult watchers about what differentiates today's cults from the early days of our major religions. Includes footage of Heaven's Gate followers. Chris Wallace interviews two professors of divinity and a cult watcher.
20. **Iawo: initiation in a Gege-Nago temple** / Sarue films and Mariana films. [New York: Cinema Guild, 198-?]. 1 videocassette (42 min.). [OhioLink]  
Shows the initiation of new priestesses of the Orisha cult in Brazil. Text inspired by *The Nago and Death* by Juana Elbein dos Santos.
21. **In the name of God** / Production, direction, editing, Anand Patwardhan. New York City, N.Y.: First Run Icarus Films, 1992. 1 videocassette (97 min.). [Kenyon Video 94.0050]  
Discusses the current conflict in Ayodhya between Hinduism and Islam and the drive to build a Hindu temple to Ram where a mosque currently exists. Filmed prior to the mosque's demolition, the video examines the motivations which would ultimately lead to the drastic actions of the Hindu militants. Also looks at the efforts of secular Indians, many of who are Hindus, to combat the religious intolerance.
22. **Jonestown: The life and death of Peoples Temple** / Firelight Media film for American Experience; produced and directed by Stanley Nelson; teleplay by Noland Walker and Marcia Smith. Arlington, VA: PBS Home Video, 2007 (84 min).  
A startling look at preacher Jim Jones, his life prior to the mass-suicides in Guyana, and the event that took place leading up to that fateful day in 1978.  
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NQ5KBzD8w0&noredirect=1>
23. **Knocking**. Written and narrated by Joel P. Engardio. Independent Television Service (ITVS). [Harriman, NY?]: New Day Films, 2006 (53 min) [Multimedia DVD 07.0331]  
Discusses the beliefs and practices of Jehovah's Witnesses, including their views on medical practices, civil liberties, and the afterlife.

24. **New Religious Movements** (with Prof. John Simmons). Tullos, Jon M. (director). NY: Insight Media, 1999. 1 videocassette (60 min.). [Wooster]  
Discusses factors that can lead to the development of new religious movements, defining the cultic impulse as an institutional mutation that is a natural part of religious ecology
25. **People's Temple, November 20, 1978** (KQED) (26 min.)  
Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1YXvKk8t3c&noredirect=1>
26. **Promise Keepers: Equality Bashers** / Center for Democracy Studies (U.S.), 1997. 1 videocassette (12 min.). [Denison]  
Following Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority and Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition, the third wave of the religious right's assault on democracy was launched in 1990 with the creation of Promise Keepers. At this moment, Promise Keepers claims a \$115 million budget, 400 full time staff, 8,000 small groups, and a vast network of regional and state organizations. Plans are underway to take Promise Keepers international.
27. **The Church of Scientology** / ABC News; producer, Barak Goodman  
New York: ABC News, Princeton, N.J. : [distributed by] Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 1999 (42 min). [Video 00.0179]
28. **The Cults [kit]: the Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, The Unification Church, the New Age movement and more.** Garland, Texas: Evangelical Films, c1984-1988. 6 audio cassettes, 2 videocassettes. [OhioLink]
29. **Waco: the inside story** / produced for Documentary Consortium by WGBH Boston; produced by Michael Kirk, Michael McLeod, Kenneth Levis; directed by Michael Kirk; written by Peter J. Boyer, Michael Kirk. [Alexandria, Va.]: PBS Video, 1995. 1 videocassette (ca. 60 min.) [Wooster]  
Investigates the siege of the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas in April 1993, and the hostile interplay between FBI tactics teams and hostage negotiators. Originally broadcast October 17, 1995 as a segment of *Frontline*.  
Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRpk2AFfk7M>
30. **Waco: the rules of engagement** / Somford Entertainment presents; the Fifth Estate Production; a William Gazecki film; producers: William Gazecki, Dan Gifford, and Michael McNulty; directed by William Gazecki; written by William Gazecki, Dan Gifford and Michael McNulty. Los Angeles, Calif.: Distributed by Somford Entertainment, 1997. 1 videocassette (136 min.). [Wooster]  
A documentary film about the tragic series of events that occurred outside Waco, Texas in April 1993 in which 4 federal agents were killed along with 86 men, women and children of the Branch Davidian compound. Winner of IDA Feature Award 1997
31. **Zen Center** / written and produced by Anne Cushman; directed by Lou Hawthorne. [San Francisco?: L. Hawthorne], 1987 (53 min) [Video 92.0380]  
Examines Zen practice and philosophy, and the impact of American culture on Zen.