



The Making of Pro-life Activists: How Social Movement Mobilization Works (Morality and Society Series)

By Ziad W. Munson

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How do people become activists for causes they care deeply about? Many people with similar backgrounds, for instance, fervently believe that abortion should be illegal, but only some of them join the pro-life movement. By delving into the lives and beliefs of activists and nonactivists alike, Ziad W. Munson is able to lucidly examine the differences between them.

Through extensive interviews and detailed studies of pro-life organizations across the nation, Munson makes the startling discovery that many activists join up before they develop strong beliefs about abortion—in fact, some are even pro-choice prior to their mobilization. Therefore, Munson concludes, commitment to an issue is often a consequence rather than a cause of activism.

The Making of Pro-life Activists provides a compelling new model of how people become activists while also offering a penetrating analysis of the complex relationship between religion, politics, and the pro-life movement. Policy makers, activists on both sides of the issue, and anyone seeking to understand how social movements take shape will find this book essential.

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The Making of Pro-life Activists: How Social Movement Mobilization Works (Morality and Society Series) By Ziad W. Munson Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1049795 in Books
- Published on: 2009-02-15
- Released on: 2009-02-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .70" w x 6.00" l, .70 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 248 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"Munson's focus on variations across pro-life activists - rather than between pro-life and pro-choice activists - adds exceptionally valuable nuance to our understanding of the movement. Along with this comparative emphasis, his clear and theoretically subversive argument makes this an original and significant book." - Elisabeth Clemens, University of Chicago"

About the Author

Ziad W. Munson is the Frank R. Hook Assistant Professor of Sociology at Lehigh University.

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