

The Women's and Gender Studies Program and the Department of Sociology present

# RELIGION, SEXUALITY, AND FREEDOM:

## The Social and Legal Landscapes of Religious Liberty and LGBTQ Rights

A talk by Dr. Kelsy Burke  
and Dr. Emily Kazyak



In recent decades, prominent legal battles have resulted in a dramatic increase in gained civil rights for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender, and queer-identified individuals in the U.S. Simultaneously, opponents have argued before courts that they should be exempt from recognizing LGBTQ rights based on the claim that their religious beliefs fundamentally oppose the acceptance of LGBTQ people. This presentation explores the evolution of cultural beliefs and case law when it comes to religious freedom and LGBTQ people in the United States. We describe findings from an ongoing research project that includes surveys and interviews of Americans' beliefs alongside quantitative and qualitative analysis of opinions and summaries of federal court cases related to religious exemption and nondiscrimination laws.

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### OUR SPEAKERS

Kelsy Burke is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where she studies how sex, gender, and religion collide in contemporary America.

Emily Kazyak is an Associate Professor of Sociology & Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she studies sexuality in American culture and law.



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