



How to Win the Culture War: A Christian Battle Plan for a Society in Crisis

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THE BATTLE LINES HAVE BEEN DRAWN ... Many Christians have fallen into the trap of proclaiming Peace! Peace! when there is no peace. Hiding their eyes from the pressing issues of the day, they believe that resistance to the prevailing culture is useless. At the same time, other Christians have been too quick to declare war, mistaking battlefield casualties as enemies rather than victims. In *How to Win the Culture War* Peter Kreeft issues a rousing call to arms. Christians must understand the true nature of the culture war - a war between the culture of life and the culture of death. Kreeft identifies the real enemies facing the church today and maps out key battlefields. He then issues a strategy for engagement and equips Christians with the weapons needed for a successful campaign. Above all, Kreeft assures us that the war can be won - in fact, it will be won. For those who hope in Christ, victory is assured, because good triumphs over evil and life conquers death. Love never gives up. Neither must we.

Peter Kreeft is professor of philosophy at Boston College and the author of many books, including *Between Heaven and Hell*, *Socrates Meets Jesus* and (with Ronald Tacelli) *Handbook of Christian Apologetics* (all IVP).

How to Win the Culture War: A Christian Battle Plan for a Society in Crisis Details

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From Reader Review How to Win the Culture War: A Christian Battle Plan for a Society in Crisis for online ebook

Mr. V says

Quick easy read that hits on some of the problems faced with being a good Christian in today's world. I liked the first half of the book much better. I had a strong philosophical agreement with the vertical and horizontal lines concerning community - chaos and cops - conscious. These four lines demonstrate in the most simplistic form the battle with government's role.

Dennis Henn says

Not as clever as other Kreeft books that I have read. Identifies that our society is in crisis and calls Christians to sanctity.

Kylie says

Brilliant. Brilliant. Brilliant.

Adam says

What Peter Kreeft wrote here about Bill Clinton in 2002 approximates America's affection for Donald Trump:

“I have a theory about Time [Magazine]; that it is simply Playboy with clothes on. For one kind of playboy, the world is simply one big whorehouse; for another kind, it's one big piggy bank. For both kinds of playboy, things are getting better and better.

“That's why Americans gave a 75 percent approval rating to Bill Clinton, the prefect combination of the two kinds of playboys. ... He kept himself happy with some big whores, and he kept us happy with some big piggy banks. We loved him for the same reason the Germans loved Hitler when they elected him: 'It's the economy, stupid.' Hitler gave them autobahns and Volkswagons, jobs and housing. In fact, Hitler wrought the greatest economic miracle of the twentieth century: from economic and military ruin to full employment and national pride in a few short years. What else matters as long as the emperor gives you bread and circuses? People are pigs, not saints; they love slops, not holiness, right? Or wrong?”

Felipe says

Excelente em alguns trechos, decepcionante em outros. A crítica recorrente ao aborto e à revolução sexual constitui um dos pontos fortes do livro. Fora a teologia romana, ver os muçulmanos como irmãos que

adoram o mesmo Deus é um dos piores pontos do livro.

Nathan Albright says

This is the first book by the author I have read (it will not be the last) and it has some similarities with a few other books on the culture war that I have fondly read and reviewed [1]. The author is clearly someone who has read a lot of books relating to religion and culture, and is considered as a notable Catholic philosopher. This is evident in the book by his desire to build a wide coalition of traditionalists against the forces of social decadence. He spends a great deal of time in this book reminding the reader who the real enemy is--specifically Satan and his demonic forces, rather than the people with whom we may be at odds, like social liberals, Muslims, and others. While I cannot say I agreed with everything in the book, and the book as a whole struck me as more postmillennially optimistic than I am personally, it was a feel-good book if you enjoy reading material that relates to our troubled cultural situation in the United States. The author does not appear to think greatly about divine judgment, but rather about historical judgment, and comes to the same conclusion that barring a moral restoration our civilization is doomed.

This book does not wear out its welcome at just over 100 pages. Within this efficiently written work are nine short chapters. After an introduction, the author reminds the reader (if he or she is not aware) of the fact that we are at war culturally speaking. Most readers will not need the reminder. After this comes the identity of the enemy on a spiritual level. The author then writes about true and false spiritual warfare. The author then discusses Colson's law, and intriguing reminder that either cops or conscience is needed to police the wanton desires and natural chaos of unredeemed man. After that the author, somewhat weirdly, copies C.S. Lewis and tries to give Satan a set piece speech discussing his plans for the millennium, which apparently do not involve being bound and restrained in the bottomless pit. The author then discusses the fiercest battle in the cultural wars--namely sex wars--and discusses what makes these battles so ferocious with a slightly modified and unpleasant dialogue with a gay activist. The book then ends on three optimistic chapters that look at the secret weapon that will win the war (saints--the author apparently does not expect the return of Jesus Christ in a premillennial fashion), gives some "basic training" on how to be a saint, and gives an optimistic discussion of why we must win. The author assumes, probably accurately, that the reader will be among the "we."

There is a lot that is amusing and witty about the book. Kreeft is, in general, a congenial sort of philosopher of the sort that would be enjoyable to talk to at a dinner table over good food. This is not to say that the book is perfect. Although the book is short and does not overstay its welcome, at the same time there are abrupt shifts in tone. It is as if Kreeft was a fan of the writings of C.S. Lewis (as I am [2]) but did not separate the various types of work within Lewis' oeuvre. There are bits of essays like "God In The Dock" or "Men Without Chests" here, but more than a little bit of the "Screwtape Letters" as well. It is an awkward fit at times, and the dialogue sections lack a bit of authenticity since the writer is, quite literally at times, playing the devil's advocate. I am sure this book was fun to write, but as a reader I would have really preferred it had the author been consistent in tone and a bit more serious-minded than he shows himself to be here.

[1] See, for example:

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2012...>

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2016...>

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2017...>

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2016...>

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2016...>

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2016...>

[2] See, for example:

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/tag/...>

Monte Malenke says

Great perspective and insights.

Nicole says

An interesting view on the culture war in modern-day society and how we found ourselves at this point. Kreeft clearly sees a battle between good and evil being waged, and some of his viewpoints would not be popular among the mainstream.

Ricardo Portella says

Not what I expected

I thought the book it would be a manual on how to tackle with school political doctination and how to deal with atheists, but it is nothing like that. The author thesis is that the cause of all corruption in the world is the devil's work and to battle it with must be saints. Many chapters are imaginary dialogs with angels, unbelievers and even Satan. In the end the book has some good thoughts, but it is boring and I barely made to the end.

Steven says

A good book, although with a limited audience. Kreeft does well at assessing the current crisis that our American culture is engulfed by; however, his manner of presentation is likely to turn away many of those who don't already agree with his position. He has good points, and it's a fun read - just be aware that he is blunt and doesn't mince words.

A great quote: "Thomas More was the lawyer who got away" - from "Satan's address"

Alan Alexandrino says

Um bom livro. É verdade que a teologia romanista do autor se faz evidente do início ao fim. No entanto, existem vários insights importantes a respeito da guerra cultural na qual os cristãos estão inseridos. Dureza mesmo são as repetidas afirmações ao longo da obra, no sentido de que judeus, cristãos e muçulmanos são irmãos separados que adoram ao mesmo Deus.

Grant Robertson says

I've read better books by Kreeft, ie: CS Lewis for the Third Millennium.

Patrick says

Fantastic.

Benjamin Sutfin says

This book sums up the culture wars in the West. Kreeft walks the reader through the twentieth century, like a confident detective, piecing the clues together of the world's bloodiest period in history. He writes about war, and the tyrannous regimes that instigated them, to the decline of morals in the West. He refers to America as the "culture of death" as John Paul the II so properly called us. With our sex with out baby—pleasure—philosophy and the murder of the innocent. He has truly sought truth for its own sake and has steered the reader to a precipice where one is left dangling over the edge wondering how to get out of the mess we've made of ourselves. So what is the real problem? Kreeft asks. What's really going on? With this simple question Kreeft's answer is not, the "experts" or the poisonous philosophy of those proud, pro-enlightenment professors of sociology and psychology in the liberal establishment of our day who say there is no truth. It isn't even the Left or the Right or Hollywood or the Media. So what is it then? Well, I'll let you figure that out. He tells you in the way C.S. Lewis would and then gives you the simplest solution to the problem possible—but also the hardest.

With that said. This book comes recommended with as much recommendation as I can recommend, which is fully. If you don't read this you might be that poor soul that never gets out of the dark.
