

Professor David Campbell
POL30028 Religion in American Politics
University of Notre Dame

PAPER TOPIC: THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF RELIGIOUS SWITCHING

Due: Noon, Thursday, September 22
Length: 750-1,000 words

- ▶ **Submit your papers by noon on September 22nd (remember that there is no class that day). Bring them to Professor Campbell's office at 422 Decio Hall, where there will be a box to collect your papers. No electronic submissions.**
- ▶ **List the number of words in the essay below your name on the title page**
- ▶ **Use a 12 point font**
- ▶ **Use a staple**
- ▶ **No late submissions will be accepted. (Computer problems are no excuse for late work. Computers crash; plan accordingly).**

Your assignment is to write a brief essay on the following topic:

What are the political implications of the relatively high rate of religious switching among Americans?

In answering this question, you will want to consider the possible effects on America's religions or the possible effects for the nation's political system--or both.

Whatever the effect(s) you discuss, consider also the following question: Is this healthy for American democracy? Why or why not?

You will want to draw on *American Grace*, any other assigned reading in the course, as well as our lectures in class. You are not required to cite any other sources, but you are welcome to do so.

