THE SOCIAL SCIENCES OF RELIGION IN BRAZIL

Pierre Sanchis

Abstract: This is a panorama of the successive meanings acquired by the Social Sciences of Religion during their recent institutionalization in Brazil. Seven "moments" are emphasized, each with their own respective density of thematic attention. The first of these moments comes from within religious institutions, a "religious sociology", that is gradually transformed and made autorxmous, becoming "Sodal Science of Religion". Afterwards, successive discoveries of popular religion were made, being a politically impre gnat ed religion in a politically unstable society such as Brazil, with a persistent religious sense of religion, and whose questions sprang from secularization and the advent of the New Religious Movements. Correlatively, what then called and still continues

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