
Erika Engstrom and Joseph Valenzano, professors at the University of Nevada, collaborated on this article, which analyzes the religious themes and portrayals in the television show Supernatural. The authors use the first sixty episodes as the basis for their examination. Specifically, they highlight the religious hegemony of Catholic rituals and rites as the means by which the two protagonists, Dean and Sam Winchester, fight the forces of evil. Conversely, other religions act as distractions from the characters’ quest.

The authors make a strong argument for their case, providing both quantitative and qualitative details from the show. They use a defined methodology that separates the weapons and rituals in the show and what religion they fit into. The findings are structured around the frequency of appearance in the first three seasons. The article scores high on several components of the CRAAP test. First of all, it is highly relevant to my research question. In addition to its relevance, the authority is credible. The Journal of Media & Religion is peer-reviewed, and both authors are full professors. The article is also current enough to be used in my project. This article provides a great overview of the number of religious images used in the show, which will help me as I continue to explore my question. Of particular note is the decided reliance on Christianity as a symbol of good, which helps to define what my definition of the word should be. It has increased my understanding of the scope of the use religious rites and rituals depicted in the show.