



Race, Religion, and Sport in 2020

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Message from the Guest Editors

2020 was an unprecedented year in American history. In addition to being a presidential election year in one of the most politically polarized periods in our history, the murder of George Floyd and other African Americans by the police brought racial justice issues to the foreground of the American consciousness. Then, from spring onward, the country struggled in its response to the coronavirus, which itself became another issue in our political divide.

While sport often is seen as entertainment or a mere diversion, an escape from the real world, no cultural phenomena in 2020 could escape the influence of the historical moment. Even more, sport became a vehicle for responding to racial injustice, persevered despite the pandemic and mitigation efforts, and actively contributed to our political discourse.

In this Special Issue of *Religions*, the authors examine various intersections of race, religion, and sport in 2020 and continuing into this year—attempting to shed light on all three phenomena while gaining a greater understanding of 2020 and our current historical and cultural moment.





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