



The Solidarity of Kin

By Kenneth M. Morrison

State University of New York Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 256 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.6in. Using the example of the Eastern Algonkians, this book argues that Native Americans did not convert to Christianity, but rather made sense of Christianity in their own traditional ways and for their own social purposes. Arguing that Native Americans religious life and history have been misinterpreted, author Kenneth M. Morrison reconstructs the Eastern Algonkians world views, demonstrates the indigenous modes of rationality that shaped not only their encounter with the French but also their self-directed process of religious change. In reassessing controversial anthropological, historical, and ethnohistorical scholarship, Morrison develops interpretive strategies that are more responsive to the religious world views of the Eastern Algonkian peoples. He concludes that the Eastern Algonkians did not convert to Catholicism, but rather applied traditional knowledge and values to achieve a pragmatic and critical sense of Christianity and to preserve and extend kinship solidarity into the future. The result was a remarkable intersection of Eastern Algonkian and missionary cosmologies. Ken Morrison moves to the essence of scholarly arguments in reviewing the postures taken by so many of his predecessors in seeking a definitive framework with which Indian religious traditions...



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