



# Naked Truth

## Strip Clubs, Democracy, and a Christian Right

by Judith Lynne Hanna (www.judithhanna.com)

Taking an unprecedented, counterintuitive look at America's conflict over sexuality, *Naked Truth* reveals how the attack on the exotic dance industry by the activist Christian Right threatens the separation of church and state and undermines our civil liberties.

Across America, strip clubs have come under attack by a politically aggressive segment of the Christian Right. Using plausible-sounding but factually untrue arguments about the harmful effects of strip clubs on their communities, the Christian Right has stoked public outrage and incited local and state governments to impose onerous restrictions on the clubs with the intent of dismantling the exotic dance industry. But an even larger agenda is at work, according to Judith Lynne Hanna. In *Naked Truth*, she builds a convincing case that the attack on exotic dance is part of the activist Christian Right's "grand design" to supplant constitutional democracy in America with a Bible-based theocracy.

Hanna takes readers onstage, backstage, and into the community and courts to reveal the conflicts, charges, and realities that are playing out at the intersection of dance, erotic fantasy, religion, politics, and law. She explains why exotic dance is a legitimate form of artistic communication and debunks the many myths and untruths that the Christian Right uses to fight strip clubs. Hanna also demonstrates that while the fight happens at the local level, it is part of a national campaign to regulate sexuality and punish those who do not adhere to Scripture-based moral values. Ultimately, she argues, the naked truth is that the separation of church and state is under siege and our civil liberties—free speech, women's rights, and free enterprise—are at stake.

A leading dance scholar and critic who has served as an expert court witness in more than one hundred exotic dance cases nationwide, Hanna is Affiliate Senior Research Scientist in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maryland. She has written hundreds of articles and numerous books, including *To Dance Is Human: A Theory of Nonverbal Communication*; *The Performer-Audience Connection*; *Dance, Sex, and Gender*; *Dancing for Health: Conquering and Preventing Stress*; and *Partnering Dance and Education*.

2012, ISBN 978-0-292-72911-7, 6 x 9 inches, 290 pages, 28 b&w photos, <https://www.utexas.edu/utpress/books/hannak.html>, paperback, \$24.94, hardcover, \$55 (33% website discount). \$9.99 kindle e-book, [http://www.amazon.com/Naked-Truth-ebook/dp/B008NFBYJK/ref=tmm\\_kin\\_title\\_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1360597267&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Naked-Truth-ebook/dp/B008NFBYJK/ref=tmm_kin_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1360597267&sr=1-1); \$13.72 nook e-book, barnesandnoble.com. [www.combinedacademic.co.uk](http://www.combinedacademic.co.uk)

Comments:

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<http://titsandsass.com> If Your Blog Post is Journalism, My Lapdance is Art: The NY Fight Over Taxable Stripping by Bubbles on September 5, 2012

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University of Maryland Libraries "Speaking of Books" by Campus Authors featuring a conversation with **Judith Lynne Hanna** about *NAKED TRUTH: STRIP CLUBS, DEMOCRACY, AND A CHRISTIAN RIGHT*, April 10, 2013, open to the public, was recorded and can be seen on <http://vimeo.com/64087418>