

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

“A day in the life of Osho.” 2012. Osho News.

<https://www.oshonews.com/2012/10/09/a-day-in-the-life-of-osho/#:~:text=Two%20hours%20%20sleep%20in,at%20six%20in%20the%20morning.>

This source is an excerpt from an interview by Denise Kovacevic asking Osho about his daily life. It is a primary source because it is a transcript of his words.

Freedom Forum. n.d. “Are Cults Illegal? A First Amendment Analysis.” Freedom Forum. Accessed October 22, 2024. <https://www.freedomforum.org/are-cults-illegal/>.

This is an analysis of the First Amendment and the legality of cults.

Goldman, Marion. 2018. “I did research at Rajneeshpuram, and here is what I learned.” The Conversation.

<https://theconversation.com/i-did-research-at-rajneeshpuram-and-here-is-what-i-learned-89846>.

This source discusses the intentions and motivations of the Rajneesh women, and a study from someone doing research in the commune. We used it as the primary source of quotes from followers who lived at Rajneeshpuram.

L.A. Times Archives. 1985. “21 Followers of Rajneesh Indicted in Wiretapping.” Los Angeles Times. <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1985-12-20-mn-5279-story.html>.

We used this source to write about the wiretapping and Sheela leaving Rajneeshpuram. It is a primary source because it was a newspaper article printed at the time that the events were occurring.

Mamet, Andreas. 2010. “Article - How I Met Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh (Osho).” Positive Health Online. Accessed October 22, 2024.

<https://www.positivehealth.com/article/meditation/how-i-met-bhagwan-shree-rajneesh-osho>.

This source is an article written by someone who met Osho. Expressing how, even today, he still feels the effects of the practices done in the commune.

Popkin, Jim. 2018. “I Covered The Rajneesh Cult. Here's What 'Wild Wild Country' Leaves Out.” HuffPost.

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/cult-wild-wild-country-netflix_n_5ab2b37de4b054d118df49c1.

This source is discussing what *Wild Wild Country* did not include in the documentary about Rajneeshpuram. While this is a secondary source, we used the primary source quotes from people who resided at the Rajneeshpuram.

Simmons, Tracy. 2016. "I'd forgotten why I became a religion reporter." Fav's News.
<https://favs.news/id-forgotten-why-i-became-a-religion-reporter/>.

This is from a religion reporter talking about a cult she was a member of as a child. It provided a first-person perspective.

Urban, Hugh. Spring 2018, Vol. 39, No. 2. "Rajneeshpuram Was More than a Utopia in the Desert. It Was a Mirror of the." National Endowment for the Humanities. Accessed October 22, 2024.
<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2018/spring/feature/rajneeshpuram-was-more-utopia-desert-it-was-mirror>.

This source provided images that we used to show the Rajneeshpuram in Oregon when Osho was its leader. Although it is a secondary source, we used it for the primary source images.

US District Court for the District of Oregon. 1984. "Oregon v. City of Rajneeshpuram, 598 F. Supp. 1208 (D. Or. 1984)." JUSTIA U.S. Law.
<https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/FSupp/598/1208/1476422/>.

This legal document was crucial in figuring out what one of the major court cases surrounding the cult was about. It also gave us extra information about the *rights* of the City of Rajneeshpuram and the *responsibilities* of Oregon to recognize it.

Wollaston, Sam, and Ali Smith. 2018. "Growing up in the Wild Wild Country cult: 'You heard people having sex all the time, like baboons.'" The Guardian.
<https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2018/apr/24/wild-wild-country-netflix-cult-sex-noa-maxwell-bhagwan-shree-rajneesh-commune-childhood>.

This is an interview from someone who grew up in the cult.

Secondary Sources

Abbott, Carl. "Rajneeshees." The Oregon Encyclopedia. Last modified October 22, 2024.
<https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/rajneeshees/>.

This source provided a timeline of the Rajneeshees and their presence in the United States.

Biography.com, Editors. 2023. "Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh: Biography, Cult Leader, Dynamic Meditation." Famous Religious Figures. Biography.
<https://www.biography.com/religious-figures/a45875467/bhagwan-shree-rajneesh>.

This biography helped explain Osho's motives in establishing a commune in Oregon.

Brovsky-Eaker, Jess. 2021. "A Brief History of a Colorado Cult." Law Week Colorado.
<https://www.lawweekcolorado.com/article/a-brief-history-of-a-colorado-cult/>.

The source discusses the religious concerns and other cults that affected these *rights*. It offered a different perspective on a similar cult.

Daudoo, Oputa F. n.d. "Cultism and its effects on individuals and society." Afe Babalola University. Accessed October 22, 2024.
https://portal.abuad.edu.ng/Assignments/1593210806GST122_ASSIGNMENT.docx.

This is a document about the effects of cults on everyone.

Deshmukh, Anshool. 2022. "Mapped: The World's Major Religions, by Distribution." Visual Capitalist. <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/mapped-major-religions-of-the-world/>.

This is a map of different types of religions all over the world

Duin, Julia. 2015. "History of religious cults in America's Northwest gets graphic-art treatment." GetReligion.
<https://www.getreligion.org/getreligion/2015/6/10/history-of-religious-cults-in-americas-northwest-gets-graphic-art-treatment>.

This source explains the history of religious cults.

Fieldstadt, Elisha. 2021. "The most terrifying cults in history." CBS News.
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/cults-dangerous-deadly-history/>.

This is a news report on the most dangerous cults and what they did. It helped us compare and contrast the Rajneeshpuram and Osho to other cults.

Gahan, Jairan. n.d. "Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh Archives -." Sufi Journal of Mystical Philosophy & Practice. Accessed October 22, 2024.
<https://www.sufijournal.org/tag/bhagwan-shree-rajneesh/>.

This source is a film review of *Wild Wild Country*, which is a documentary about the Rajneeshpuram.

Hadding, Cecilia. 2023. "Being in-between; exploring former cult members' experiences of an acculturation process using the cultural formulation interview." Being in-between; exploring former cult members' experiences of an acculturation process using the cultural

formulation interview (DSM-5). National Library of Medicine.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10534031/>.

This is a discussion of the experiences of former cult members.

Kaplan, Avery. 2022. "Pop Cult(ure): Examining the Evolution of Cults as Entertainment." Oddities. The Gutter Review.
<https://www.thegutterreview.com/pop-culture-examining-the-evolution-of-cults-as-entertainment/>.

This is a review of cults in entertainment.

Kumari, Pradamini. 2023. "12 Facts You Need To Know About Ma Anand Sheela Before Watching 'Searching For Sheela' On Netflix." Scoop Whoop.
<https://www.scoopwhoop.com/entertainment/facts-about-ma-anand-sheela/>.

This source gave us more information about Sheela, including how she robbed the cult and pushed Osho to turn the cult into a brand.

MasterClass. 2022. "What Is a Cult? 4 Types of Cults and Common Characteristics - 2024." Science & Tech. MasterClass. <https://www.masterclass.com/articles/what-is-a-cult>.

This is a list of common types of cults and what they are.

Merriam-Webster. 2024. "Cult Definition & Meaning." Merriam-Webster.
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cult>.

This is the dictionary definition of a cult, which we felt was important to understand and include in our research.

Michel, Lincoln. 2018. "'Wild Wild Country' Is the Sex Cult Documentary You Didn't Know Netflix Needed." GQ.
<https://www.gq.com/story/wild-wild-country-is-the-sex-cult-documentary-you-didnt-know-netflix-needed>.

This is another film review of *Wild Wild Country*.

Miller, Elliot. 2009. "The Rajneesh Cult." Christian Research Institute. Last modified 2023.
<https://www.equip.org/articles/the-rajneesh-cult/>.

This source is of a Christian view on the Rajneesh+Interview with Eckart Flother (a former member of the Rajneesh community).

Monahan, Jennifer. 2023. "Why are we so obsessed with cults?" Professor Poulomi Saha's Homecoming lecture explores a pop culture phenomenon | Arts & Humanities." Arts & Humanities. UC Berkeley.

<https://artshumanities.berkeley.edu/news/%E2%80%9Cwhy-are-we-so-obsessed-cults%E2%80%9D-professor-poulomi-saha%E2%80%99s-homecoming-lecture-explores-pop-culture>.

This is a discussion of the obsession pop culture has with cults.

More, Manoj Dattatrye. 2024. "Osho followers in Pune deny UK woman's rape charges: 'baseless and have no truth whatsoever.'" *The Indian Express*.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/pune/osho-followers-in-pune-deny-uk-womans-rape-charges-baseless-and-have-no-truth-whatsoever-9597825/>.

This source discusses sexual assault charges against members of the Rajneesh, this article discusses the lack of information to back up the charges.

Mrunal and Jiten. 2023. "The Guru, the Groove, and the Gettin' Real: Your Guide to Unraveling the Osho Mystery." *Konkan Tourism*.

<https://www.konkan.me/guide-to-unraveling-the-osho-mystery/>.

This is the story of Osho's life, who he was, and what he did.

Oregon Department of Justice. n.d. "Rajneeshpuram 1981-1989." Oregon Department of Justice. Accessed February 12, 2025.

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/media/doj-quick-facts/notable-investigations-achievements/>.

This gave us clear evidence that the Rajneeshpuram commune was a major legal event in Oregon's history, as well as giving us dates for various crucial events.

Oregonlive. n.d. "Rajneesh - oregonlive.com." Oregon Live. Accessed October 22, 2024.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/rajneesh/>.

This link shows other sources related to Rajneesh, primarily related to the *Wild Wild Country* documentary.

Oregon Secretary of State. n.d. "State of Oregon: Oregon Ghost Towns - Antelope." Oregon Secretary of State. Accessed October 22, 2024.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/archives/exhibits/ghost/Pages/agriculture-antelope.aspx>.

This is a source all about Antelope, Oregon. This was the location of the Rajneeshpuram commune.

Parsons, Stephen. 2022. "When a Church Becomes Cultic." *Surviving Church*.

<https://survivingchurch.org/2022/11/04/when-a-church-becomes-cultic/>.

This source is an article about how similar a cult is to a religion or church.

PBS, dir. 2012. *Oregon Experience*. Season 7, episode 701, "Rajneeshpuram." PBS. Aired November 19, 2012. <https://www.pbs.org/video/oregon-experience-rajaneeshpuram/>.

We used this documentary to insert clips into our website as multimedia. It was also very useful as it had many first hand interviews and accounts, as well as giving us a deeper dive into the information we already had.

Perry, Douglas. 2018. "Rajneeshees embraced Portland, opening a wild nightclub, hotel that became the bomber's target." *The Oregonian*.
https://www.oregonlive.com/news/erry-2018/03/3356fec09a/rajneeshees_embraced_portland.html.

This article gave us information on the firebombing of the Rajneesh hotel.

Raikar, Sanat P., and Murray Rubinstein. 2024. "Rajneesh movement | History, Beliefs, & Facts." *Britannica*. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Rajneesh-movement>.

This source discusses the history and beliefs of the Rajneesh and also talks about what happened after Osho's death.

Ramirez, Dez. 2018. "A Trip Into "Wild Wild Country."" *Travel Oregon*.
<https://traveloregon.com/things-to-do/trip-ideas/favorite-trips/trip-wild-wild-country/>.

This source shows positive things about the property from *Wild Wild Country*, which the documentary did not speak about. It provided reasons to visit Antelope, Oregon.

Ramsey, Jarold. 2022. "City of Antelope and Muddy Ranch." *The Oregon Encyclopedia*.
https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/city_of_antelope_muddy_ranch/.

This source is talking about the history of Muddy Ranch and Antelope, Oregon.

Recovery from Mormonism (RfM). n.d. "What are the predominant religious cults in Washington State?" *Recovery from Mormonism (RfM) discussion forum*.
<https://www.exmormon.org/phorum/read.php?2,343204>.

This is a discussion on religious cults in Washington from real people answering the question.

"Religion and cults, are they the same?" n.d. *Faith & Science Conversation. The BioLogos Forum*. Accessed October 22, 2024.
<https://discourse.biologos.org/t/religion-and-cults-are-they-the-same/48354>.

This source explores discussion of the similarities and differences between religions and cults.

Seattle By Night. 2023. "Cults in Seattle." Seattle By Night.
<https://seattlebynightvtm.com/rulings/general-information/cults-in-seattle/>.

This is a roleplay server, but it helped us find cults nearby and some information about them before deciding on the Rajneesh.

Shane, Cari. 2022. "What Makes a Cult, and How Do Cult Leaders Control Their Followers?" Discover Magazine.
<https://www.discovermagazine.com/mind/the-psychology-behind-cults>.

We used this source to explain what exactly is the definition of a cult and how the inner workings function.

Silman, Anna. 2018. "9 Rajneeshpuram Residents on What Wild Wild Country Got Wrong." The Cut.
<https://www.thecut.com/2018/04/9-rajneesh-followers-on-what-wild-wild-country-got-wrong.html>.

This website was crucial in helping us understand the severity of the cult from the members themselves. It also gave us many of the quotes we used and gave us a summary of who was saying them, such as how long they were at the cult, and what responsibilities they had for their part of the event.

Singer, Peter. 2024. "Hedonism | Philosophy & Definition." Britannica.
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/hedonism>.

This source helped us identify the definition of hedonism. This was important because the Rajneesh believed in sexual hedonism.

Study. n.d. "Cult | Definition, Characteristics & Behavior - Lesson." Study.com. Accessed October 22, 2024. <https://study.com/learn/lesson/cult-characteristics-types-behavior.html>.

This is a study of what cult life is like, providing definitions, characteristics, and answers to "Frequently Asked Questions."

"The Rajneeshees in Oregon: A Communal Experiment." n.d. University of Oregon. Accessed February 12, 2025.
<https://international.uoregon.edu/rajneeshees-oregon-communal-experiment>.

This article told us more about the crimes the Rajneesh committed. It also gave us more dates of court cases.

The Staff of Watchman Fellowship, Inc. n.d. "Index of Cults and Religions." Watchman Fellowship. Accessed October 22, 2024.
<https://www.watchman.org/index-of-cults-and-religions/>.

This source helped us identify different types of cults and religions and some basic facts and definitions about them.

Teixeira, Kayla. n.d. "Cult Members Who Are They?" Cal State East Bay. Accessed October 22, 2024. <https://www.csueastbay.edu/philosophy/reflections/2010/contents/kayl-teix.html>.

This is a discussion on the type of people who join cults and what are their reasoning and motivations.

Tikkanen, Amy, and John P. Rafferty. n.d. "Timeline of the 1980s." History & Society. Britannica. Accessed October 22, 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/story/timeline-of-the-1980s>.

This is a timeline of the 1980s, which helped us understand the events that led up to the Rajneeshpuram, during, and afterward. It also helped us understand other historical events that were taking place in the United States during this era.

Turnquist, Kristi. 2023. "Rajneeshees, cults, crime, and more: 8 documentaries with Oregon connections." Life & Culture. Oregon Live. <https://www.oregonlive.com/entertainment/2023/12/rajneeshees-cults-crime-and-more-8-documentaries-with-oregon-connections.html>.

This source shows documentaries about Oregon, including the one on the Rajneeshees.

Tyrell, Ivan. n.d. "Exploring the CULT in culture | www.hgi.org.uk." Human Givens Institute. Accessed October 22, 2024. <https://www.hgi.org.uk/resources/delve-our-extensive-library/society-and-culture/exploring-cult-culture>.

This is an article analyzing the research of clinical professor Arthur Deikman, exploring his reports about how cults align with culture and why people are interested in them.

Wolfson, Sam, and Ali Smith. 2018. "The free-love cult that terrorised America – and became Netflix's latest must-watch." The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2018/apr/07/cult-oregon-1980s-terror-netflix-documentary-wild-country>.

This is a summary of the *Wild Wild Country* documentary. It gave us a good overview of the events at the Rajneeshpuram.

WW Staff. 2018. "A Look At Where Five of the Key People and Places in the Rajneesh Cult Saga Are Now." Willamette Week. <https://www.wweek.com/news/2018/04/03/a-look-at-where-five-of-the-key-people-and-places-in-the-rajneesh-cult-saga-are-now/>.

This source is about the current state of the people and the places involved in the story of the Rajneeshpuram.

Zaitz, Les. 2023. "Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh: Enlightenment was a lure for many of his followers." Oregon Live.
https://www.oregonlive.com/rajneesh/2011/04/enlightenment_was_lure_for_man.html.

This discusses why the ideas of enlightenment were such a big aspect of the Rajneesh cult's lessons.

Zilliox, Jr., L. Kahaner. 1991. "How To Investigate Destructive Cults and Underground Groups: An Investigator's Manual." Office of Justice Programs. Accessed October 22, 2024.
<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/how-investigate-destructive-cults-and-underground-groups>.

This source teaches how to investigate and find a cult. This gave us a good understanding of the similarities and differences of the Rajneeshpuram to other cults.