The Elementary Forms of Religious Life was written in 1912 by Emile Durkheim. The author wrote the book as a way to try to understand religion’s role in society, especially as a source of what he called “collective efficacy.”

**Durkheim’s View of Religion - OpenEdition Journals**

In the Elementary Forms of Religious Life, Durkheim argues that religion has its origins in totemism. Totems are sacred objects or symbols that represent different clans or groups within a society. For Durkheim, studying Aboriginal religion was a way “to yield an understanding of the religious nature of man, by a permanent and irrefutable method.”

**Notes On Totemism Source: Emile Durkheim, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life, Chapter 7**

Durkheim notes that relations among totems represent the beliefs and practices of the Aboriginal people. These totems are not just symbols but are also the source of religious beliefs and practices. The totems are considered to be the souls of the dead and are believed to have a mystical relationship with the spiritual world.

**Totem - Wikipedia**

In Aboriginal totemism, the totem is believed to be the soul of the dead and is considered to be the source of religious beliefs and practices. The totem is believed to have a mystical relationship with the spiritual world.

**The Functionalist Perspective on Religion: Summary**

Durkheim’s sociology of religion is often seen as one of the earliest and simplest form of religious practice. It is most commonly found among aboriginal peoples, such as the Australian aboriginals, and North West native American indians, who have clan-based societies.

**Émile Durkheim - Wikipedia**

Emile Durkheim, the founder of functionalism, spent much of his academic career studying religions, especially those of primitive peoples, such as the Australian aboriginals and the American Indian. His work is best known for his theories on the function of religion in society. Durkheim argues that religion has its origins in totemism and that it serves a social function by providing a sense of community and social cohesion.

**Discuss the theory of religion by Emile’s Durkheim.**

Durkheim’s primary purpose in The Elementary Forms was to describe and explain the most primitive and first religious forms. He believed that religion is a natural phenomenon that has evolved over time. Religion is a social institution that provides a sense of order and stability in society.

**The Sociology of Emile Durkheim | Literary Theory and Literary History**

Durkheim’s theory of religion is one of the earliest and simplest forms of religious practice. It is most commonly found among aboriginal peoples, such as the Australian aboriginals, and North West native American indians, who have clan-based societies.

**To the Elementary Forms of Religious Life (1912)**

In this work, Durkheim describes totemism as one of the earliest and simplest forms of religious practice. It is most commonly found among aboriginal peoples, such as the Australian aboriginals, and North West native American indians, who have clan-based societies.

**Notes On Totemism Source: Emile Durkheim, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life, Chapter 7**

In the Elementary Forms of Religious Life, Durkheim seeks to show that society is the soul of religion. Religion has its origins in totemism and is the soul of all religious belief. Religion is a social institution that provides a sense of order and stability in society.

**Totemism**

In the Elementary Forms of Religious Life, Durkheim argues that totemism is the earliest, simplest, and purist example of human religion. It is found in societies where people have a shared perception of the world and share collective beliefs and values. The totem is a sacred symbol that represents a clan or group and is believed to have a mystical relationship with the spiritual world.

**Emile Durkheim**

Durkheim's work has been influential in the development of sociology, particularly in the study of religion. His ideas have been applied in various fields, including psychology, anthropology, and political science. Durkheim's work has been translated into many languages and is still widely read today.