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appears to be a rising trend of an increasing proportion of Americans with no religious preference which is strikingly similar to the decline in religion which took place within the Roman Empire. Indeed, Constantine's (309-337AD) decision to decriminalize Christianity within the Roman Empire was a turning point for religious change cyclically. The Decline & Fall of Religion? | Armstrong Economics An alternate title for the book could be Religion, the Decline of Magic, and the Rise of Rationalism. Thomas advances the current understanding of the interaction of religion, magic, and socio-economic changes through the combination of documentary research and social scientific analysis. He marshals a wealth of primary sources. Religion and the

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By publishing Religion and the Decline of Magic, Thomas became the first serious scholar to attempt to synthesize the full

range of popular thought about the occult and the supernatural, studying its influence across Europe over several centuries. At root, his book can be seen as a superb exercise in problem-solving: one that actually established "magic" as a historical problem worthy of investigation.

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