

Boundary-Work and Science – *Thomas Gieryn (Sociology), Indiana University, Bloomington (USA)*

American debates over intelligent design have once again brought science and religion together in the courtroom. What should sociologists of science do with this latest episode of "Scopes Revisited?" Should the Dover (Pennsylvania) trial be read as a collision of two institutional logics and scripts, a contradiction between competing rules of the game, a moment for restructuring hierarchies of power and resources? Or is the trial better read as another occasion for boundary-work, where strategic and knowledgeable actors on both sides discursively and contingently construct cultural borders and territories ("science" and "religion") that create maps beneficial for their political, theological and professional ambitions? Sociology of science has lately begun to witness a post-constructivist, post-agentic, post-interpretive turn – variously labelled neo-institutionalism or the "new political sociology of science." But is it the right turn?