

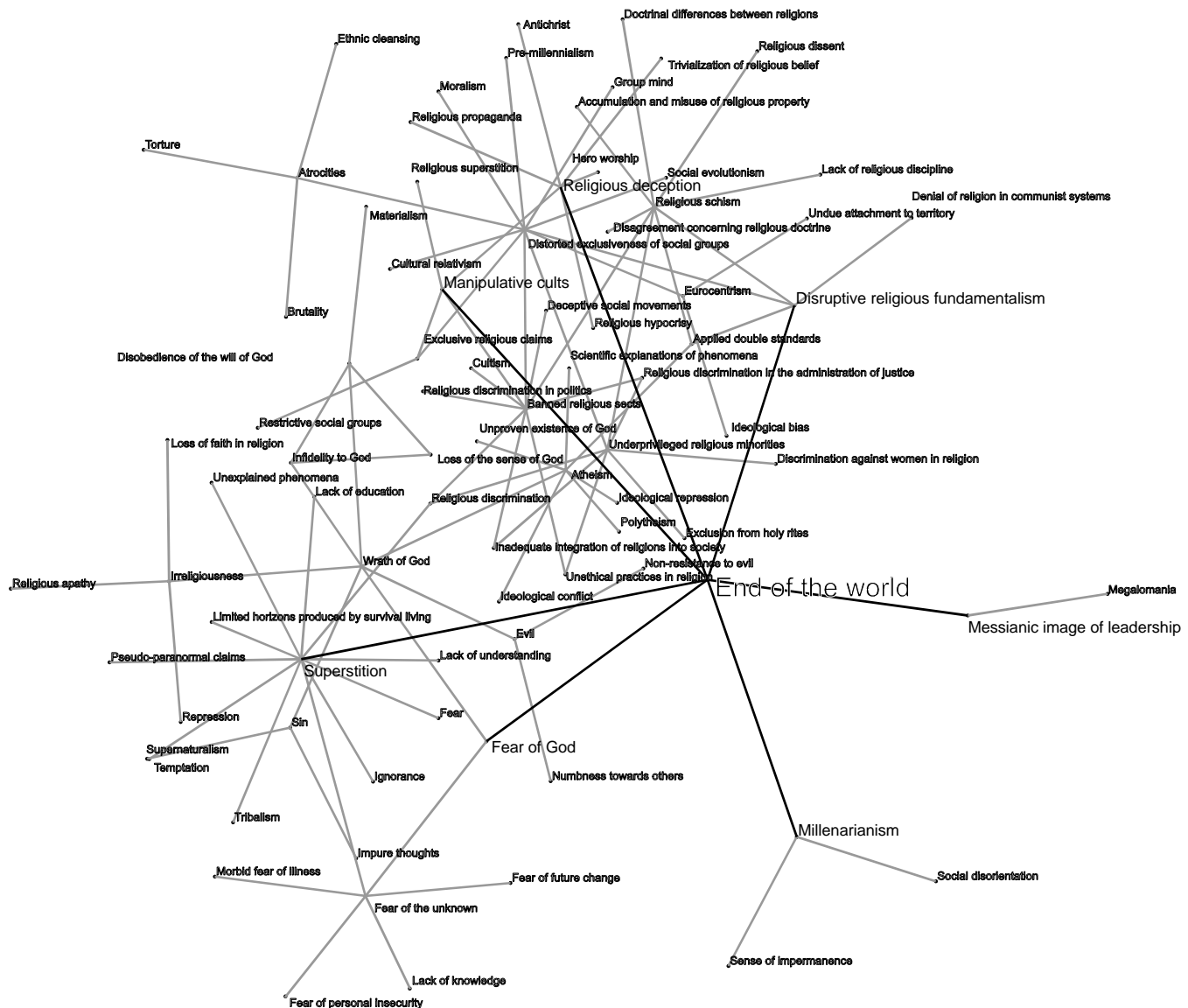
Figure 10.2.22. End of the world

Database: World Problems and Issues

Link type: aggravated by problems

Network nodes: 86

UIA database: <http://db.uia.org/scripts/sweb.dll/uiaf?DD=PR&CL=2&DR=F4528>



The end of the world can be seen as three separate realities; the physical destruction of the Earth and all of humankind, the collapse of one's own worldview and all of one's understanding, and the time when God will be manifested in final judgement and redemption of humankind. Rapture is the term given to the end of the world by Christian fundamentalists. There are frequent reports of individuals and groups concerned at the imminent end of the world. Some of them base their beliefs on deductions from scriptures, possibly combined with very sophisticated calculations (such as those based on the Great Pyramid). Others derive their belief from information provided by seers and mediums, whether from the past (as in the case of Nostradamus) or from the present time. Some groups act on the belief by selling their property in order to be able to congregate at a particular location to await the end of the world. This may involve purchasing the right to benefit from the facilities at such a location, including use of reserves to ensure survival in the period of transition after disaster strikes. Some of the locations selected are underground in elaborate systems of shelters as a protection from any conflagration. In 1992, at midnight of 28 October, thousands of South Koreans expected Christ would descend and raise his followers into heaven, leaving others to perish in a series of cataclysms. Many had quit jobs and given away their worldly goods. In 1993 members of the GreatWhiteBrotherhood active in the Ukraine expected the world to end on 14 November and were accused of planning mass suicides and acts of violence. Christian Identity followers in the USA believe in the inevitability of the end of the world and the Second Coming of Christ. At that time, it is claimed that Jews and their allies will attempt to destroy the white race using any means available. The result will be a violent and bloody struggle -- a war, in effect -- between God's forces, the white race, and the forces of evil, the Jews and nonwhites. Significantly, many adherents believe that this is tied into the coming of the new millennium. Monte Kim Miller, leader of the Concerned Christians group in the USA, claimed to be one of the two witnesses or prophets described in the Book of Revelation who would die on the streets of Jerusalem prior to the Second Coming of Christ then predicted to occur in December 1999. CC members believed that Miller's death would set off an apocalyptic end to the millennium, at which time all of Miller's followers would be sent to Heaven.