## **Contents**

1	A political-ideational approach to RE	
1.1	Introduction	
1.2	Historical background and former research	
1.3	The structure of the book	27
2	Idea analysis of political speech	29
2.1	Idea analysis as method for analysing policy texts	29
2.2	Proceedings from parliamentary debates as material	38
3	Approaching RE, religious and national identity and	
	the purpose of Norwegian education	11
3.1	Religion education	
3.2	The relationship between religious and national identity	52
3.2.1	Why discuss religious and national identity together with	
	ideas about RE?	
3.2.2	Taylor on configurations of religious and national identities	58
3.3	The purpose of Norwegian education	
3.3.1	The OECD and global education policy in Norway	55
3.3.2	Ideas about the purpose of Norwegian education in	
	tension – between objects clauses and the OECD	
3.4	Overview of the analytical tools	72
4	Ideas about RE, religious and national identity,	
	and the purpose of Norwegian education in 1995	
4.1	Key ideas in the debate	
4.1.1	Problem definitions	
4.1.2	Policy solutions	
4.1.3	Meta-ideas	
4.1.4	Summary of the key ideas in the debate	
4.2	Religion education	
4.2.1	Independent MP Christiansen and the Socialist Left Party	
4.2.2	The non-socialist parties	
4.2.3	The Labour Party 10	
4.2.4	Summary of ideas about the RE in the 1995 debate	
4.3	The relationship between religious and national identity	
4.3.1	Independent MP Christiansen and the Socialist Left Party	
4.3.2	The non-socialist parties	
4.3.3	The Labour Party	29
4.3.4	Summary of ideas about the relationship between religious and	
	national identity in the 1995 debate	2/1

4.4	The purpose of Norwegian education
4.4.1	Independent MP Christiansen and the Socialist Left Party
4.4.2	The non-socialist parties
4.4.3	The Labour Party
4.4.4	Summary of ideas about the purpose of Norwegian education in
	the 1995 debate
5	Ideas about RE, religious and national identity,
	and the purpose of Norwegian education in 2008
5.1	Key ideas in the debate
5.1.1	Policy solutions
5.1.2	Problem definitions
5.1.3	Meta-ideas
5.1.4	Summary of the key ideas in the 2008 debate
5.2	Religion education
5.2.1	The government parties
5.2.2	The opposition parties
5.2.3	Summary of ideas about RE in the 2008 debate
5.3	The relationship between religious and national identity
5.3.1	The governing parties
5.3.2	The opposition parties
5.3.3	Summary of ideas about the relationship between religious and
	national identity in the 2008 debate
5.4	The purpose of Norwegian education
5.4.1	The governing parties
5.4.2	The opposition parties
5.4.3	Summary of ideas about the purpose of Norwegian education in
	the 2008 debate
6	Comparing ideas about RE, religious and national identity,
	and the purpose of Norwegian education
6.1	Religion education
6.1.1	Ideas in the 1995 debate
6.1.2	Ideas in the 2008 debate
6.1.3	Ideas about RE in the debates
6.2	The relationship between religious and national identity
6.2.1	Ideas in the 1995 debate
6.2.2	Ideas in the 2008 debate
6.2.3	Ideas about the relationship between religious and
	national identity in the debates
6.3	The purpose of Norwegian education
6.3.1	Ideas in the 1995 debate

6.3.2	Ideas in the 2008 debate	
6.3.3	Ideas about the purpose of Norwegian education in the debates 218	
7	Developments and relationships in ideas about RE, religious	
	and national identity, and the purpose of Norwegian education $\dots 220$	
7.1	Developments in political ideas about RE	
7.2	Combinations of ideas about RE, religious and national identity,	
	and the purpose of Norwegian education	
7.2.1	1995: Independent MP Christiansen and the Socialist Left Party 222	
7.2.2	1995: The non-socialist parties	
7.2.3	1995: The Labour Party	
7.2.4	2008: The governing parties	
7.2.5	2008: The opposition parties	
7.3	Relationships among ideas about RE, religious and national identity,	
	and the purpose of Norwegian education	
7.3.1	Ideas about RE and the relationship between religious and national	
	identity	
7.3.2	Ideas about RE and the purpose of Norwegian education 236	
7.4	Former claims and the findings in this book	
Abbreviations		
List of tables		
References		
Appendix I: Overview of the politicians in the debates		
Appendix II: The objects clauses from 1969 and 2009		