SHAME ON DISNEY-ABC

ABC, which is owned by Disney, will launch a new show on March 8, "The Real O'Neals." It is billed as a comedy about an Irish-American family, loosely based on the life of one of its producers, Dan Savage. For those not acquainted with him, his maniacal hatred of Catholicism is so strong that it would be as though David Duke were hired to produce a show about African Americans.

That comparison is an understatement: Duke may be a bigot, but he is not known for his foul comments. By contrast, Savage is so vulgar that the original full-page ad I wrote was turned down by this newspaper. Why? Because the obscenities were deemed too incendiary for its readers, even with the use of asterisks in place of letters.

Savage has accused a politician of having sex—he used an obscenity—with the consecrated Host, the body and blood of Jesus. His filthy remarks about Jesus and Our Blessed Mother are so over the top that they would make Larry Flynt blush. Pope Benedict XVI, Pope John Paul II, and Cardinal Francis George are portrayed as perverts. And priests—he indicts all priests—are depicted as predators.

This is a man who intentionally tried to infect a Christian activist, Gary Bauer, with his sick bodily fluids. He did so by licking the doorknobs of his office, including the bathroom door. When it comes to getting down and dirty, Savage has no equal in public life.

ABC has won awards from the gay community for its show, "Modern Family." It has won awards from African Americans for "Black-ish." So concerned was the network that it might offend Asians with its new show, "Fresh Off the Boat," that it invited leaders to meet with producers. But when it comes to Catholics, ABC delivers Dan Savage.

Anyone who thinks I exaggerate about Savage's cruel record of bigotry, please go to our website, catholicleague.org, and read the ad we initially submitted.

Bill Donohue President



CATHOLIC LEAGUE for Religious and Civil Rights

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