

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S IDEA OF RIGHTS

[Bill Donohue](#)

When we think about human rights, we think about the right of individuals to live freely, without undue restrictions. Reasonable people can disagree about what constitutes “undue restrictions,” but only unreasonable people object to any restrictions at all. Unreasonable people also brand those whom they disagree with about the meaning of human rights as being “anti-rights.” That definition fits Amnesty International like a glove.

The global human rights organization is in the news for having to apologize for calling Christian organizations, and pro-life groups, “anti-rights”; the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales was among those so tagged. This is a good move but the report that it issued, “A Growing Threat: The Anti-Rights Movement in the UK,” is nonetheless disturbing. It reveals a mindset that is politically charged and unfair in its application.

According to Amnesty, the UK, following the lead of the US, is engaged in an “anti-rights movement” that targets “the rights of women and LGBT+ people in the UK,” one which is dominated by “ultra-conservative Christian policy and advocacy organisations.” Nowhere in the report does it draw a distinction between “conservative” and “ultra-conservative” groups, preferring instead to simply label any group that differs from liberal groups (apparently there are no “ultra-liberal” ones) as “ultra-conservative.”

Who are these “anti-rights” people who hold “ultra-conservative” views? They are pro-life, defending the human rights of the unborn; pro-marriage, defending the institution

as the union of one man and one woman; and, pro-human nature, defending the social affirmation of biological men and women.

In other words, those who believe in science—Biology 101 teaches that life begins at conception—are “anti-rights.” Similarly, those who believe that marriage is the exclusive preserve of the only two people who can have a family through natural means, namely a man and a woman, are “anti-rights.” Also, those who believe that the social roles of males and females are ordained by their biological differences are “anti-rights.”

Amnesty did not start as a pro-abortion organization. Indeed, it officially eschewed any interest in the subject until 2007. That is when it broke from its agnostic tradition and adopted a moderate position on abortion. At the time, I said it “betrayed its mission by violating the most fundamental right of all—the right to be born.”

It didn’t take long before it moved to a totally radical position on abortion. Indeed, in its latest report, it blasts crisis pregnancy centers—which give pregnant women contemplating an abortion the choice of putting their baby up for adoption—as being “anti-rights.”

Another manifestation of its tendency to demonize its opponents is its malicious attacks on the Catholic Church.

When it adopted its abortion-rights position in 2007, it sought to marginalize the Church by saying, “our purpose invoked the law and the state, not God.” It got progressively worse, and in 2015 it sponsored an anti-Catholic video, laced with obscenities, ripping the Catholic Church in Ireland for its defense of the rights of the unborn. In 2018, it received a grant of \$161,000 from George Soros, a notorious anti-Catholic, to fund its “My Body My Rights” campaign.

In 2008, it moved from abortion to gay rights, lambasting the Vatican for standing by the traditional understanding of

marriage, using boilerplate language to disparage Pope Benedict XVI.

More recently, in March 2026, it justified the church invasion in St. Paul, Minnesota at Cities Church—protesters interrupted a church service and terrorized children—saying that arresting Don Lemon for violating the rights of congregants was “a critical threat to our human rights.” So in its twisted mind, church invaders are not “anti-rights”—those who condemn them are.

Amnesty International was once regarded as a respectable, non-partisan organization. But that changed years ago. It has since morphed into another left-wing entity that has lost its moorings, selling out for ideological and financial profit.

Contact: press@amnesty.org