

CATHOLIC DISSIDENTS OPPOSE THE BISHOPS



Bill Donohue comments on dissident Catholic organizations who are working against the bishops in their defense of religious liberty:

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops filed an amicus brief Tuesday in support of a lawsuit brought by a privately owned business, Hobby Lobby, that challenges the constitutionality of the Health and Human Services mandate that is forcing its pro-abortion, pro-contraception, and pro-sterilization agenda on those who reject these services as immoral.

Also on Tuesday, seven “Catholic” organizations joined with others to oppose Hobby Lobby. Catholics for Choice is a pro-abortion, anti-Catholic entity; CORPUS, Women’s Ordination Conference, and Women’s Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual reject the Church’s teachings on ordination; DignityUSA and New Ways Ministry reject the Church’s teachings on homosexuality; and the National Coalition of American Nuns is pro-abortion and pro-gay marriage.

The latter group is particularly interesting. In a Marist poll released last week, it found that 84 percent of the American people favor abortion restrictions. But not the National Coalition of American Nuns: in 1989, they signed an amicus brief in *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services* in favor of unrestricted legal abortion. In 2006, they issued an “open letter” to Catholic voters in support of abortion and gay marriage. The year before, they blasted the selection of Pope Benedict XVI; in 2008, they publicly opposed his papal visit

to the U.S. In 2010, when the Catholic League protested the decision by the owner of the Empire State Building not to light the tower in recognition of Mother Teresa's centenary, these nuns signed a letter in support of the owner (so much for the bonds of "sisterhood"). In 1984, this same group opposed formal U.S. diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

Just today, Pope Francis called on Catholic universities to be "uncompromising" in their defense of the Church's "moral teachings." Too bad some nuns are working overtime to subvert his plea.