DAILY NEWS ACTS RESPONSIBLY

Bill Donohue comments on an editorial by the New York *Daily News* that was posted on its website:

Yesterday, I took the *Daily News* and the *New York Times* to task for not running a story on a Brooklyn Orthodox Jewish school that agreed to pay \$2.1 million to two former students. Rabbi Joel Kolko was charged with molesting the boys, beginning at the age of six.

The <u>Daily News</u> has now offered a responsible rejoinder. It concedes that it "blew it," explaining that it "sometimes misses stories." Fair enough. It then contends that it covers the sexual abuse of minors whenever and wherever it occurs. It also defends itself against charges of anti-Catholicism, providing some examples of its fairness.

Unlike the *Daily News*, the *New York Times* has not explained why it did not cover the story about Rabbi Kolko. While I believe that the absence of a story in the *Daily News* was indeed an error, I do not believe that the *Times* erred.

Quite frankly, the *Times* has a history of omitting stories on rabbis who molest youngsters, something one of its previous public editors even admitted to me. Yet little has changed.

The reasoned response by the *Daily News* is much appreciated. We will certainly let our supporters know of it.