FEDS EYE PRO-LIFERS

Over the summer, it was learned that the Clinton administration has been compiling files on various pro-family and pro-life groups. Included on the list is the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB).

An activist group, Judicial Watch, obtained documents under the Freedom of Information Act that reveal how federal investigators, including the FBI, are keeping tabs on innocent persons in the pro-life community. The secret program, known as "Violence Against Abortion Providers," documents all sorts of data as far back as the mid-1990s.

What is alarming about this is that the Clinton administration has gone way beyond keeping a eye on those who might be connected with the commission of a crime. It is, in fact, keeping files on persons simply because of their beliefs and expressed opinions. "The investigation of abortion clinic violence was a cover for them to go after pro-life leaders and religious leaders who obviously had no connection to this," said Tom Fitton, president of Judicial Watch.

When asked to comment on this, William Donohue told the press, "The surprise would be if they *didn't* regard such people as the enemy." He maintained that "There's no question that the pro-life community is the enemy as far as the Clinton administration is concerned." Donohue then questioned, "Why would it be such a leap to conclude he [Clinton] wouldn't have people investigating these groups?"

Is anyone surprised?