

MEDIA BIAS ON RELIGIOUS COVERAGE

On March 9, we drew several examples of media bias from various newspapers from around the world.

Orthodox Rabbi Baruch Lebovits was found guilty the previous day on eight counts of sexually abusing a 16-year old boy in Brooklyn. When a Catholic priest is accused of embezzlement—never mind sexual abuse—it typically merits a front-page story in the New York *Daily News* and the *New York Post*; the *New York Times* usually places such stories in a less prominent spot. On Rabbi Lebovits, the *Daily News* ran a 334-word story on p. 15; the *Post* put a 143-word piece on p. 6; and the *Times* ignored it altogether.

The *New York Times* ran another lengthy story about Charles Pellegrino, author of a book on Hiroshima that has been withdrawn by his publisher over concerns that Pellegrino used fraudulent sources and has been less than candid about his credentials and other matters. Both that day's story, and the one from March 2, discussed some of Pellegrino's other writings, but neither mentioned a book he co-wrote, *The Jesus Family Tomb*, that was widely shown to be a hoax: the book said there was evidence of a tomb housing the remains of Jesus and his family.

There are lots of Protestants and Jews who are pro-abortion and support the health care bill currently being considered, but their religion never seems to get mentioned in the press. The AP ran a story citing opposition to the bill from Rep. Bart Stupak, noting that he is a "Roman Catholic" who has been questioned about his religious views.

Regarding the Muslim murder of Christians in Nigeria, we found 34 headlines citing "religious" violence; four mentioned "Christian-Muslim violence"; and only one, *The Times* (of London), said anything like "Rampaging Muslim Gangs Trap Christian Victims in Nets."

None of this is by accident, and none of it is indicative of a cabal. It's all a reflection of a deep-seated anti-Catholic animus on the part of many elites. And these examples were all drawn from just one day's news stories.

