

# HILLARY ABUSES THE PULPIT

Bill Donohue comments on Hillary Clinton's speech at an African American church in Philadelphia yesterday:

Hillary Clinton took her campaign to Mount Airy Church of God in Christ yesterday afternoon. According to one report, "she urged parishioners of a black church in Philadelphia's West Oak Lane neighborhood to choose 'hope over fear' and vote to send her to the White House." Another story described how she stood "at a wooden lectern in the center of a purple-carpeted altar," making her pitch to the faithful.

There has been no complaint from the ACLU, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, American Atheists, or any of the secular humanist organizations. The Philadelphia media, including the *Inquirer*, have said nothing. Yet some Catholic bishops have been roundly criticized for merely advising parishioners to consider the right to be born as the preeminent right when casting their vote.

If keeping church and state separate is important, and it is, then those who egregiously cross the line—on either side—should be sanctioned for doing so. But when it comes to turning a black church into a campaign stop for Democratic candidates, the liberal establishment goes mute.

What's driving the silence is obvious: white racism and political partisanship. So much for fidelity to the First Amendment.