

KATHLEEN KENNEDY TOWNSEND'S CONFUSION



Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on an article by Kathleen Kennedy Townsend posted yesterday on *The Atlantic*:

I spent my St. Patrick's Day marching in the parade up New York's Fifth Avenue, and then drank beer with my friends. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend spent her St. Patrick's Day at a conference attended by homosexuals, lesbians, and men/women with new genitals. I had a good time.

Kathleen is confused. She says the Catholic Church's teachings "encourage bigotry and harm." She doesn't cite a single example, so she obviously meant some other religion. She also says that the conference was put on by a Catholic organization called New Ways Ministry. Again, she is confused—there is no Catholic group by that name (on St. Patrick's Day last year the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops reaffirmed that New Ways Ministry is not a Catholic organization). To top things off, she says that two female priests gave her a special blessing at the conference. More confusion: my religion does not have female priests. All three errors of fact were made in the first six sentences, which is why I didn't go any further.

I am at a loss to know what the source of Kathleen's confusion is. This wouldn't be so bad if she didn't have that sterling Kennedy name.