

# LEFT-WING WAR ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



Bill Donohue comments on how The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights is waging war on religious liberty:

Tomorrow, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in a case that pits the Obama administration against non-profit groups, mostly Catholic, which object to the Health and Human Services mandate. This provision would force religious non-profits to be complicit in support of abortion-inducing drugs, contraception, and sterilization in their healthcare programs.

Noting that the high court is about to consider this case, The Leadership Conference, a coalition of left-wing groups, yesterday released an updated version of its report, "Striking a Balance: Advancing Civil and Human Rights While Preserving Religious Liberty." The title is a ruse: no attempt is made to balance these rights. In fact, the group's president, Wade Henderson, a former ACLU activist, shows his contempt for religious liberty when he refers to our "so-called" religious rights.

The report accurately states that "Religious liberty is a fundamental civil and human right," one that often conflicts with "equal protection under the law [as] a fundamental American and constitutional principle." But the symmetry doesn't last long. "Unfortunately, these ideals are clashing as claims of religious liberty are being used to strike at the core principle of equal protection."

The truth is the other way around. It is not religious organizations that are telling the government that it must

adopt their precepts; rather, it is the government that is telling religious entities that they must swear allegiance to secular values. To be exact, the Little Sisters of the Poor are not the aggressors—they are the victims of government overreach.

The Leadership Conference, which is lavishly greased by George Soros, is also fighting for Merrick Garland to be confirmed to the Supreme Court. No wonder they like him—this “moderate” is a big fan of partial-birth abortion. What he would have to support to be labeled an extremist is anyone’s guess.