

MEDIA COVERAGE OF BISHOPS AND NUNS



Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments as follows:

Media coverage of both the “Fortnight for Freedom” events sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and the competing “Nuns on the Bus” campaign, reveal interesting results.

A total of 141 dioceses, involving tens of thousands of Catholics, participated in the USCCB events; it ended with a crowd of 5,000 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on July 4. Although [Bill Moyers](#) wrote that “a bus filled with nuns” participated in the “Nuns on the Bus” campaign, [in actual fact](#) a total of two nuns made the entire bus trip; there were never more than six at any one time on the bus. No matter, [CNN](#) did eight stories on the nuns, and none on the bishops; [MSNBC](#) did six on the nuns, and one on the bishops; and [CBS News](#) did two on the nuns and none on the bishops.

The nuns were helped by a media advisor for Faith in Public Life. As I pointed out in my [news release](#) of June 18, the group is funded by atheist billionaire George Soros; its Catholic Program Director is John Gehring, a left-wing operative who sought to manipulate the media against the USCCB events. Leading the nuns was a registered Washington lobbyist, [Sr. Simone Campbell](#) of Network. This group’s founder, [Sr. Marjorie Tuite](#), was threatened with expulsion in the 1980s for her pro-abortion work. Today, [Network](#) employs nine people, three of whom are nuns.

The “Nuns on the Bus” tour made its biggest splash when the [luxury bus](#) parked outside the United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. Lauding them was a leader of the [Islamic Society of North America](#). According to renowned student of terrorism, Steve Emerson, this organization “has sponsored extremists, racists, people who call for *Jihad* against the United States.” Not that the embrace of totalitarianism is anything foreign to these activists: an 88 year-old nun who took a spin on the bus said she had just gotten back from Cuba, where she expressed her [solidarity](#) with the Communists.

Media bias has rarely been so starkly naked.