

ONLINE MAGAZINE HIJACKS THE VIRGIN MARY

On June 11, the online magazine *Slate* ran a piece by William Saletan on virginity restoration. Saletan's piece followed articles in the *Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Times* about Muslim women in France who have lost their virginity and have elected to have their hymens surgically reattached; Muslim men expect their brides to be virgins and do not look kindly on those who are not.

On the homepage of *Slate's* website, Saletan's column was flagged by a picture of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; below the photo was the inscription, "A Defense of Virginity Restoration Surgery."

It is mind-boggling that in a story that has nothing to do with Roman Catholicism, we see a gratuitous attack on Catholics. Were there not suitable Muslim photos that *Slate* could use to draw attention to Saletan's article? The fact that they didn't choose Islam iconography suggests not a lack of interest, but will: They didn't have the guts to offend Muslims.

We urged our members to contact *Slate's* New York office at nyoffice@slate.com