

# **“CONCLAVE” FLOPPED**

The extremely bizarre movie, “Conclave,” won some awards at the Screen Actors Guild, and other film festivals, but it walked away with only one Oscar, and not a coveted one.

Few go to the movies anymore, so if you missed out on this one, let us explain why it didn’t pan out the way those associated with the movie thought it would.

The movie was about the election of a new pope. While there were artistic elements of some merit, the only reason it garnered any attention was because of the ending. That’s when we learn that the newly elected pope has a uterus. In fact, the pope is “intersex.”

It failed because most audiences did not take the flick seriously. Instead, they snickered.

It appears that the desired outcome—to jar the public, especially Catholics—to change their mind about the Church’s teachings on sexuality and welcome a pope with a uterus—did not succeed in getting through. When the audience giggles, it’s a sure sign they failed to receive the memo. That’s why the movie was a flop.

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# **DEMS WEDDED TO TRANSGENDER AGENDA**

Eight-in-ten Americans are against boys and men competing against girls and women in sports and showering with them. Even two-in-three Democrats take this position. But the

elected Democrats in Congress are not listening.

On March 3, a bill that would bar males from participating in women's sports, "The Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act," failed to achieve the 60-vote margin needed to fend off a filibuster. The Democrats killed the bill. The vote split along party lines: 51 Republicans supported the bill and 45 Democrats opposed it. On January 14, the House voted in favor of the bill, splitting again along party lines, 218-206; two Texas Democrats voted with the Republicans.

Why would the Democrats, who got clobbered in the election, want to go against the express will of the people, including members of its own party? Money explains part of it: some very rich individuals and foundations are committed to the radical LGBTQ agenda. Ideology also matters: the Democratic Party has become the party of sexual engineers, supported overwhelmingly by the teachers unions.

Still, why go against the grain? Isn't it political suicide to push an agenda that the public abhors?

After the Democrats lost in November, Rep. Tom Suozzi, a moderate Democrat from Long Island, said, "The Democrats have to stop pandering to the far left. I don't want to discriminate against anybody, but I don't think biological boys should be playing in girls' sports." Another Democrat, Rep. Seth Moulton from Massachusetts, said, "I have two little girls. I don't want them getting run over on a playing field by a male or formerly male athlete, but as a Democrat, I'm supposed to be afraid to say that."

When it came time to vote, both Souzzi and Moulton caved and voted to deny girls and women their right to compete against athletes of their own sex; their right to privacy was also shattered.

Some Democrats do get it. Former Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell noted that during the presidential campaign, Donald Trump made

hay out of the Democrats for supporting gender ideology. Ads that were run saying, "Kamala is for they/them; President Trump is for you," resonated with the voters. "Week by week when that ad hit and stuck and we didn't respond, I think that was the beginning of the end."

It's not just seasoned Democratic politicians who understand how pivotal this issue is—liberal celebrities get it.

Bill Maher lambasted a former Obama speechwriter for defending the rights of transgender students against their parents. "You want to lose every election? Just keep coming down on the side of parents coming in second in a 'Who get to decide what goes on with my kid contest.'"

Celebrity fitness trainer Jillian Michaels brought the transgender issue up in a recent TV interview, saying to Democrats, "This is why your entire party got their butts kicked in the election." Sports commentator Stephen A. Smith told Democrats that Trump is "closer to normal" on this issue. He wondered why they were catering to "the transgender community" when they "pertain to less than 1% of the population."

Comedian Andrew Schulz said the Democrats can't even have a conversation and "make jokes about pronouns" or "make a gay joke." Radio host Charlamagne tha God, noting how the Democrats have sunk their teeth into the transgender issue, opined, "Democrats will never win another election ever again."

To deny the reality of nature-based differences between men and women is as irrational as it is anti-science. But that is what the Democratic Party has become.

It really is mindboggling. The Democrats, who pride themselves as the champion of women's rights, are doing more to destroy them than any other segment of the population. They have morphed into the most misogynistic force in American society.

As the celebrities observe, good luck with that.

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# CELEBRATING ABORTIONISTS IS SICK

March 10 was “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day.” It’s a time when those who love abortion rally to the side of medical personnel who make a living by killing kids in utero.

We looked into the origins of “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day” and found that its original proponents were ideological extremists.

Those who started this day in 1987 belonged to a radical group called Refuse and Resist! (“R&R!”). They opposed a “Christian fascist, fundamentalist morality.” Funded by the Ford Foundation, “R&R!” was pro-abortion and anti-death penalty.

The two most famous members of “R&R!” were William Kunstler and Abbie Hoffman. Kunstler spent a good part of his life defending anyone who hated America. His clients included the Communist Party, the Black Panther Party and the Chicago Seven. Hoffman was a member of the Chicago Seven, the group that was convicted for crossing state lines in 1968 to start a riot at the Democratic National Convention. Others were either members of the Communist Party or supporters of it.

Their real interest was not abortion. What they wanted was a sexual revolution that was tied to a political revolution. In other words, men like Kunstler used women to further their radical agenda.

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# **“EVERY CHILD IS PERFECT”**

When President Trump addressed a joint session of Congress last month, he took direct aim at the greatest child abuse scandal of our time—allowing minors to undergo sex-reassignment surgery.

Instead of persuading sexually confused young people, who are going through a rough patch, that they should not seek to change their sex (80 percent will decide against doing so if given the time to think it over), some therapists, teachers, administrators, doctors and nurses are encouraging them to do so.

Trump wasted no time signing an Executive Order banning the schools from indoctrinating children with transgender ideology. He also cut off funding institutions that engage in the sexual mutilation of young people. “And now I want Congress to pass a bill permanently banning and criminalizing sex changes on children—and forever ending the lie that any child is trapped in the wrong body.”

His most cogent observation was, “Our message to every child in America is that you are perfect, exactly the way God made you.”

That is a quintessentially Christian response.

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# POLITICIZING SEXUAL ABUSE

The sexual abuse of children is one of the most evil acts that anyone can commit. That is why accusations must not be made casually—this is serious business. Yet that is exactly what is happening when Democrats charge that enforcing norms to ensure that males cannot compete against females in sports leads to child sexual abuse. That is a lie.

On March 3, Democrats in the Senate voted against “The Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act,” effectively killing it (60 votes were needed and the 51 mustered by the Republicans were not enough). The bill sought to amend Title IX to prohibit schools from allowing boys and men to compete with girls and women in athletic programs.

Common sense dictates that because males are, on average, stronger and faster than females, there should be separate sports for males and females. Common decency dictates that males and females should have separate locker rooms and shower facilities. But common sense and common decency are not commonplace among Democrats.

It is bad enough to allow men to crash women’s sports—all in the name of showing tolerance for transgender individuals—but it is worse when some of those who support this travesty maintain that stopping them from doing so will cause the sexual abuse of minors.

When the House took up this bill, Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries called it the “Republican child predator empowerment act.” He explained that the bill “risks unleashing child predators on the children of America in the sports context.” Similarly, New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said the bill allows “genital examination into little girls in this country.”

Massachusetts Rep. Jim McGovern claimed the bill is an example

of Republicans' "creepy obsession with your kids' private parts." Vermont Rep. Becca Balint said that the "logical conclusion" of the bill is to violate the bodies of young girls. More recently, Rep. Jennifer McClellan went even further claiming "the only way" to enforce this bill is "to pull children's pants down to determine what sex they are."

When the Senate voted on the bill, Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto said that because the bill would ban male school athletes from competing with females, the law would "allow anyone to subject girls to invasive physical exams just because of the way they look," leading to "an increased risk for abuse and harassment." Sen. Dick Durbin agreed, saying the bill would allow "the right to physically inspect a girl or a young woman if the other opposing team accuses them of being transgender."

Not one of these persons offered a scintilla of evidence to back up their outrageous claims, and no one from the media challenged them. However, they unwittingly undercut their position that self-identification determines one's sex: if that were the case, why would the Democrats argue that "the only way" to determine one's sex is to pull down their pants?

We decided to check the links that Google AI provides as evidence that banning males from competing with females in sports leads to child sexual abuse. What we found was another unsupported assertion. Florida Rep. Jessica Miranda said the bill "would require children to have genital exams to play high school sports," claiming this was "nothing short of state-sanctioned sexual abuse." So much for AI: *This is not evidence—it is an opinion.*

It is not as though evidence is lacking altogether. Roughly half the states have laws ensuring that males cannot compete against females, and as a result *not one of them has experienced child sexual abuse.* That's because most of them insist on just one criterion: provide a birth certificate. This is true in Florida, as well, making mince meat out of

Rep. Miranda's bogus theory.

Democrats need to stop making false accusations about child sexual abuse and start explaining why they want to destroy women's sports and women's privacy.

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# THE CRISIS OF TRANSGENDER VIOLENCE

It is commonplace for LGBTQ activists, as well as many in the media, education and government, to complain about the high rates of violence that transgender persons experience. But with the exception of the Catholic League, virtually no one is telling the truth about this condition: the majority of the violence committed against transgender persons is committed by other transgender persons.

A recent tragic incident puts this in perspective. A 24-year-old woman who falsely considered herself to be a man, Sam Norquist, was tortured to death in upstate New York. The police decided it was not a hate crime because all five people charged with the crime are themselves transgender persons.

This is reason enough to do away with the concept of "hate crimes." It is purely subjective. More important, we need to address the crisis in transgender violence. It is not frat boys who are beating up transgender individuals—they are doing it to themselves.

Research on this subject that we have previously cited (see our website) is consistent with more recent research.

In May 2023, the *Journal of Family Violence* published an

article co-authored by nine researchers, "Intimate Partner Violence and Mental Health Among Transgender and Gender Diverse Young Adults." They found that the rates of psychological, physical and sexual abuse among transgender persons committed by those just like themselves is startling. They studied young adults in New York City and concluded that those who consider themselves "gender diverse," meaning they do not consider themselves to be either male or female, experience the highest rates of violence.

A study of 3,560 transgender and gender diverse California adults was published in June 2024 by the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. It found that they were "significantly more likely to face physical, sexual, and intimate partner violence in the past year relative to cisgender respondents [those who accept their sexual status]." This was especially true of transgender men, meaning women who falsely identify as male.

It was reported in July 2024 that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that 44 percent of lesbians and 61 percent of bisexual women experienced rape, physical violence, or stalking committed by those in their same community. Also in July 2024, The Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law reported that "between 30% and 50% of transgender people" are victims of violence committed by other transgender persons.

In December 2024, the Radiological Society of America published a study of 263 men who consider themselves to be female (transgender women) and compared them to women who accept their nature-given sex. It found that transgender women had eight times as many head injuries, 36 times as many facial injuries and five times as many chest injuries. Forty-two percent of the men who think they are female were violently attacked by other transgender women.

In 2025, the Human Rights Campaign, the large LGBTQ

organization, updated data from 2017 and found that “More than half, or 54 percent of transgender and non-binary individuals have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetimes.” The *American Journal of Public Health* also published data showing how violence marks this community.

There needs to be a national discussion of this issue. We need to get to the bottom of it and find out why transgender persons, and those who think they are neither male nor female, are so violent, and why they take it out on those in their own community. We also need to stop blaming normal men and women for their violence.

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## WASHINGTON POST BLUES

Senior reporters and columnists at the *Washington Post* (WaPo) quit following a directive from owner Jeff Bezos that the paper will start taking a position that supports “personal liberties and free markets.”

Why would this set workers off? There are three possible reasons: (a) they don't like being told what to write about, (b) they don't like personal liberties, and (c) they don't like free markets.

It is understandable that reporters and other staffers would object to anything that might compromise their independence. But how independent were they before? If a reporter, or someone on the editorial staff, were pro-life, how secure would that person be in expressing his independence from his colleagues?

Why would staffers object to free markets? After all, they make their living from a market economy. But maybe that

doesn't matter. It is hardly a secret that WaPO is home to liberal and left-wing reporters, and for them, socialism is not a dirty word. Capitalism is. This is a reflection of what they learned in school. What about personal liberties? Why would staffers object to that? They don't when it comes to drugs and abortion. But when it comes to free speech, that is problematic. Even though they make their living by exercising their right to free speech, recent studies show that liberals are the least supportive of this First Amendment right.

Bezos is trying to move the newspaper away from being a forum for liberal-left thinking. He has no nefarious agenda: he simply wants employees to start showing an appreciation for the liberties that allow for a free society.

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## **SOME PEOPLE NEVER LEARN**

Some individuals are their own worst enemy. Some will admit that they shouldn't be taking drugs, while others confess that they eat, drink, smoke and spend too much. But they continue anyway. And then they die.

The same is true of political collectivities. After being badly beaten in the November election, many of the losers are digging their heels in, apparently learning nothing. They have already succeeded in rendering liberalism intellectually bankrupt, and now they are well on their way to destroying the Democratic Party.

The following is a random selection of news stories that were recently published.

Two-thirds of Israelis support President Trump's plan to take over Gaza. But American Jews, who voted overwhelmingly against

Trump, are a bit more divided. Some of those who don't support the Trump plan, which is being promoted by the Israeli government, are not content to disagree—they are demonizing Trump. A column in the Jewish Forward compares the relocation plan to the Nazis. A full-page ad in the New York Times, signed by hundreds of rabbis—accuses Trump of “ethnic cleansing.”

It is striking that those who are closest to current conditions in Israel are applauding Trump, while those who are wholly unaffected are comparing him to Hitler.

One of the top issues driving Trump's mandate was immigration. The public wants the illegals out. But in many cities run by the Democrats, they are resisting cooperation with ICE. Even the Dallas chief of police wants illegal aliens to stay; he has pledged not to cooperate with the ICE deportation plan.

The most vociferous resistance to Trump's agenda is coming from the sexually confused, the mentally challenged, and their supporters. These people falsely believe that males who identify as female are, ipso facto, female. They not only find it acceptable for males to compete against females in sports, and to share locker rooms with them, some even defend the distribution of pornography to children in the schools.

Regarding the latter, parents in a school district in Rochester, New York objected to putting a book on display in the library that showed homosexuals in bondage gear, drag queens, and naked men and women. It was accessed by a fifth grader and is readily available to kindergarten students. The school board wouldn't even allow parents to speak about this at a recent meeting, even though it is a modern-day expression of child abuse.

Every sane person knows there are only two sexes—male and female—but when a Trump order acknowledged this verity on the website of the Department of Health and Human Services, a

federal judge intervened and assumed control. Another federal judge accused the Trump administration of showing an animus against transgender persons. Why? Because of an executive order that bars these persons from serving in the military.

A top school official in Maine wants boys to compete with girls, and to shower with them, which is why he objected to Trump's executive order to "keep men out of women's sports." Not to be outdone, the City Council in Worcester, Massachusetts voted to declare the city a sanctuary city for "transgender and gender-diverse people." It also compared the Trump administration to the Nazis.

Harvard Medical School is so upset with Trump's cutbacks that it is recommending students to comfort themselves by attending "pet-therapy sessions," programs that allow attendees to "pet and play." They even offer six therapy animals to play with, including "Hermie the therapy guinea pig."

This is how we are preparing tomorrow's elite fleet of doctors. Imagine if they freak out while doing heart surgery? Will they give Henry the Hamster a hug? Why not just grow up and get a stiff drink?

Who is supporting this madness? Democrats.

A Gallup poll of Democrats found that half (49 percent) of self-identified Democrats consider themselves to be liberal, and that 45 percent of them want their Party to become more liberal; 22 percent want it to stay the same. Which means that more than 7-in-10 have learned nothing.

Some people never learn. What is really perverse about this is that the dumbest among them are also the ones who have stayed in school the longest, people who are typically—but erroneously—considered to be well educated.

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# PASSING THE PAPAL BATON

[Bill Donohue](#)

The death of Pope Francis on Easter Monday caught many as a surprise, though not as a shock. He definitely rebounded from the time he was hospitalized, but he never regained his normal stature.

His funeral on April 26 will draw media coverage from all over the world. After the funeral, the voting cardinals will meet to discuss his successor; the voting will begin in two weeks.

Pope Francis appointed approximately 80 percent of the cardinals who will make that choice. This suggests that someone closer to his vision of the Church will be chosen. On the other hand, he has chosen men from the hinterland, from far away places where a penchant for orthodoxy, not change, is commonplace. This suggests that the new pope may be more of a traditionalist.

It does seem likely that whoever is chosen will have to bring about more clarity than we have been accustomed to under Pope Francis. Quite frankly, the Holy Father often made pronouncements that fostered confusion. The time has come to promote a more coherent vision; this will require a gentle push of the pendulum back to the middle.

If the cardinals decide to choose someone who is a traditionalist, they can do no better than to look to Africa. It is home to the most brilliant orthodox clergy in the world. If the cardinals want to choose someone more like Francis, they will look to Europe.

It appeared that Pope Francis would have liked to have made

more changes, especially with regard to the Church's teachings on sexuality. He made that apparent by the appointments he made of cardinals to senior positions. But he also knew his authority was limited by Scripture and tradition.

Those cardinals who share Pope Francis' vision of the Church will find it easier to organize, and that is because most of them know each other. On the other hand, those who prefer the traditionalist vision of the Church favored by Pope Benedict XVI and Pope John Paul II are at a decided disadvantage, and that is because so many of them are from the peripheries; they really don't know each other.

There will be time, however, for everyone to meet and discuss their concerns and preferences. The voting cardinals will travel to Rome today and tomorrow, and they have the rest of the week—especially next week—to familiarize themselves with each other.

In many ways, the passing of the papal baton will bring about a showdown between those who identify with Pope Francis, as many in Europe do, and those who want a return to a more coherent vision for the Church, as exemplified by the African clergy. In short, will it be the cardinals in the developed world who will prevail, or will it be those in the developing countries who will prove triumphant?

Of course, there are traditionalists in Europe, and there are progressives in Africa, but the generalization holds true. One thing is certain: wherever progressivism reigns, the churches are increasingly empty; where traditionalism is the norm, the churches are mostly thriving. That alone should count a great deal. Orthodoxy is a winner; heterodoxy is a loser.

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# MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE SHOULD BE CENSURED

*This letter explains why we want her censured. Contact Tom Rust, Staff Director House Ethics Committee: [tom.rust@mail.house.gov](mailto:tom.rust@mail.house.gov)*

April 21, 2025

Rep. Michael Guest  
Chairman House Ethics Committee  
1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Rep. Mark DeSaulnier  
Ranking Member  
House Ethics Committee  
1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Guest and Rep. DeSaulnier:

I am neither a Republican nor a Democrat; I am independent. I am writing to you in my capacity as president of the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization. I have one request: Do what you can to have Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene censured.

Today, on the day that Pope Francis died, Greene wrote on X, "Today there were major shifts in global leadership. Evil is being defeated by the hand of God." This was posted just hours after the pope died.

As Newsweek journalist Gabe Whisnant noted, the two major world leadership changes that were announced today were the death of Pope Francis and the resignation of Klaus Schwab as the head of the World Economic Forum. It is obvious that

Greene's remark about God defeating "evil" was aimed at the Holy Father.

How can we be sure? In 2022, I asked the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Ethics Committee to sanction Greene for saying that "Satan's controlling the church." In short, she has a history of slandering Catholics.

If Greene, who is an ex-Catholic, wants to make reasoned criticisms of Pope Francis, she has every right to do so. But no sitting member of Congress has the right to denigrate the leader of a world religion.

To allow her to continue to smear Catholicism reflects badly on the Congress. Therefore, I am asking that Republicans and Democrats come together to censure Marjorie Taylor Greene for her bigoted remarks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William A. Donohue, Ph.D.  
President