

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OFFENDS AGAIN

Adding fuel to the fire, the president of the Massachusetts chapter of Planned Parenthood, Nikki Nichols-Gamble, today made a comment that smacks of the worst kind of bigotry. In response to a reporter's question, Ms. Nichols-Gamble lambasted Cardinal O'Connor for not following the lead of Cardinal Law by requesting a moratorium on peaceful prayer vigils outside abortion clinics. This is what she said: "I think Cardinal Law is talking to the kind of God that I know and it seems to me that Cardinal O'Connor hasn't gotten in touch with the right God."

Dr. William A. Donohue, president of the Catholic League, had the following to say about this comment:

"Planned Parenthood has once again gone beyond legitimate dialogue and has entered the arena of gutter politics. It wasn't bad enough that it blamed Cardinal O'Connor and Cardinal Law for the killings in an abortion clinic in Brookline, Massachusetts, or that it called for a permanent national moratorium on the First Amendment right of Americans to protest abortion. Now it calls into question Cardinal O'Connor's life of prayer and his contact with God.

"Planned Parenthood isn't engaged in business as usual. It has embarked on a kind of verbal search and destroy mission, the likes of which are normally associated with the politics of fascism. Bigotry, invective, demagoguery, lies—nothing is off-limits with the moguls of the abortion industry. If there is any good to come out of this, it is that the mask of reason has been fully pulled from the face of Planned Parenthood. With this remark, Planned Parenthood stands in the public square for all to see, and what it shows is not a pretty sight.

"The Catholic League explicitly does not ask for an apology. To do so would be to suggest that what was said was inadvertent, and this is surely not the case: what was said was meant and there is no getting around it. But we do call on Americans of all faiths to join with us in denouncing this incredible statement and ask that the federal government reconsider its lavish funding of this bigoted enterprise."

The Catholic League is the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization. It defends the right of Catholics—lay and clergy alike—to participate in American life without defamation or discrimination.