

SAN ANTONIO SPONSORS HATE SPEECH

In February, Bill Donohue wrote to Mr. Julián Castro, mayor of San Antonio, about the anti-Christian play, "Corpus Christi," that was scheduled to run from June 17 to July 10 at the San Pedro Playhouse but never heard back. Donohue also sent a copy to Felix Padron, executive director of the Office of Cultural Affairs for the City of San Antonio. Here is an excerpt:

"The San Pedro Playhouse is in the process of holding auditions for a notoriously anti-Christian play, 'Corpus Christi.' What makes this so disturbing is that it commits the City of San Antonio to sponsoring hate speech against Christians: the Office of Cultural Affairs, advised by the Cultural Arts Board, is one of the play's sponsors."

Donohue did not assume that Castro knew anything about this offensive play, so he included a news release which he wrote in 1998 after he saw it.

Donohue also provided information about the play. It depicts the Christ-figure, Joshua, having sex with the apostles, branding him "King of the Queers"; it portrays Jesus saying to the apostles, "F*** your mother, F*** your father, F*** God"; and it shows Philip asking Jesus to perform oral sex on him. Moreover, the script is replete with sexual and scatological comments.

We said it will not do for the publically-funded San Pedro Playhouse to advertise this play as having "Adult language and content." It is not only obscene, it is a frontal attack on Christians, all of whom in San Antonio were forced to underwrite it.

By ignoring our concerns, Mayor Castro acted irresponsibly and deserved to be publicly rebuked for his unwillingness to

cancel this play. Indeed, he even refused to condemn it!