

SENATOR LEAHY RESPONDS TO POPE

Every organization has its bad apples and dirty laundry, but most people know that this alone doesn't disqualify any group of people from exercising the freedoms of speech and religion. Unless that group is the Catholic Church, that is—plenty of people use the sex abuse scandal to try to silence the Church, especially when the Church voices opinions that these people don't like.

When asked on May 9 about the pope's comments regarding possible excommunication of Catholic politicians who support abortion rights, Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) said, "I've always thought also that those bishops and archbishops who for decades hid pederasts and are now being protected by the Vatican should be indicted."

If Senator Leahy's comments reflect the new face of the religion-friendly Democratic Party, the party has a long way to go.