

SINCERE APOLOGY ACCEPTED

The American Business Women's Association (ABWA) was founded in 1949 to support the educational and career goals of women. It is a big organization, with chapters across the U.S., all of which sponsor a myriad of events. There was one event that took place this spring that the Catholic League objected to, the result of which was the extension of a sincere apology.

The event in question took place in Altavista, Virginia, at the local armory. Located some 30 minutes south of Lynchburg, in a Christian community, the ABWA chapter in Altavista-Gret threw a Womanless Beauty Pageant that raised money for college scholarships. Unfortunately, some people's idea of humor meant taking liberties with Catholic sensibilities.

According to the local newspaper, *News and Advocate*, the audience at the event was treated to "a man dressed as a pregnant nun" who "danced provocatively on stage" to the tune of Madonna's "Like a Virgin."

The Catholic League obviously let the head of the ABWA know how it felt about this brand of humor. It was heartened to learn that a sincere apology was immediately forthcoming, not only from executive director Carolyn B. Elman, but from the six woman officers who form the executive board of the Alta-Gret Chapter. We were only too happy to accept this apology.

Too bad other offenders aren't as honest as the ABWA.