

MEDIA IGNORE CHILD SEX ABUSE

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments as follows:

Tomorrow there will be a day-long symposium in Baltimore held by practitioners in the field of mental health who will make the case that society unfairly stigmatizes "Minor-Attracted Persons," a.k.a. adults who are sexually attracted to kids. Run by a non-profit group, B4U-ACT, psychiatrists and others from places like Johns Hopkins, Harvard and the London School of Economics will argue that the American Psychiatric Association is wrong to consider pedophilia a mental illness.

Just last week, ABC's "Primetime Live" did an interview with actor Corey Feldman, who exclaimed, "I can tell you that the number-one problem in Hollywood was, and is, and always will be, pedophilia." He said that when he was 14, he was "surrounded" by child molesters who acted like "vultures." Feldman blames "a Hollywood mogul" for the premature death of one of his friends, Corey Haim, who died last year.

Know how many newspapers in the United States carried a story on the nest of child abusers in Hollywood? One—the *International Business Times*. The others were too busy looking for cases where a priest "inappropriately touched" a male adolescent in the 1950s.

On the website of B4U-ACT, there is a question, "If I seek mental health services, does that mean I'm saying that my attraction to minors is a sickness?" Here's the answer: "No. We are trying to make services available to minor-attracted people who want them to work through issues unrelated to their sexuality, to deal with society's response to their sexual feelings... We are not advocating treatment to change sexual feelings." Of course not: society is the problem, not the psychologically disturbed adults who fantasize about raping kids.

So we have professionals who seek to normalize pedophilia, and a Hollywood milieu in which it thrives, and few seem to care. In other words, when the secular elite promote, or otherwise

engage in, child molestation, it really doesn't matter. It only matters if the sicko is Fr. Murphy.

DAILY NEWS HYPES SEX ED STUDY

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on an editorial in today's *Daily News* on New York City's new sex-education program:

The *Daily News* is so ecstatic about the new mandatory sex-education curriculum that it titles its editorial, "Go All the Way on Sex Ed." It notes that the curriculum, "Reducing the Risk," has worked in California. Indeed, it cites "a federal Centers for Disease Control study" as its source. That's where its own credibility must be called into question.

As it turns out, there is no study by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on this curriculum. But there is a study on how this curriculum fared in California that was published in *Family Planning Perspectives*; the study is posted on the website of the CDC, and that is because it met the CDC's methodological standards.

Those who think this is being picky should consider the following: *Family Planning Perspectives* is a journal of the Guttmacher Institute, and this entity is the research arm of Planned Parenthood.* Now does anyone believe that Planned Parenthood would be associated with a study that undercuts its *raison d'être*? Just recently, researchers at John Jay College of Criminal Justice published a study on the "Causes and Consequences" of priestly sexual abuse, and even though the professors stated unequivocally that no bishop tried to affect the outcome, the very fact that the bishops' conference requested the study was enough for critics to slam it as biased.

The *Daily News* also failed to state that this curriculum, which was foisted upon educators by Mayor Bloomberg, never gave parents an opportunity to discuss it. We have public hearings in New York City for proposed new stop lights, yet there were none on this curriculum.

In any event, there is no study by a federal agency on this curriculum, and those who published it had a vested interest in its results. In fairness, this should be acknowledged by the *Daily News*.

**Note: The Guttmacher Institute was named after Alan Guttmacher, a former president of Planned Parenthood, and was for many years its research arm. It is independent of Planned Parenthood now, though it receives funding from the organization.*

MORE INSANE SEX ED FOR NYC

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on the news that New York City public schools will require all middle and high school students to take sex-education classes this fall:

We've had *de facto* sex-education in New York City for decades—that's how long we've been shelling out condoms to students. And what has it gotten us? Moreover, under Mayor Michael Bloomberg, literally tens of millions of condoms have been promiscuously distributed all over the city to anyone who wants them. And yet the rate of sexually transmitted diseases continues to skyrocket.

There is a sex-education program that could work, and it is one that is similar to the approach being used to discuss smoking. We don't tell kids not to smoke and then instruct them on the proper way to inhale. No, we show them horrifying pictures of a smoker's lungs. We tell them of the physical

pain they are likely to endure by smoking. We tell them how it will shorten their life expectancy.

We could do the same when discussing sexual experimentation at a young age. We could discuss how abortion affects the psyche of the mother who elects to terminate her baby. We could show pictures of what abortion does to the child being cut up into pieces. We could instruct them on the link between unwed motherhood and poverty. We could inform them of the greater likelihood of acquiring a sexually transmitted disease. In other words, we could teach the negative real-life consequences of sexual experimentation at a young age.

There are two other problems. Who gave Bloomberg the authority to decide what should be taught in the classroom? If he's not telling us how much salt to put on french fries, or what soft drinks we can have, he's telling us what to teach pre-teens about sex. To top things off, no one in his administration will release to the media either the curriculum or the assigned textbooks. The imperial mayor is out of control. It's time parents staged a revolt.

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WORLD YOUTH DAY DRAWS CRITICS

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on critics of World Youth Day:

Next week, a crowd of roughly one million will gather in Madrid for World Youth Day. Pilgrims, mostly teenagers, will arrive on August 15 for one week; the pope will arrive on August 18 and close the proceedings on August 21. Against the backdrop of this overwhelming support—from all over the

globe—are some enemies of the pope, as well as those who say the event costs too much. Europa Laica (Secular Europe) is actually more principled than the other critics: it wants to scrub society clean of religion, thus its opposition.

Those who oppose World Youth Day for economic reasons, and they include 120 priests, are not convincing. The number crunchers say it will cost between \$72 and \$86 million to accommodate the crowd, maintaining it is too expensive given Spain's dire economic condition. They need to go back to their calculators and tally the revenues that the event will spawn. For example, if a million young people spend an average of \$20 per day, over seven days that will generate \$140 million. Moreover, this is gravy: 80 percent of the cost of the event will be paid for by the pilgrims; Catholic non-profit companies and corporations will pick up the rest of the tab.

Still, the critics aren't satisfied. They blame the corporations which are contributing to World Youth Day for their current economic condition. Yet one of the largest corporate donors is Coca-Cola, and it has a foundation in Madrid that promotes, among other things, economic development. Indeed, it specifically targets Spanish youth in areas ranging from the arts to science.

Pope Benedict XVI will not only delight young people from all over the world, he will give them the kind of spiritual inspiration that no one else can deliver. Moreover, as a byproduct of his presence, he will generate more cash into the Spanish economy than any event his austerity-minded critics could ever stage.

TIME SMEARS ENTIRE CATHOLIC CHURCH

“Having Standard & Poor’s downgrade the creditworthiness of the U.S., and warn the country about further downgrades, is a little like having the Catholic Church lecture Scout leaders on the proper behavior toward boys.”

The above quote was the first sentence in an article published online today at the curiouscapitalist blog by Bill Saporito, assistant managing editor at *Time*; it was titled, “Why Congress and S&P Deserve Each Other.”

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments as follows:

This vicious, and wholly gratuitous, smear of the entire Catholic Church demands an apology. Vicious analogies citing other demographic groups—on this same subject—could have been made, but they would never have been published. Which means that persons other than Saporito should also issue an apology to Roman Catholics. We might expect this kind of cruel remark from some no-name angry blogger, but not from a high-ranking person at *Time*.

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SNAP STANDS BY CHILD PORN

BUDDY

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on how the Survivors Network for those Abused by Priests (SNAP) stands by its friends who have been convicted on child pornography charges:

Dr. Steve Taylor is a psychiatrist who is sitting in a Louisiana jail awaiting transfer to a state prison. He pleaded guilty last April to 23 counts of attempted possession of child pornography. He is not just an ordinary shrink with a sick appetite—he worked with SNAP for years.

We now know, thanks to the reporting of Bruce Nolan in the *Times-Picayune*, that this child porn aficionado is so beloved by SNAP that its founder, Barbara Blaine, intervened on his behalf even before his conviction: she, along with her friend, noted Church-bashing author Jason Berry, wrote to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, asking them to give due consideration to Taylor's alleged humanitarian work before lifting his medical license.

Now why should it matter if Taylor has done some good work in the past? After all, SNAP has never shown the slightest interest in weighing the totality of an accused priest's record before condemning him publicly, and neither has Berry. Indeed, SNAP advises on its website that when a priest is accused, parishioners who support him should do so "PRIVATELY." [Its emphasis.] To support him publicly would be "terribly hurtful to victims."

Blaine and Berry should immediately issue an apology to all victims, stating how contrite they are for causing such terrible hurt; they should also withdraw their public support for Dr. Taylor. To show how downright hypocritical these people are consider what happened last Thursday: SNAP issued a news release expressing its utter delight with the news that a North Carolina priest pleaded guilty to deleting child porn from his computer; he is sitting in a federal prison. *His* humanitarian record counted for nothing in their eyes.

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AIR FORCE ATTACKED BY RELIGIOUS FOES

The U.S. Air Force has suspended a class at Vandenberg Air Force Base after complaints that it violates church and state. Bill Donohue responded with this letter to Gen. Edward A. Rice, Jr., the Commander of Air Education and Training:

I have a three-fold interest in writing to you about the decision to suspend the "Christian Just War Theory" class at Vandenberg AFB: (a) I am the president of the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization (b) I am a former college professor (c) I am a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

The decision to suspend the course is not only wrongheaded, it represents capitulation to political pressure emanating from the foes of religious liberty. For several years, I have stood by the United States Air Force Academy leadership in their attempt to stave off assaults by Mikey Weinstein's Military Religious Freedom Foundation, and others. The goal of these pressure groups is to censor the public expression of religion on the campuses of military academies, and at military installations, in general. They are doing so under the guise of constitutional concerns.

As one who has written several books on this subject, I can testify that there is absolutely nothing in the Constitution of the United States that disqualifies a presentation of St. Augustine's "just war theory," and related biblical references. In fact, the First Amendment protects freedom of speech, as well as religious liberty. "Just war theory" is

taught at state institutions all across the nation—explicitly citing Augustine’s contribution—and never has it been an issue. Moreover, biblical passages are often cited when referencing the work of Rev. Martin Luther King. Should we similarly censor them?

I have read the materials used in the class, and can assure you that no one—save an anti-religious zealot—would find fault with them. I therefore urge you to stand fast against these bullies and do what is academically right and constitutionally protected: reinstate the class.

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ARCHBISHOP DOLAN LIBELED BY SNAP

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on the reaction of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) to the news that an elderly New York priest was arrested for a sexual infraction:

A 16-year-old girl started working in a Bronx parish last Saturday and now claims she was inappropriately touched by an 87-year-old priest. She returned to work on Monday, where she now says she was touched the wrong way again. Then she voluntarily decided to go back to work on Tuesday, where she now claims she was wrongly touched for the third time. On Wednesday, the cops show up, with TV cameras rolling, and handcuff the elderly priest—who has never had a single allegation made against him in over 60 years as a priest—treating him as if he were Jack the Ripper.

If this isn't surreal enough, consider that the phony victims' group, SNAP, is accusing New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan of covering up the alleged misconduct, even though Dolan knew nothing about it. Moreover, when Dolan learned of the arrest, he immediately informed the cleric that he cannot function as a priest and must leave the parish until the matter is settled. So to accuse the New York Archbishop of a cover-up is obscene.

SNAP also says that Archbishop Dolan was guilty of "acting secretly" in a previous case involving Msgr. Wallace Harris. This is libelous: Dolan was the Archbishop of Milwaukee when Harris was suspended. When Cardinal Edward Egan, Dolan's predecessor, learned of the alleged misconduct by Harris—which supposedly happened 30 years earlier—he notified the D.A.'s office.

According to SNAP's press release today, these cases also show the Church's tolerance of pedophilia. But neither of the two cases involved pedophilia: in both instances, the alleged victims were teenagers. The name of the game is to paint priests as child abusers, which is a bold-face lie. It's time the media turned its cameras on the liars at SNAP.

Contact SNAP honcho David Clohessy: SNAPclohessy@aol.com

OBAMA PLAYS CATCH-22 WITH RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Catholic League president Bill Donohue addresses the dilemma that the Obama administration has created for religious employers:

Yesterday, the Obama administration mandated that all health insurance plans cover contraceptives and sterilization for women, though it made an exception for religious employers. But did it? Not really. To wit: a religious employer is defined, in part, as one that primarily employs, and serves, persons who share its religious tenets.

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo said this means that “our institutions would be free to act in accord with Catholic teaching on life and procreation only if they were to stop hiring and serving non-Catholics.” He’s right: Catholic schools, hospitals and social service agencies have a long and distinguished record of serving everyone, regardless of religious affiliation; most even employ non-Catholics. However, there are matters, like foster care programs, where same-religion requisites make sense.

The situation is even more pernicious than it looks. Consider that three years ago, then presidential candidate Barack Obama said he opposes allowing faith-based programs to hire only their own people. Since becoming president, he has authorized his administration to consider this issue on a case-by-case basis, and just recently many of his allies lobbied him to gut the religious liberty provision in hiring altogether.

In other words, the Obama administration is playing Catch-22 with religious employers. If they are too religious, Catholic social service agencies risk losing federal funds, but if Catholic hospitals are not sufficiently religious, they cannot be exempt from carrying health insurance policies that transgress their religious tenets.

The Obama administration knows exactly what it is doing, and what it is doing is burning religious institutions at both ends. This is a pretty sick game. But it is one where there is plenty of time left on the clock.

NEW YORK TIMES FANS DISSENT

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on a news article in yesterday's *New York Times* on the Catholic Church:

A priest, Fr. Roy Bourgeois, decides to break with the Catholic Church's teachings on ordination and "ordains" a woman in an illicit ceremony. He is given three years to recant, but he refuses, and is now threatened with excommunication. He is a hero to Church critics, especially the *New York Times*. Had he been a *Times* reporter who decided to break with the newspaper's editorial position on abortion—putting a positive spin on pro-life leaders, while casting aspersions on abortion-rights advocates—he would not have lasted three weeks. So much for the glory of dissent.

Other than the *New York Times*, not a single newspaper in the U.S. carried a story on Fr. Bourgeois yesterday. Indeed, in the last three months, there were only two other stories on the renegade priest, and one of them was a front-page story in the *Times* just a week earlier. It's the way the paper is spinning the story—fanning dissent—that counts most.

Yesterday's story refers to Call to Action as "an organization for reform-minded Catholics." It would be more accurate to say it is an organization of senior citizens, many of whom are ex-priests and nuns, who are so out of communion with the Catholic Church that some bishops have excommunicated its members. In 1990, it took out an ad in the *Times* calling for all the familiar reforms, pledging to garner 100,000 signatures. After 18 months, it wound up with 21,000.

By contrast, in yesterday's paper, Opus Dei was branded an "ultra-orthodox group." Looks like the reporter, Dirk Johnson,

has been reading too much of Dan Brown lately.

One of Call to Action's leaders, Bob Heineman, wants to know whether the Church is the hierarchy, or the people. Either way he loses: the rank-and-file support the hierarchy, not Call to Action.

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