

TREVOR NOAH ABUSES CHILD AND POPE

Bill Donohue

On last night's Comedy Central "Daily Show with Trevor Noah," the host abused a little girl and Pope Francis. It was the dirtiest assault on TV in some time. Even the audience winced at Noah's filthy attack.

The show ran a video clip of a 3-year-old girl who was introduced to the pope. She grabbed his hat, leaving the pope in stitches. He kissed the girl as a sign of his affection. The clip was so cute that the media played it over and over, much to the applause of viewers.

But Noah is different. He took the opportunity to abuse the child and the pope by sexually exploiting the two of them. He commented, "I can see why this made the news—a child undressing a priest for a change."

We urge everyone to demand that Noah apologize for his obscene remark.

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CUT FUNDS TO NEA, NEH, NPR, PBS

Bill Donohue

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), National Public Radio (NPR), and the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), are all subsidized by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). The Trump administration is right to propose a budget that completely guts these entities of federal funding. That is why I am asking members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to honor the president's request.

Justice demands that these agencies should be eliminated: Taxpayers should not be forced to pay for assaults on their religion.

Christians constitute roughly 75 percent of the population; Catholics are approximately 25 percent of the total. In the name of "art," these Americans are expected to pay for irreverent exhibits, but depictions that are reverential—such as a nativity scene outside City Hall—are denied a dime. It's time we stopped giving the arts a privileged position and cut their funding. The same is true for publicly funded radio and TV programming that has a history of insulting the majority of Americans.

The CPB was founded in the 1960s, and it has been plagued with problems ever since. In the late 1980s, the NEA funded Andre Serrano's "Piss Christ" and Robert Mapplethorpe's "The Perfect Moment." Serrano took a crucifix and dropped it into a jar of his own urine, branding it art. The NEA gave a Philadelphia museum \$30,000 to display graphic homosexual S&M photos taken by Mapplethorpe.

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that there is no constitutional prohibition against Congress setting decency standards for the NEA. But attempts by the NEA to enforce grant recipients to sign an anti-obscenity pledge went nowhere. This is why Congress must act.

To show how perverse things have become, President Barack

Obama not only approved generous grants to the NEA, he actually included \$50 million for the arts as part of his "federal stimulus package." One of the first beneficiaries was a San Francisco outfit, CounterPULSE. It received \$25,000 to pay for employees' salaries. What did the public get from it? The group hosted "a long-running pansexual performance series" called "Perverts Put Out"; it asked the audience to "Join your fellow pervs for some explicit twisted fun."

Catholic League Conflicts with the NEA

- 1995: Ron Athey abused Catholic imagery by indulging in several sexually explicit and vulgar statements, so much so that I wrote a letter to the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee asking for his support in defunding the NEA.
- 1998: I led a demonstration of 3,000 protesters outside the Manhattan Theatre Club, funded by the NEA, for hosting a play, "Corpus Christi," that depicted Jesus having sex with his apostles.
- 1999: I led a demonstration outside the Brooklyn Museum of Art, which received funding from the NEA and the NEH, for its "Sensation" exhibit. It showed a huge portrait of Our Blessed Mother smeared with elephant dung, adorned with pictures of vaginas.
- 2000: The Whitney Museum, an NEA-funded institution, hosted "Sanitation," a vile attack on Mayor Rudy Giuliani for opposing the anti-Catholic "Sensation" exhibit. The Whitney had previously displayed "Abject Art"; it featured depictions of excrement and hard-core pornography.
- 2000: The Theater for the New City Foundation, which received NEA funds, was host to a play, "The Pope and the Witch," written by Dario Fo, a Stalinist and a vicious anti-Catholic. It depicted Pope John Paul II as a heroin-addicted, paranoid schemer. I wrote to the Appropriations Committee asking members to reconsider

funding the NEA.

- 2010: The Smithsonian, which receives 70 cents of every dollar from the taxpayers (via the NEA and NEH), hosted an exhibit, "Hide/Seek," that featured a video showing huge ants crawling all over Jesus on the Cross. I contacted the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and the video was pulled.
- 2013: The Oklahoma City Theatre Company, an NEA recipient, hosted "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told," a foul homosexual play that featured homoerotic performances, including simulated sex acts. It also mocked the Bible.
- 2015: The NEA's support for the Milwaukee Art Museum resulted in an exhibition that showcased a portrait of Pope Benedict XVI made up of condoms.

Catholic League Conflicts with NPR

- 1997: On July 5, the Weekend Edition aired a segment with host Scott Simon and musical satirist Tom Lehrer that featured Lehrer singing "The Vatican Rag." It disparaged Catholicism and the Eucharist, including the doctrine of Transubstantiation.
- 2005: NPR questioned the religion of Supreme Court nominee John Roberts. NPR's Lynn Neary wondered that since he is a Catholic whether "that might affect the way he views an issue like abortion, for instance." Nina Totenberg of NPR even went so far as to say that his wife was "a high officer of a pro-life organization. He's got adopted children. I mean, he's a conservative Catholic."
- 2006: During the Easter season, NPR twice took aim at the divinity of Jesus.
- 2006: Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Turkey was used by NPR as an occasion to lecture the pope on being sensitive to Muslims by not making any overtly Catholic comments or gestures. It cited prayer and kneeling as

examples.

- 2007: When Samuel Alito was nominated to the high court, NPR's Dahlia Lithwick said, "People are very, very much talking about the fact that Alito would be the fifth Catholic in the Supreme Court if confirmed."
- 2008: Utah's NPR station, KCPW, featured a skit, "Fair Game with Faith Salie," that mocked Jesus and the Eucharist.
- 2012: Barbara Bradley Hagerty did a piece that was posted on NPR's website that said a Philadelphia priest accused of raping a minor was "not that unusual" for a member of the Catholic clergy.
- 2013: A movie, "Paradise: Faith," depicted a "devout" Catholic woman who masturbates with a crucifix as she is making love to Jesus. It was highly recommended by NPR.
- 2014: An NPR game show, "Wait Wait Don't Tell Me!", made fun of Jesus dying on the Cross. Sexual references to Jesus were also made.

Catholic League Conflicts with PBS

- 1996: FRONTLINE blamed Catholicism for the killings of a Catholic maniac, John Salvi. He killed two abortionists from Brookline, Massachusetts. The program functioned as a promo for Planned Parenthood and a hit job on the Catholic Church.
- 2006: It aired a show on Jesus during Lent implying that Christian beliefs are a hoax.
- 2007: "The Secret Files of the Inquisition" was a four-part docudrama that gave voice to Black Legend propaganda. The horrors it attributed to the Catholic Church have been wholly discredited by scholars such as Henry Kamen.
- 2009: PBS banned member stations from carrying new religious programs. It said, without foundation, that such shows might imply official endorsement. It did not say why only sectarian shows might imply endorsement.

- 2014: PBS aired “Secrets of the Vatican.” It was the 48th time that PBS addressed sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. By contrast, it has a history of ignoring this problem in other religions, never mind its widespread existence today in the public schools.

The NEA, NEH, NPR, and PBS have had decades to clean up their act, but they refuse to do so. The time to cut funding is now.

IS “O’NEALS” ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK?

Bill Donohue

“The Real O’Neals” won’t be on ABC tonight—its abbreviated season ended last week—and all indications are that this Dan Savage-inspired anti-Catholic show is in trouble.

The show’s ratings have been anemic from the start, a constant drain on ABC’s Tuesday night viewership. From last October through its season finale last Tuesday night, it has averaged 800,000 less viewers than “Fresh Off The Boat,” the program that immediately precedes it on ABC. In other words, each week, for the past six months, “The Real O’Neals” has been losing close to a million viewers for ABC.

So it is no wonder that while “Fresh Off the Boat” has six more episodes to go to complete its full season of 23 shows, the plug has been pulled on “O’Neals” after only 16 episodes. Even in rerun weeks “O’Neals” is being skipped. Tonight, for example, following a rerun episode of “Fresh Off the Boat” at 9 p.m., the “O’Neals” 9:30 slot is being filled by a rerun of “Blackish.”

We will soon know if Disney/ABC is going to finally cancel this show.

Contact Disney/ABC chief: ben.sherwood@abc.com

SALUTE TO ST. PATRICK

Bill Donohue

The heroics of St. Patrick are not appreciated as much as they should be. He is the first person in history to publicly condemn slavery, and one of the first leaders to champion the cause of equal rights.

There is much to celebrate on March 17. Fortunately, his writings, though slim, are eye-opening accounts of his life: *Letter to the Soldiers of Coroticus* and *Confession* reveal much about the man. Along with other sources, they paint a picture of his saintliness.

Patrick was born in Britain in the 4th century to wealthy parents. It is likely that he was baptized, though growing up he did not share his family's faith. He was an atheist.

When he was 15, he committed what he said was a grave sin, never saying exactly what it was; it appears it was a sexual encounter with a young girl. No matter, it would haunt him throughout his life.

At age 15 or 16 (the accounts vary), Patrick was kidnapped and enslaved by Irish barbarians. They had come to plunder his family's estate, and took him away in chains to Ireland. While a slave, he converted to Christianity, praying incessantly at all hours of the day. After six years, he escaped, and made his way back home.

His family thought he was dead, and with good reason: no one taken by Irish raiders had managed to escape and return. St. Patrick biographer Philip Freeman describes how his family received him, stating “it was as if a ghost had returned from the dead.”

After he returned home, he had a vision while sleeping. He felt called to return to Ireland. This seemed bizarre: this is where he was brutalized as a slave. But he knew what Jesus had commanded us to do, “Love thy enemy.” He was convinced that God was calling him to become a missionary to Ireland. So he acted on it, despite the reservations of family and friends.

Patrick became a priest, practiced celibacy, and was eventually named a bishop. Contrary to what many believe, he did not introduce Christianity to Ireland, nor was he Ireland’s first bishop. But he did more to bring the Gospel to Ireland than anyone, converting legions of pagans, especially in the northern parts of the island.

His missionary work in Ireland has been duly noted, but his strong defense of human rights has not been given its due.

No public person before him had denounced slavery, widespread though it was. Jesus was agnostic on the subject, Aristotle thought it was a natural way of life, and neither master nor slave saw anything fundamentally wrong with it. Patrick did.

Though he did not invoke natural law specifically, he was instinctively drawn to it. He taught that all men were created equal in the eyes of God, and that the inherent dignity of everyone must be respected.

Patrick did more than preach—he lashed out at the British dictator, Coroticus, harshly rebuking him for his mistreatment of the Irish. In fact, Patrick found his Irish converts to be more civilized than Coroticus and his band of thugs.

Patrick was way ahead of his time in the pursuit of human

rights. Not only were men of every social status entitled to equal rights, so were women. In his *Letter to the Soldiers of Coroticus*, he scolds “the tyrant Coroticus—a man who has no respect for God or his priests.” More important, he made a startling plea: “They must also free Christian women and captives.” His reasoning showed the power of his faith when he said, “Remember, Christ died and was crucified for these people.”

He did not mince words. “So, Coroticus, you and your wicked servants, where do you think you will end up? You have treated baptized Christian women like prizes to be handed out, all for the sake of the here and now—this brief, fleeting world.”

What makes this all the more dramatic is the way the pagan world thought about women: the idea that women were equal to men was totally foreign to them. But the women understood what Patrick was saying, and gravitated to him in large numbers. The Christian tenet that all humans possess equal dignity had taken root.

Did the Irish save civilization, as Thomas Cahill maintains? Freeman thinks not—“it had never been lost.” But everyone agrees that had it not been for St. Patrick, and the monasteries that followed, much of what we know about the ancient world would not exist.

Indeed, it is difficult to fathom how classical Greek and Roman literature would have survived had it not been for the Irish monks who attracted students from many parts of Europe. They are responsible for preserving the great works of antiquity. And all of them are indebted to St. Patrick.

It is believed that he died on March 17, sometime during the second half of the fifth century. That is his feast day, the source of many celebrations in his honor. His impact extends beyond the Irish and the Catholic Church—human rights are a global issue—making him a very special person in world

history.

TUAM CRITICS ON ABORTION AND GAY MARRIAGE

Bill Donohue comments on leading critics of the “mass grave” story and their positions on abortion and gay marriage:

Not everyone who supports gay marriage favors abortion rights, but it is hard to find someone who is pro-abortion and opposed to same-sex marriage. This is especially true of activists. When it comes to leading critics of the “mass grave” story in Tuam, Ireland, virtually all of them are pro-gay marriage, and none is associated with pro-life causes.

Why does this matter?

The number of human remains found outside the Mother and Baby Home in Tuam does not come close to 800, but that there are any is disturbing. It seems logical to think that those who are truly concerned about these deceased children—some of whom were unborn—would be pro-life. But among the elites, they are not. They are also pro-gay marriage.

What unites the two issues is an expansive view of sexual rights. This vision of freedom is very much interested in the rights of adults, having next to nothing to say about the welfare of children.

There is a third issue relevant to this discussion: attitudes toward the Catholic Church. It is not surprising that those who are screaming the loudest about the “mass graves” also like to bash the Church.

On March 8, there was a pro-abortion rally on the O'Connell bridge in Dublin. It was attended by a slew of foul-mouthed, abortion loving, Catholic-bashing young people. No mainstream newspaper in this nation could print their obscene signs, mostly held by women. They used the Tuam story to rip the Catholic Church.

More important than these vulgar protesters is the U.N. It has been busy lately condemning the "mass grave" hoax while pushing Ireland to lighten up on abortion.

In the U.S., no one is more exercised about the Tuam story than Niall O'Dowd of Irish Central. "I am personally in favor of same-sex marriage," he says. As for abortion, he says it is a "complex and incredibly emotional issue," and warns of the horrors of banning it.

Now if I said that racial discrimination was a "complex and incredibly emotional issue," and warned of the horrors of banning it, is there anyone who couldn't figure out what side I am on?

Irish politicians are a genuine disgrace. The Prime Minister, Enda Kenny, is livid over the Tuam story. Does that motivate him to protect life in the womb? Not at all: He champions more exceptions to Ireland's limited abortion ban. When he received an honorary degree at Boston College in 2013, he earned a salute from Planned Parenthood. That speaks volumes. He is also a big proponent of gay marriage, and a reliable critic of the Catholic Church on matters sexual.

Michael D. Higgins is President of Ireland. He gets melodramatic when speaking about Irish nuns. He talks about "dark shadows" that hang over Ireland, "shadows that require us all to summon up yet again a light that might dispel the darkness to which so many women and their children were condemned..." Predictably, he has signed pro-abortion and pro-gay marriage legislation.

Senator Katherine Zappone is one of two leading critics of the Tuam story in the Parliament. She is a pro-abortion American transplant who “married” her girlfriend, an Irish ex-nun, in 2003.

The other member of Parliament leading the charge is Brid Smith. She is strongly pro-abortion and pro-gay marriage, and is one of the nation’s most relentless anti-Catholics. She is also a communist.

That’s quite an assembly. The remains of children found in a septic tank from decades ago is an abomination, but children who are killed before birth in 2017 is not nearly as bad. There is no difference between Francis marrying Frances, and Frank marrying Freddie. To top things off, the Church is repressive, especially those “evil” Irish nuns.

No one with any sense would want to get inside these people’s heads any further.

SO HOW MANY DIED IN IRISH HOMES?

Bill Donohue comments on the alleged number of persons who died in Ireland’s Mother and Baby homes in the twentieth century:

Paul Redmond is chairman of the Coalition of Mother and Baby Home Survivors. He was born in one of the homes in 1964, and was adopted 17 days later. He has become the leading activist involved in the search for answers to what actually happened in these homes.

As with many others associated with this cause, Redmond's "evidence" is slippery.

- On January 30, 2015, the *Irish Mirror* reported that Redmond claimed he had evidence of 7,000 babies and children who died in homes across Ireland in the last century.
- On March 3, 2017, just as the latest Tuam "mass grave" story was being reported, Redmond told Ireland's BreakingNews that "at least 6,000 babies and children" had died in the homes. No one asked him to explain the missing 1,000.
- On March 6, 2017, three days after he cited the 6,000 figure to BreakingNews, he told the same media outlet that 7,000 died in the care of the nuns. No one asked him to explain the additional 1,000.
- On March 7, the *Irish Sun* reported that Redmond said there were 6,000 *women* and children who died in the homes. No one asked him to explain the missing 1,000, nor did they ask why he now included women in his estimate.

Redmond outdid himself on March 3 when he told UPI that "well over 4,000 babies and children" were buried in three of the homes. But where? Redmond said they were buried "in shoeboxes and rags." No one asked him to prove a thing.

And some wonder why I am so skeptical.

"MASS GRAVE" EVIDENCE IS

LACKING

Bill Donohue comments on the lack of data presented by those making the case for a “mass grave” in Tuam, Ireland:

Reform advocates, for any cause, have a tendency to exaggerate the problem they seek to remedy, and the extremists in their ranks are even worse. A case in point is the “mass grave” issue.

I have a doctorate in sociology from New York University, and I am accustomed to rendering decisions based on data, empirical evidence, and logic. Everyone has an opinion on any given subject, but those that are unsubstantiated do not carry as much weight as those that are. On this score, the mass gravers come up short. Much of their reasoning is based on conjecture, and some of it is pure fiction. It hardly exaggerates to say that their evidence is lacking.

Take the widely bandied about figure of 800 children found buried outside the Mother and Baby Home run by the Bon Secours Sisters. The evidence is non-existent. Here is what we do know.

On March 4, the Irish government reported that “significant human remains” were found outside the home.

Barry Sweeney says he saw “15-20 small skeletons” in a hole there in 1975. He is cited by Catherine Corless, the source of the “mass grave” thesis, as her prime eyewitness.

Douglas Dalby, writing in the *New York Times*, said in 2014 that “Ms. Corless *surmised* that the children’s bodies were interred in a septic tank behind the home...” (My italic.)

Last week, I was interviewed on the Irish radio program, “Newstalk.” The host, Sean Moncrieff, is a mass graver, as is Mick Heaney of the *Irish Times*. Both are furious at me for

saying that the 15-20 figure is not proof of a “mass grave.” Their response—that the government found a “significant” number—makes my point, not theirs.

From the beginning, my position has not been that no wrongdoing ever occurred in these homes, but that assertions of a “mass grave” have not been proven by anyone. Moreover, such wild accusations only feed the prevailing animus in Ireland against the Catholic Church.

Moncrieff and Heaney are livid over my statement that there is a “huge” difference between saying that a “significant” number of remains have been found and claims that 800 bodies have been discovered. They accuse me of playing “hair-splitting games.”

This is precisely the kind of lame response I would expect from those who have no evidence to support their claims. Like Corless, they are free to *surmise* all they want, but they cannot expect serious scholars to allow conjecture to substitute for fact.

Why does this matter? Because of all the scurrilous accusations that have been made about the nuns creating an “Irish Holocaust.” Extreme mass gravers are throwing around numbers with abandon, all designed to smear the nuns.

For example, the *Irish Mirror* ran a headline on March 3 saying, “Order of Nuns that Dumped Up to 800 Babies into Septic Tank Must be Disbanded.” Nowhere in the story is there any evidence about 800 babies being “dumped” in a sewer, but, ironically, the article does provide evidence of my charge: throwing around huge numbers feeds anti-Catholicism.

It should also be noted that Corless has explicitly separated herself from accusations that the nuns “dumped” the bodies of babies in a septic tank. “I have never used the word ‘dumped,’” she told Dalby.

Irish Central is leading the mass graver extremists.

On March 4, it ran the following headline: "Tuam Mass Infant Grave is Confirmed, Now What Are We Going to Do About it?" In fact, no confirmation was given. The article cites the "significant" number account, but offers no proof that the government confirmed the existence of a mass grave.

On March 8, in an article on women's rights, Irish Central said, "Just last week 800 babies were found buried, abandoned in an unmarked grave in Tuam."

This is an out-and-out lie. The bodies of 800 babies have not been found buried. Irish Central literally made this up. It is pure fiction.

Irish Central has a moral obligation to provide pictures of the 800 bodies found in an unmarked grave in Tuam. Where are the pictures? Time to put up or shut up.

Contact Niall O'Dowd at Irish Central: niall@irishcentral.com

DID IRISH NUNS STARVE KIDS TO DEATH?

Bill Donohue comments on accusations made on March 7 by Ireland's Prime Minister, Enda Kenny:

The insanity over the "mass grave" story in Tuam has now reached a fever pitch. The Irish Prime Minister, Enda Kenny, says that the Bon Secours Sisters took the babies of unwed mothers and "sold them, trafficked them [and] starved them."

That is a serious charge, and serious accusations demand

serious evidence. He provided none. Kenny offered not one scintilla of evidence to back up his fantastic story. Not surprisingly, he found a kindred soul in the U.S. in Niall O'Dowd of Irish Central; he quoted his remarks with relish the next day.

Here is what Kenny said on March 7: "No nuns broke into our homes to kidnap our children. We gave them up to what we convinced ourselves was the nuns' care." That is all true. But then he goes on to say that the nuns sold the children, trafficked them, and starved them.

The nuns did not sell children to bidders. They placed abandoned and often abused children—abandoned and abused by their mothers and/or fathers—up for adoption. Customarily, as one would expect, the adopting parents would make a donation to the nuns. That's what people do as a demonstration of their gratitude. But from the Kenny-O'Dowd account, they would have us believe that the nuns ran some kind of auction, selling the kids off to the highest bidder.

Children were "trafficked"? That conjures up images of slave labor. This is a new charge. Kenny and O'Dowd need to share their evidence with the rest of us. Otherwise, we might conclude they are liars.

Children were "starved" to death? This is the most damning of the accusations. Kenny just throws this charge out there hoping it will stick. O'Dowd is more specific, claiming that some of the children in the care of the nuns died of "marasmus," or malnutrition.

The following explanation of why the children died in the Mother and Baby Home operated by the Bon Secours Sisters was given by an Irish student of this subject.

"For the years 1925-1926, 57 children, aged between one month and three years, (plus two, aged six and eight years) died in the Children's Home. Of this number, 21 died of measles, other

causes were convulsions, gastroenteritis, bronchitis, tuberculosis, meningitis, and pneumonia."

The researcher also listed other factors. "Other causes of death were as follows: pertussis (otherwise known as whooping cough), anaemia, influenza, nephritis (kidney inflammation), laryngitis, congenital heart disease, enteritis, epilepsy, spinal bifida, chicken pox, general oedema (dropsy), coeliac disease, birth injury, sudden circulatory failure, and fit."

A total of 22 diseases is cited, but there is no mention of marasmus. Why not? This takes on greater significance when we consider the author of this description: it was none other than Catherine Corless, hero of the "mass grave" fame. It can be found on the last two pages of her 2012 journal article, "The Home."

Let's say Corless is wrong about this; perhaps she overlooked the marasmus. The real issue here is not whether kids died of malnutrition—let's assume they did—the real issue is O'Dowd's intellectual inability to conceive of any reason other than intentional starvation.

Dr. Jacky Jones worked for the Irish health services for 37 years in the field of health education and health promotion. She says that "high infant mortality rates were normal for certain groups of people in Ireland until the 1970s." She further notes that "Children from poor families were four times more likely to die before their first birthday."

Now ask yourself this: Were the children of indigent unmarried mothers in the early twentieth century more likely or less likely to be part of that segment of the population as described by Dr. Jones?

Those children who were dropped off at the convents were not the sons and daughters of the rich. They were the abandoned and often abused offspring of parents who could not, or would not, care for them. That some of the children may have been

suffering from malnutrition *when they were acquired by the nuns* would hardly be surprising, and it is just as unsurprising to think that some died “before their first birthday,” as Dr. Jones said.

If this is too hard for O’Dowd to understand, then perhaps he thinks that the reason why more people die in hospitals than in hotels is because hospitals are known for killing people. It would never occur to him that the sick and dying are more likely to check themselves into a hospital than a hotel. Get the point, Niall?

It is malicious to accuse anyone of intentionally starving children to death without proof, and it is even worse when an entire order of nuns is charged with doing so. That is what the Prime Minister of Ireland has done, and that is what the founder of Irish Central has done.

One more thing. Children who suffer from marasmus are typically emaciated. Click [here](#) to see pictures taken of children in the care of the Bon Secours Sisters. Do they look emaciated? The pictures, by the way, are posted on Irish Central!

MARXIST LED PROTEST AGAINST IRISH NUNS

Bill Donohue comments on a protest of Irish nuns on March 10:

The lunacy behind the Tuam “mass grave” story continues to mount. On March 10, outside the Bon Secours Hospital in

Renmore, demonstrators will assemble to protest the alleged mistreatment of children by this order of nuns in the first half of the twentieth century.

People Before Profit is organizing this event. It is a Marxist-inspired band of pro-totalitarian, pro-abortion, and anti-Catholic fanatics. Unlike commentators such as Niall O'Dowd of Irish Central, who routinely make unsubstantiated accusations, I cite data. So here it is.

Marxist-Inspired Band of Totalitarians

In Ireland's legislative elections of 2011 and 2016, one of the registered parties was the "Anti-Austerity Alliance–People Before Profit (AAA-PBP)" party. Its ideology is identified as "Trotskyism-Socialism."

Trotskyism was named after Leon Trotsky, a self-identified Marxist who promoted a worldwide communist revolution. The revolution would be led by intellectuals (like himself) who would organize the working class against the existing order. The intellectuals would form the "vanguard of the proletariat," meaning they would instruct urban factory workers on how to proceed. Their goal was to have a "dictatorship of the proletariat." They did not want a democracy—they expressly wanted a dictatorship.

So there we have it. People Before Profit has its roots in an ideology that promotes totalitarianism. Historically, Marxist-run nations—Stalin's Russia, Mao's China, and Pol Pot's Cambodia—account for the deaths of close to 150 million innocent men, women, and children.

Pro-Abortion

On March 8, the leader of People Before Profit, Brid Smith, a member of the Irish Parliament, joined the pro-abortion International Women's Day in Dublin. Why would I call the event "pro-abortion"? Here is how the *Socialist Worker* (which

loves Smith) described it: "Protests for abortion rights and against sexist governments took place across the world to mark International Women's Day today, Wednesday."

Smith is not a person who is torn over the issue of abortion. She likes it. Just last October the *Socialist Worker* said, "Brid Smith challenged the Irish government to prosecute her for possessing tablets which can be used to cause an abortion."

Smith did not say whether she has given her abortion-inducing drug to her family members or friends, or used it herself. No matter, she is proud of her stance, and I am delighted to tell everyone about it.

Anti-Catholic

Among the goals of the March 10 protest, People Before Profit lists its demand to "Call on the Bon Secours order to reconsider the existence of their order." Another goal is to "End control of primary schools by the Catholic Church."

So we should punish innocent nuns today because of accusations—most of which remain unsubstantiated—against the Bon Secours nuns that extend back to the period after World War I and before the Depression. And, of course, Catholic schools have to go.

In other words, the protest is being led by those who hate democracy, like abortion, and hate the Catholic Church. What is worse is the refusal of commentators, politicians, and activists to condemn them for their wholly indefensible positions. They are either gutless or supportive of them.

“MASS GRAVE” HOAX WIDELY REPORTED

Bill Donohue comments on how the media have covered the Tuam, Ireland “mass grave” story:

No media outlet has done a more consistently accurate job reporting the “mass grave” story than the *New York Times*. Not only did it not fall for this bogus story when it first surfaced in 2014, it actually poked holes in it. Its coverage in 2017 has also been flawless. Kudos to the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for picking up the *Times* story.

Unlike other Irish sources, the *Irish Echo* got this story correct.

The BBC fell for the “mass grave” bunk in 2014. Now in 2017, it had covered this story accurately, absent any sensationalistic talk about a “mass grave,” until late Tuesday, when it used the term in reporting on comments from Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny.

The *International Business Times* initially ran with the “mass grave” story, but then it offered a very fair account of my criticisms of it. It is to be commended for its balanced reporting.

Reuters had a mixed record: some stories mentioned the “mass grave” and others did not.

The following media outlets ran at least one story on the “mass grave.” No source was worse than AP: two years ago it ran an apology for faulty reporting on this subject, and this year it was just as inaccurate. Worse, its stories are picked up nationwide by other media outlets, thus spreading the fake news about a “mass grave.”

Wire Services

AP

UPI

U.S. Print Media

Time (AP)

Washington Post

Daily News (AP)

New York Post (AP)

Newsday (AP)

USA Today

Chicago Tribune (AP)

Boston Globe

Los Angeles Times (AP)

Wall Street Journal

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (AP)

Atlanta Journal Constitution (AP)

Orange County Register (AP)

Sacramento Bee (AP)

Tampa Bay Times (AP)

Star Tribune (AP)

San Diego Union Tribune

Orlando Sentinel

Providence Journal

Hartford Courant

Salt Lake Tribune

Spokesman Review (AP)

Saginaw News

Christian Science Monitor

U.S. Radio and TV

ABCNewsRadio

CNN

NPR

Voice of America

Online Media

CBSNews.com
FoxNews.com
NBCNews.com
Yahoo News
Irish Central
Inquisitr
Daily Beast
SF Gate (AP)
Christian Times

U.K. Media

Guardian
Telegraph.co.uk
Daily Mail
Belfast Telegraph
Irish News
Daily Star Online
Daily Mirror
Express
Independent
MailOnline
Scottish Daily Mail
Belfast Telegraph Online
Express Online
Press Association Mediapoint
Sky News

Irish Media

Irish Independent
Irish Mirror
Irish Times
Irish Sun
Newstalk 106-108 fm
Dublin Live
Irish Examiner
thejournal.ie
RTÉ.ie

Galway Bay fm

What is most astonishing about this unprofessional journalism is that it is at odds with the official statements by the government's Mother and Baby Commission and the formal remarks made by government officials. While those accounts mention that "significant quantities of human remains" were found, none mention anything about a "mass grave."

What was uncovered is disturbing enough, but what is being reported is pure hype. The photo that is being shopped about the "mass grave" on the property of the Bon Secours Sisters is a picture of a graveyard. Period. It is not proof of a "mass grave."

The incuriosity of the media suggests a willingness to validate an ideological predilection, one that is not exactly Catholic-friendly. It surely is not a quest for the truth.