RELIGIOUS RIGHTS ON CAMPUS THREATENED

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on a proposal by the Biden administration that is disturbing:

Freedom of speech should be honored on the college campuses more than any place in the nation, but, alas, that is not true. Indeed, the campuses are hotbeds of censorship.

Freedom to speak one's mind about religion, and to establish religious clubs on campus, should also be a slam dunk. But again, owing to the prevailing left-wing hatred of western civilization, and its Judeo-Christian roots, that is definitely not the case.

The Trump administration sought to do something about this condition by prohibiting federal funding of colleges and universities that restricted religious student group activities. Now the Biden administration is seeking to overturn this rule, allowing institutions of higher education to return to their censorial ways.

The Department of Education (DOE), under Secretary Miguel Cardona, announced last week that starting on February 22, the public would have 30 days to comment on the proposal to nix the Trump initiative. The DOE says that "it is not necessary in order to protect the First Amendment right to free speech and free exercise of religion given existing legal protections." It also says the policy is "unduly burdensome."

Both of these statements are manifestly false. It was precisely because the religious rights of students were not protected on campus that the previous administration was beckoned to act. Moreover, it is risible for an administration that is regulation-happy to start worrying about rules that are "unduly burdensome." When it comes to the rights of LGBT students, the Biden administration says we can't have enough protections. Why, then, when it comes to the rights of religious students is it deemed they have enough rights?

Before providing data that undercut what the DOE is saying, consider what prominent academics have been saying about this subject.

"On America's elite campuses, today, it is perfectly acceptable for professors to use their classrooms to attack religion, to mock it, to trivialize it, and to refer to those whom faith truly matters as dupes, and dangerous on top of it." That's how Yale law professor Stephen Carter put it over two decades ago. The African American author concluded that if similar things were said about other groups, it would be called "bigotry."

The situation on campus has only gotten worse over the past two decades. Alan Levinovitz teaches at James Madison University. He notes that many campuses have trigger warnings and safe spaces to alert students about potentially challenging material. He says that "as a professor of religious studies, I know firsthand how debates about trigger warnings and safe spaces can have a chilling effect on classroom discussions." He specifically names discussion about religious beliefs as among the most likely to be stifled.

Levinovitz observes that according to anonymous in-class surveys, "about one-third of my students believe in the exclusive salvific truth of Christianity. But rarely do these students defend their beliefs in class. In private, they have told me that they believe doing so could be construed as hateful, hostile, intolerant, and disrespectful…."

A few years ago, Princeton professor Robert P. George and Orthodox Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, one of his former students, spoke about this issue at a forum on the subject. According to George, who is a former chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, "There is an antipathy, sometimes an open hostility to religion" on campus. Soloveichik, who teaches at Yeshiva University, spoke about bigoted attacks on Israel, noting, "The truest threat to people of faith in the modern university, from my perspective ... is the culture of hedonism as part of student life."

In 2019, the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities' Presidents Conference, a network of over 180 Christian colleges worldwide, registered their concerns about the religious rights of students. Shirley Mullen, president of Houghton College, a Christian liberal arts college, said, "The standard western narrative of progress has assumed that deeply held religious beliefs, especially when there is diversity in those beliefs, result in intolerance, conflict, violence, oppression."

There certainly is no shortage of examples of religious students being badgered on campus. Courses, lectures and workshops abound on the prevalence of alleged "Christian privilege," a term used to bash Christians, especially male heterosexuals. As I pointed out recently, in other words, "the Hispanic Catholics who clean the toilets of filthy-rich atheist students and their pampered professors are the 'privileged' ones."

It is because of this poisonous milieu, where religious students are treated as outcasts, if not the enemy, that their rights on campus merited protections from the previous administration. The Biden administration, heavily staffed by militant secularists, wants to eviscerate those rights. We can't let that happen.

To read our report on the plight of religious students on campus, click <u>here</u>.

To register your objections to this condition, click <u>here</u> and

TEEN GIRLS ADDICTED TO SOCIAL MEDIA

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on teen girls and their fixation with social media:

The CDC's recent study of teenage girls paints a dire picture. They are much more likely than boys to report feelings of depression and suicidal thoughts. In fact, almost 60 percent report feeling so sad and hopeless almost every day for at least two weeks in a row (during the previous year) that they stopped their regular activities.

This is not normal. Psychologist Richard Weissbourd notes what many others have observed: girls are more likely to be obsessed with social media, and especially with stories about attractiveness and body image. This accounts for their higher rates of alcohol and drug use than boys.

Jean Twenge is also a psychology professor who has a good grip on this issue. She says that "we've known from academic research for many years that the longer a teen girl spends on social media, the more likely she is to be depressed and to engage in behaviors like self-harm [such as] cutting." In fact, the suicide rate has doubled for ten-to-fourteen-yearolds since 2007.

In a study published by two Turkish researchers, heavy social media users tend to be impulsive, and this has negative behavioral consequences, such as "failing to spend time effectively, failing to plan, and developing an addiction to

social media." Impulsivity, in turn, is related to "obesity, sex addiction, alcohol and drug addiction, internet addiction, pathologic game playing, and risky behaviors." It also increases loneliness.

What did the CDC recommend we do about this problem? Provide more mental health services to students.

That's a band aid approach. We need something stronger. Schools should ban smartphones from the classroom.

Buxton School in Williamstown, Massachusetts banned smartphones at the beginning of the academic year last summer. The boarding school also banned teachers from having access to their phones on campus. Other schools have similar rules.

Buxton school official Franny Shuker-Haines explained why this decision was made. "I don't think we need to wait any longer to see enough evidence of the mental health toll those devices are taking on teenagers." She was particularly pointed in her criticism of social media. "You're meant to respond quickly and harshly. You're meant to extend conflict. You're meant to promote the most inflammatory or outrageous idea."

Peter Beck, the head of Buxton, said this decision was needed following the social isolation that took place during the pandemic. "The students had completely forgotten the basics of face-to-face interaction. They had spent so much time glued to their smartphones."

How was the new policy received? At first, not well. But in due course, most students and teachers came to support it. The source of their asocial, oftentimes anti-social, condition was banished.

The policy wisely allowed a little lee-way. The school distributed a Light Phone, a device which allowed students to make and receive phone calls, and to do rudimentary texts. But there was no social media, email, or internet service.

In a study published February 23, the journal *Psychology of Popular Media* found that Canadian teens and young people who cut their social media by 50 percent for three weeks felt better about their appearance and body weight. Gary Goldfield, a senior scientist at Ottawa's CHEO Research Institute for pediatric research, said the findings suggest that cutting back on social media would also reduce emotional distress.

If more students, especially teen girls, got into the habit of not being obsessed with social media—and spent more time interacting with their peers *in person*—their mental health problems would abate. Too many young people are needlessly allowing technology to take control of their lives.

We are social animals. If that means anything, it means we need to bond with others. Smartphones make that more difficult.

If we are really courageous, we might even try bonding with God. In addition to achieving saving grace, we know from voluminous studies that people of faith have far fewer mental health problems than their secular counterparts. That's a win-win.

"SOUTH PARK" CREATORS GOT IT WRONG

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on remarks by the creators of "South Park":

"South Park" creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker are quoted in today's *New York Post* saying their work has been the subject of "various lawsuits," adding that they have been criticized so many times "we can't even remember." But they did remember one critic: the Catholic League.

"It [the criticism] was all coming from the right, we were considered counterculture. The Catholic League are always on our a-s-it kind of always came from that side."

Sorry, fellows, you've got this wrong.

After I was lampooned on April 4, 2007–I was portrayed as taking over as pope from Pope Benedict XVI (only to be done in by Jesus)–I was asked on TV why I didn't sue them. I didn't and that is because I am a public figure, and therefore under *New York Times v. Sullivan* (1964), I am fair game.

Here is what I said in a news release the next day.

"I have no idea why 'South Park' creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker caricature me as a heartless thug. In any event, I stand convicted and have no defense. Now I have to get back to business—I hear someone just took liberties with the Easter Bunny."

So unlike the Left, which is always seeking to censor their critics, I have a sense of humor. It's never good to take oneself too seriously.

MODEL POLICY ON TRANSGENDER STUDENTS

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on the right way to treat transgender students:

The Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, under the leadership of

Archbishop Alexander K. Sample, has adopted a model policy on how to deal with transgender students. It is a model not just for Catholic schools, but for all schools, private and public. It is empathetic in its understanding of those suffering from gender dysphoria, yet firmly opposed to gender ideology.

"The first chapters of Genesis in sacred scripture provide the foundation for a Catholic *anthropology*—the Catholic understanding of the human person. According to our faith, human beings are made in the image and likeness of God (Gen 1:27)."

Pope Francis, who has called gender ideology "demonic," is quoted in the policy, reminding us of who has stewardship over our bodies.

"The acceptance of our body as a gift from God is vital for welcoming and accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father and our common home, whereas thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy an absolute power over creation. Learning to respect our body, to care for it and to respect its fullest meaning, is an essential element of any genuine human ecology."

The policy rejects the widespread notion of "gender identity theory," which holds that "one's identity as a man, woman, or both/neither is based solely on subjective self-perception." This is false. Indeed, this kind of subjectivism is at odds with "the objective fact of biological sex." Thus, it is contrary to truth. This, more than anything, is the heart of the problem of gender ideology.

The inclusion of "Pastoral Guidelines" is most helpful. Here are some of them.

- It recommends that "designations and pronouns should accord with biological sex."
- Restrooms and locker rooms "should be organized

according to biological sex."

- Sports teams should be "based on biological sex, rather than self-perceived gender."
- Dress codes should also be in accordance with one's biological sex.
- Importantly, "no person should have on-site or distribute medications for the purpose of gender transition."
- Just as critical, the policy recognizes that "parents are the primary educators," and should be treated as such.

This commonsensical policy should be adopted nationwide. For starters, we need to end the exploitation of minors for ideological and financial profit. This means we need to start respecting the human dignity of the person. We did not come into the world as something other than male or female, and no amount of brainwashing to the contrary should be tolerated.

CHRISTIAN BASHING ON CAMPUS

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on how Christians are being depicted on some campuses:

No civilization has brought about more liberty and equality than western civilization, and that is due, in large part, to the contributions of Catholicism. Yet on many campuses, not only is western civilization being trashed—while primitive cultures are being celebrated—Christianity is under attack. More than that, the western haters have turned their academic guns on Christians themselves.

"Christian Privilege" classes, workshops, and lectures have been in vogue for the past several years. At George Washington University, diversity workshops teach that "Christians enjoy a privileged, easier life than their non-Christians counterparts, and that Christians possess 'built-in-advantages' today."

In other words, Hispanic Catholics who clean the toilets of filthy-rich atheist students and their pampered professors are the "privileged" ones.

At Rutgers University, a guest lecturer from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Khyati Joshi, told students a few years ago that "white Christian privilege" was responsible for slavery. She did not say who is responsible for slavery in a large part of the non-white world today.

Florida State University has been in the news lately for promoting "diversity, equity and inclusion," or what is really racism—racism against white people, especially white Christians. Some of what follows, the university now says, is being discontinued, but there is reason to doubt it.

Students are being told in some classes that they must list their "identities." One student was told to list himself as a white, heterosexual, Catholic male. To what end? The point of the assignment, everyone knew, was to shame him.

Another student, a female, said that her professor was known for going off on "white privilege" and "systemic racism," and that if any students disagreed with him, their grades suffered. In fact, when she wrote a paper defending Christianity as an institution that helped to end slavery, she received an "F."

The diversity, equity and inclusion gurus on campus have training programs where participants learn the four expressions of "Religious Oppression," all of which blame white Christians for oppressing everyone else. The Indians and Pakistanis, and rival African tribes, according to this narrative, never butcher each other. The proponents of this left-wing propaganda, which is today called scholarship, say that observing Christmas is an example of Christian hegemony. If that is the case, we need more of it. "Christian Privilege," they say, refers to "the view that Christian beliefs, language, and practices do not require any special effort to be recognized, as they are embedded into the U.S. American culture."

Leaving aside the fact that there is no such thing as a Christian "language" (these idiots should be fired for incompetence), why should it be considered controversial for a nation founded by Christians to celebrate its history? What exactly do they do in countries founded by Jews, Hindus and Muslims-celebrate Christianity? The USSR and Communist China were founded by secular genocidal maniacs and their celebrations were never criticized by the same people at war with Christians.

Classroom instruction at Florida State also includes discussion of the "Matrix of Oppression," or what some call the "Matrix of Domination." It is basically a list of victimizers and victims.

The bad guys include white people, "biological" men (meaning real men), "gender conforming men" (meaning sane men), rich people and "naturalized citizens" (meaning those who didn't break the law coming here). The good guys, the victims, are non-whites, "biological" women (meaning real women), "transgender, genderqueer, intersex" (meaning the sexually confused), and "undocumented" people (meaning those who crashed our borders illegally).

Asking university staff and students to swallow this moonshine is not without consequence. In 2021, Florida State had to settle out of court with Jack Denton, the Student Senate President, after he sued for having his First Amendment rights violated. Here's what happened. Denton sent a text to his fellow Catholic students complaining about Black Lives Matter and the ACLU. A student who read the text, and was offended, shared Denton's private correspondence with his friends, triggering massive retaliation against him. They distorted his remarks and he was removed from his Senate office. When he brought this to the attention of university officials, they refused to do anything about it. That's when he sued.

Any person—of any race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual orientation who apologizes for who he is—simply because of real and contrived offenses committed by people who share his identity, needs help. Unless the bullies on the Left are told to take a hike—and sued when appropriate—this madness will continue.

DirecTV NEWSMAX

Bill Donohue President

STIFFING

Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights

STILL

On January 25, the same day that Newsmax announced that it had been unjustly sacked by the AT&T-owned DirecTV, I called on Catholics to rally to its side. Specifically, I asked them to cancel their subscription to DirecTV and acquire a new carrier.

Subsequently, I was followed by a host of prominent Americans who registered their criticism of DirecTV, many of whom called for a boycott. Politicians, corporate leaders, TV personalities, sports figures, actors, lawyers, religious leaders-a Who's Who of American public figures-lambasted DirecTV, calling on them to carry Newsmax again.

It's time to keep the pressure on. If you haven't already cancelled your DirecTV subscription, please do so now. Not only is Newsmax a Catholic-friendly source, it is the nation's fourth largest cable television news network. To be singled out for political reasons is un-American and unacceptable.

To cancel DirecTV service, call: 877-763-9762 To cancel AT&T services, call: 888-855-2338

Also contact your representatives in Congress.

ABORTION COMPLICATIONS ARE SERIOUS

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on the seriousness of abortion complications:

Most of the mainstream media is in the tank with pro-abortion activists, which explains their reluctance to accurately report on the seriousness of abortion complications. Yet any person who truly believes in the best interests of women should want all women to know what can happen to them when undergoing an abortion. Since they won't do it, we will.

The latest data from the CDC on abortion shows that in 2020 there were 620,327 abortions in the United States. They also found that roughly 2 percent of all abortions involve some type of complication. To put that in perspective, that means that in about 12,400 cases, there was a complication.

The CDC further determined that 2020 marked the first time

that a majority of abortions (53 percent) involved pills. Abortion clinics account for almost 100 percent of the other cases.

Dr. Ingrid Skop is an OB-GYN and a senior fellow and director of medical affairs at the Charlotte Lozier Institute. One of her biggest concerns is the decision by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last month to permanently remove restrictions on obtaining the abortion pill: women are no longer required to see a doctor in-person to be prescribed chemical abortion pills.

"The regimen that's been approved by the [FDA] consists of two pills," Dr. Skop told the Daily Signal. "Mifepristone blocks the progesterone receptor, so it cuts off the hormonal support and kills the embryo or fetus. It's followed generally in 24 to 48 hours by misoprostol, which induces contractions and causes this tissue to be expressed. Unfortunately, it doesn't always work. Probably about 1 out of 20 times it will not express all the tissue, and the woman will require surgery to complete the abortion."

It was President Biden who took away the in-person requirements for the abortion pill. Dr. Skop explains what this means.

"This means there's no physical exam, there's no ultrasound to make sure that the gestational age is correct, to make sure the pregnancy is not in the fallopian tube where it could rupture. There's no safeguards to make sure a woman is not being coerced into an abortion. No one's doing labs to determine if she has an Rh-negative blood type and needs a RhoGAM shot to prevent future pregnancy complications." Here are some other problems associated with abortion pills (the information is taken from the Charlotte Lozier Institute).

- Chemical abortion has a complication rate four times that of surgical abortion, and as many as one out of five women will suffer a complication.
- Chemical abortion drugs are more likely to send women to the emergency room: the rate of chemical abortionrelated emergency room visits increased over 500% between 2002-2015.
- Chemical abortions are over 50% more likely than surgical abortions to result in an ER visit within 30 days affecting one in twenty women.
- Some abortion advocates encourage women to lie to their doctors if they need urgent care and say they are having a miscarriage. However, if a chemical abortion is miscoded as a miscarriage in the ER (which occurred 60% of the time in one study), the woman is at significantly greater risk of needing multiple hospitalizations and follow-up surgery.

Women who go to abortion clinics that are not run by doctors are also in a risky situation. If she has complications, she is dependent on the judgment of a non-licensed physician to attend to her. Question: If no one in his right mind would undergo dental surgery performed by a dental hygienist, why would anyone allow a midwife, nurse or physician assistant to perform an abortion?

We did a study of the prevalence of non-doctors performing abortions across the country. To read it, click <u>here</u>.

The passion for abortion is so strong at Planned Parenthood that it now has mobile clinics that "roam the southern Illinois border" looking to entice women in nearby pro-life states, such as Missouri, to get rid of their unborn child. Pregnant women can hop on board an RV and have their abortion done lickety-split. Even DoorDash can't match this kind of service.

Finally, abortion activists are pressuring the Biden administration to declare an "abortion public health emergency," decrying the lack of access to abortion in some parts of the country. Makes you wonder: Do they really hate kids that much?

WHO EXACTLY WAS ST. VALENTINE?

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on the identity of St. Valentine:

The first thing to know about St. Valentine is that he is no longer recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church. A martyr, yes, but a saint, no.

He was canonized in 496 AD, over 200 years after he died, which was sometime around 270 AD and 280 AD. In 1969, Pope Paul VI removed him from the General Roman Calendar, concluding that there wasn't enough reliable evidence to maintain his sainthood.

There are different historical accounts of St. Valentine. According to one legend, he was a priest in Rome who was martyred during the Christian persecution; he was beheaded under the reign of Emperor Claudius II for defying his orders.

The Emperor wanted single men to fight his wars, knowing they would be less distracted with family duties. Fr. Valentine, wanting to subvert his efforts, continued to perform marriage ceremonies so the husbands wouldn't have to go to war. Allegedly, it was his refusal to deny Christ that was the final straw.

Another story says he was beheaded under Claudius II when he became a bishop. Others say that Valentine the priest and Valentine the bishop were two different persons.

It was Chaucer, the English poet, who first declared St. Valentine's Day a day of romantic celebration. He did so in a 1375 poem. In other words, Valentine's celebrations extend as far back as the Middle Ages. It was another poet, Charles, Duke of Orleans, who is responsible for the first "modern" valentine—he extended it to his wife while in prison in 1415.

The first valentine was supposedly sent by Valentine himself. He fell in love with the daughter of the man who jailed him—she liked to visit him in jail. It is said that on the day of his execution he wrote her a letter, signed, appropriately, "Your Valentine."

No one doubts that Valentine was a priest and a martyr. It is apropos to note his martyrdom today because Christian martyrdom is raging out of control.

Open Doors does a great job tracking Christian persecution worldwide; it is known for its accuracy and its conservative estimates.

Its 2023 World Watch List details 50 countries where Christian persecution is the worst. "Last year," its report said, "for the first time in 29 years of tracking, all 50 nations scored high enough to register 'very high' persecution levels on Open Doors' 84-question matrix."

Here are some of its other findings:

 A thousand more Christians were killed for their faith last year than the year before

- A thousand more Christians were detained
- Six hundred more churches were attacked or closed

No place on earth is it "harder to follow Jesus" than in Afghanistan. It replaced North Korea from the top spot. Somalia ranked third worst.

The most violent nations for Christians to live in are, from top to bottom, Nigeria, Pakistan and India. Nigeria and Pakistan are also one-two in countries where the most Christians were martyred. When it comes to churches being attacked or closed, China and Nigeria lead the way.

The biggest threat to Christians, the study found, is coming from Islamic extremists.

This is sobering news. But it is not healthy to live in darkness, so to all of those who are going to celebrate St. Valentine's Day-have a good time! Fr. Valentine, saint or no, wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

SUPER BOWL OFF-THE-FIELD CONTROVERSIES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on how the Super Bowl reflects the USA:

The Super Bowl halftime show and commercials were a good index of the state of our culture. We are split between those who opt for a traditional moral stance and those who prefer a secular approach. Both were on display during the game. More interesting was the reaction to what occurred.

He Gets Us is a Christian organization that has taken to the

airwaves promoting the message of Jesus. It featured two Super Bowl ads, which cost \$20 million, and they got right to the point.

One ad depicted migrants seeking refuge from persecution, referencing Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The other portrayed people bickering over racial issues and the pandemic, reminding us that "Jesus loved the people we hate."

Had these ads run on TV decades ago, few would blink. But not today.

Rep. Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez channeled Jesus, saying he would not "spend millions of dollars on Super Bowl ads to make fascism look benign." AOC did not explain what was fascistic about either of the Christian commercials.

Nick Fish is the president of American Atheists, and he too hated the Jesus commercials. He said those behind the ads "have funded anti-LGBTQ, anti-choice, anti-immigrant, and anti-democracy extremism from the Christian Nationalism movement." He offered no evidence to support his hysterical claims.

Both AOC and Fish made it clear, without being explicit, that they are perturbed because one of the organizations supporting the Jesus ads is Hobby Lobby, the evangelical-run store chain that won an important religious liberty victory in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Then we have Rihanna, who took the opportunity to portray herself as a role model for young black girls. During her halftime show, she grabbed her behind and her crotch, smelled her hand, and humped around the stage. She did so while singing, "Come here rude boy, boy, can you get it up? Come here rude boy, boy, is you big enough?" The men got the message.

Why does the NFL invite halftime performers to wallow in the

gutter? This seems to be the norm. Can any of these entertainers put on a show without getting vulgar? Are they all that morally debased?

Apparently, Rihanna drew less criticism from public figures than He Gets Us. That is a telling commentary on the direction of our culture.

WESTERN WORLD AT WAR WITH CATHOLICS

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on recent attacks on Catholics in North America and England:

There hasn't been a wave of virulent anti-Catholicism in the West like what we are currently witnessing in at least a hundred years.

In the 1920s, the Ku Klux Klan in the U.S. was on the march against Catholics, trying to force them to send their children to public schools. Al Smith ran for president but was roundly condemned because of his Catholicism.

In Europe, especially in Germany, anti-Catholicism got really nasty. Hitler emerged as a Nazi leader in the 1920s, at a time of moral collapse and anti-Catholicism. When he took over in the next decade, he promised to "crush [the Catholic Church] like a toad."

Catholics in the West are not facing groups like the Klan or the Nazis today, but they are being monitored and persecuted for their faith by government bodies. That this is going on in what are called democracies is mind-boggling. Here are some examples that emerged in just the last few days!

In the U.S., the FBI is now investigating some orthodox Catholics, citing the far-left, and scandal ridden, Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) as its source. In an important whistle-blowing article published by Kyle Seraphin, a former FBI special agent, the Richmond Field Office of the FBI recently released a report on "Radical-Traditionalist Catholics," or what they call RTCs.

The report says there is a difference between RTCs and "traditionalist Catholics." The former are labeled extremist anti-Jewish and anti-gay bigots who reject Vatican II and who adhere to white supremacist ideology; the latter prefer the Latin Mass and pre-Vatican II teachings.

The document lists as RTCs a few groups which I am familiar with, and while they are certainly not associations the Catholic League identifies with, they are not violent-prone entities. Some of these people may be kooky, but they are not exactly Antifa, about which the FBI has done little. So why the probe?

The SPLC may call them "hate groups," but that means nothing: it calls the Family Research Council and the Ruth Institute hate groups, which is a scurrilous lie. Tony Perkins, who runs the former group, and Jennifer Roback Morse, who runs the latter, are both outstanding social conservatives. They are anything but hateful.

As Seraphin notes, "The FBI is forbidden from opening cases or publishing products based solely on First Amendment-protected activities." Why then the war on RTCs? What's next? A war on Catholics who are orthodox and who summarily reject the morally debased society that militant secularists have created?

Make no mistake, we are not done with this FBI story.

In Canada, a 16-year-old student who attends a Catholic high school was arrested this week for publicly stating that there are only two sexes and that male students should not use the women's restrooms. The student, Josh Alexander, attends St. Joseph's Catholic High School in Renfrew, Ontario, and his principal took the side of the police in punishing him for mouthing Catholic teachings on sexuality.

"I said there were only two genders and you were born either a male of a female and that got me into trouble," Alexander said. "And then I said that gender doesn't trump biology." The principal of the school suspended him, saying he was not allowed back until he renounced his views, all of which are based on Catholic teachings. It is not the student who should be ousted—it's the principal.

In Wolverhampton, England, Fr. Sean Gough was arrested for praying outside an abortion clinic. He was holding a sign, "Praying For Freedom Of Speech." This was considered "intimidation" and therefore unlawful. "I pray wherever I go, inside my head, for the people around me. How can it be a crime for a priest to pray?"

Fr. Gough correctly identified the problem: Agents of the state want to get "inside" his head. Thought control was never so vicious in the West, rivaling anything Mao Zedong did in China, if not in the same volume.

The West is decaying, and it is happening at lightning speed. We have no other choice than to expose these fascists and defeat them.