

DISNEY FILM A SMASHING SUCCESS; A TRUE CULTURAL MARKER

The January 23rd release of our Disney documentary, "Walt's Disenchanted Kingdom," has won the plaudits of Americans from every walk of life. It promises to be the cultural marker we expected it would be. In fact, it has been selected as an entry into several film festivals as the Best Short Film of the year.

The movie was made available on the Catholic League's website, via our YouTube channel, as well as on Amazon Prime, SalemNow, MRCTV, Google, Facebook, CNSNews and FRONTPAGE.

It didn't take long for YouTube to slap an age restriction on it for those under 18, making viewers jump through a few hoops before seeing it. It also didn't take us long to go around them by posting the movie on Rumble. We reached an enormous audience.

Multiple radio and TV interviews extended our reach, and all were friendly. None of our critics sought an interview, but we know they didn't like it. We know that because of the hate mail we received. It had no effect on us—par for the course.

We did not hear a word from Disney, which was expected. What, exactly, was it going to say? Everything in the movie was accurate and we ran it by several lawyers to make sure that Disney had no opportunity to do anything other than carp.

We could have chosen to charge a fee to see the film, but we decided against it. After all, our goal was to reach as many people as possible—from every religious body—so we wanted to make it available to everyone. Also, many of our members contributed to appeals asking for funding, so we didn't want

to hit them up again.

How will this affect Disney? We know they have had some serious money problems as of late. Their stock declined by 44 percent last year, and they recently laid off 7,000 workers; it needs to cut costs by \$5.5 billion. Disney lost \$1.5 billion from July through September last year, and its television earnings are expected to decline by \$1.6 billion in 2023.

We have no illusions about taking down Disney. Our goal is twofold: to educate the public about its moral decline, and to inspire Disney stockholders and officials to reconsider its programming. If it would only stay out of politics and stop trying to sexually engineer kids, it would win the support of millions whom it has alienated. It would also make money in the process.

We are thankful to all our members for their prayers, goodwill, and donations. Without your support, projects like “Walt’s Disenchanted Kingdom” would never happen.

BIDEN’S ABORTION QUIP

On January 30, when President Biden was walking on the White House lawn, he was asked by a reporter about Catholic opposition to publicly funded abortions. “Catholic bishops are demanding that federal tax dollars not fund abortions.”

In an angry reply, Biden pointed his finger and said, “No, they are not all doing that, nor is the Pope doing that.”

Biden’s monumental ignorance of basic Catholic teachings on abortion is startling.

From the day abortion was legalized by the Supreme Court in 1973, right up to today, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has not only opposed abortion, it has resolutely opposed publicly funded abortions.

Indeed, as recently as January 27, the USCCB's Pro-Life Committee, chaired by Bishop Michael Burbidge, sent a letter to House and Senate leaders about this issue. Burbidge said that the "government should never fund the destruction of innocent preborn children."

For Biden to misrepresent Pope Francis is even more serious.

On September 15, 2021, Pope Francis was unequivocal on this issue. "Abortion is murder." He rightly observed that Catholic teaching is consistent with science. "Scientifically, it's a human life. The textbooks teach us that. But is it right to take it out to solve a problem? This is why the Church is so strict on this issue because accepting this is kind of like accepting daily murder."

For a Catholic president to misrepresent Catholic teaching on a life and death issue is appalling.

WHEN DISHONESTY IS THE NORM

Being ethically inconsistent is a trait that is universal, no matter how hard we try to be consistent. Usually, it doesn't matter too much, and that is because our shortcomings are limited to a small group, mostly family, friends, neighbors and work associates. But when it comes to public persons—those whose values and behavior affect a large segment of society—it matters a great deal.

Regrettably, we live in a time when a record number of public persons has let us down. From congressmen to school superintendents, surveys reveal tremendous disappointment. What's worse is when we are lied to by these people, or when they become rank hypocrites: it gets infuriating when we learn that there is one standard for them, and another for us.

In this regard, Disney is among the worst. It continues to make children's movies that are politically charged, inappropriate, and in some cases indecent. Yet it always obeys its bosses in Muslim-run Middle Eastern nations, as well as in Communist China—Disney gives them a pass and refuses to insist that they show the same entertainment fare that they foist on us at home.

It was reported in February that in deference to their Communist masters, Disney deleted an episode of "The Simpsons." Why would they do that? The show mentioned forced labor in China.

If there is one thing that Disney, the Muslim-run nations, and Communist China have in common, it's that they loathe Christians. For instance, Disney continues to make movies that offend Christian sensibilities. Muslim and Chinese dictators up the ante: If they are not culturally raping Christians, stopping them from practicing their religion, they are literally killing them.

There are people at Disney who hate America. That is a strong charge, but how else to explain why they lie to children about American history.

A recent episode of Disney+'s "Proud Family" titled "Louder and Prouder," featured a song that began with the lyric, "This country was built on slavery—which means slaves built this country"; it was repeated over and over.

Then there is the plea for cash. "We the descendants of slaves in America have earned reparations for their suffering. And

continue to earn reparations every moment we spend submerged in a systemic prejudice, racism and white supremacy that America was founded with and still has not atoned for.”

In truth, slaves—who were sold by their African ancestors to the Europeans—were only a small minority, so to claim that they built this country is preposterous. More important, those who enslaved blacks, which included black slavemasters, are all dead, so to shakedown innocent persons to pony up for offenses they never committed is morally abhorrent.

Even more important, were it not for Christianity, and the natural law principles embedded in our founding documents, slavery would not have been outlawed. And by the way, slavery exists today in many countries, mostly in Africa. Who’s going to shakedown today’s masters? Rep. Ilhan Omar? Somalia, her home country, is a slave nation.

Disney has no monopoly on dishonesty. At the Grammys, when Beyoncé accepted an award, she said, “I’d like to thank the queer community for your love.” She cried saying it, so we know she was sincere. But was she?

Two weeks earlier Beyoncé sang in Dubai, where it is illegal to be gay. Moreover, she conveniently chose not to sing any of her pro-LGBT songs, lest she offend her gracious hosts. Her deference may also have something to do with the fact that she was paid \$24 million for her gig. Looks like her love for the queer community has its price

Politicians have long lied to us, so no examples need to be given. But what about those in the business community? To be sure, they have lied to us in the past about their products and services, but at least they didn’t pose as patriots while trying to subvert American values.

There is a new database called the 1792 Exchange. Its goal is to alert the public to dishonest companies who try to hide their left-wing agenda. For example, most of these entities

promote the Equality Act, the proposed congressional legislation (backed by President Biden) that would force Catholic doctors and hospitals to perform abortions, as well as sex-reassignment surgeries; they either cooperate or they will be shut down.

Now it is one thing for a corporation to deviate here and there, quite another when it becomes a radical activist. According to the database, the following ten companies are the worst at adopting the politics of the Left: Alaska Airlines; Allstate; Comcast; CVS; Ford; Kohl's; Kroger; Marriott; Mattel; and Pfizer.

Dishonesty is the new norm. To be sure, most of those who work in these corporations are good Americans, but the sad fact is that those at the top cannot be trusted.

The elites have let us down. The ruling class does not believe in the same traditional moral values that most Americans still believe in. We need to make them the outliers—the odd man out—and not let them sideline us.

DONOHUE INTERVIEWED ABOUT DISNEY FILM

Bill Donohue was interviewed by Virginia Allen of The Heritage Foundation on January 26. The following is an excerpt from the "Daily Signal Podcast."

Allen: Well, it's been fascinating to watch some of the events that have just taken place within the last year in regards to Disney.

And we've seen this shift that for so many years, for decades,

Disney had these four guiding keys that they told their employees, that their mission, the foundation of what they were about was about safety, courtesy, show, and efficiency. Those were their four guiding principles, but then they introduced a fifth key. Talk a little bit about that fifth key and that shift that we've seen at Disney, really, I would say, over a number of years, but maybe put on warp speed within the last one to five years.

Donohue: Well, their idea of diversity, of course, is something which is very controversial. By the way, this is not just Disney. I've been doing this job here at the Catholic League now for about 30 years. We've always seen this kind of a, they didn't use the term woke culture, woke politics, left-wing politics. We've always seen it in the media and education, entertainment industry, the arts, nonprofit activist organizations.

Only in the last few years, in the last, I'd say, three to five years have we seen the elite at the top in the military, the health care industry, and the corporate world—and certainly Disney's in the corporate world—go down this road.

Allen: So what do you think the motivator is for Disney with all of this? We know that they have adopted a lot of these really, really radical ideologies, but why?

Donohue: Well, a lot of the people in the financial industry now, BlackRock and others with this entire idea of equity, are pushing this. A lot of it has to do with just being chic. They want to show that they have a moral perch, that they are better than the rest of us.

They're trying to say, "We're not like everybody else." Basically what they're saying is that, "The working class people are the problem. We're not that problem," which is why they don't mind raising the rates for their theme parks because they really don't want the working class. They don't want middle-class people. They prefer the more well-educated people.

And if you take a look at the surveys, the more well-educated

people, particularly those with post-graduate education, they're the most Left of any segment of American society. Sure. Why shouldn't they be? They live in neighborhoods where they have gated communities. They have their own private security. Their kids go to private school, they don't go to the public schools, and we know that.

So they're aloof from the consequences of their own ideas. And until people have to live with the consequences of their ideas, they have an escape valve and that's going on at Disney.

Allen: One of the things that I found really interesting and that I really appreciated about the documentary "Walt's Disenchanted Kingdom" is that you-all actually talked to Disney employees, to people that have watched this shift in change. What is the perspective from those on the inside? How do they feel about the direction that Disney's headed in?

Donohue: Well, once again, we see the same kind of phenomena. The average American wants to go out on the golf course or go bowling or go to a movie or take a vacation or go out with their kids, go to a park, go to a picnic. They don't get involved in politics. A tiny minority have always been involved in politics, but today it's gone to such extremes that they are misrepresenting the average person.

From what we've learned, and I can't prove this, but from what we've learned, the average Disney employee is not a political animal. They are not motivated by some animus against the family or religion. A lot of this is an attack on Christianity, let's face it. But they're not represented. They don't have a voice. They're not organized. And those people who are organized, the old adage about the squeaky wheel has always been true, but now it's more true than ever. And unless the rank and file begin to push back—by the way, that's what this movie is about.

This movie is not about making money for the Catholic League, if anything, it's costing us a lot of money. We went into this for one purpose, to be a cultural marker, to get to hit a

cultural nerve in our society, to get people jacked up. The average person—look at all those great women out there, the mothers who learned, through COVID, what was going on in the classroom. That's very much related to this. That's how we found out about what's going on in the classroom and what DeSantis was doing.

Getting kids at the age of 5, 6, 7, and 8 to question, "Are you happy, satisfied being a boy or a girl?" What is the purpose of this? This is sexual engineering. It's child abuse. It's exploitative. They shouldn't be teaching the kids about gay or straight, anything to do with sexuality at those ages. They should let kids be kids. But the loud minority now has spoken up.

Allen: Well, what are the implications on Disney? Because we see at an increasing number Disney's willingness to put gay characters, to put trans characters into their movies. We saw last year with the film "Lightyear" that it included a scene with two women kissing. What is the tangible effect that we know or do we know if there's a bottom-line effect that Disney is feeling?

Donohue: Well, the whole idea here of sexualizing children and then getting to question about whether they're happy being a boy or a girl is to play into this idea that there's no such thing as human nature. And if there's no such thing as human nature, there's no such thing as nature's God. Everything is fluid.

Well, I have a doctorate in sociology from New York University, and I've written and spoken on this subject for decades, quite frankly, there is such a thing as truth. There is such a thing as reality. All right? I'm not a woman. I can't get pregnant. And unless we speak up and speak the truth, this thing's only going to get worse. And that's what's going on. The Left would have you believe—and this is what's driving this whole thing here with Disney—that life is nothing more than a social construct. No, that's not the case.

As a matter of fact, if you look at human universals, those

characteristics are true across cultures throughout all of history. There are hundreds of them. Then the society and the culture takes its cues from nature. That's why we have, for example, the mother taking care of the child more than the father. They're taking cues from nature. This is what they don't want. They want the idea that there's no fundamental difference between the sexes. Everything is fluid. Everything is a rolling social construct. That's simply a lie.

There is truth. There's an anthropological difference between men and women and an anatomical difference between men and women. Biological differences between men and women. They want to erase it and it's madness on stilts.

Allen: One thing that you discuss in the documentary is Disney's relationship with China, which I found very fascinating. How is Disney approaching and navigating their relationship with China?

Donohue: Well, China, of course, is potentially the biggest audience for Hollywood. I say potentially, not right now, but they're looking to get that way. Bob Iger, who's the new CEO, he was the previous CEO before [Bob] Chapek, he came in there now and he got China to accept the Marvel Comics. OK, that's one thing.

But the Chinese communists as well as the Muslim nations of the Middle East, they are not exposed to sexual engineering of the likes that we were complaining about. Getting to the kids and questioning their sexuality ... they're being spared that because there's a pushback on the part of the communists and part of the Muslim-run nations. They don't afford us in America and in Western Europe the same courtesy.

Allen: Is Disney going to course-correct?

Donohue: Oh, I think there's no such thing as an iron law in history. That's a fable. So things are reversible. Big institutions do change. Sometimes they change quickly. Sometimes it's like turning the Queen Mary. But I do know that there is a bottom line, not just with money, but people have

to be concerned about their image.

I've been fighting Disney for a long time. I fought with them back in 1995 when the Disney-owned distributor, Miramax, the Weinstein brothers, they put out this invidious movie about a Catholic priest, the name of the movie, it was called "Priest." And I'm not going to go through all that right now, but we pushed back on that and we saw some changes.

All I'm saying is this, the average person is not an activist. They're looking to people like myself and many, many others. Many of them are in this movie to be leaders, to be the warriors. But we alone are like the generals. We don't win wars by ourselves. We need troops and the troops need the generals.

And if this culture war is up for grabs, I am not saying at all that our side is winning. I am not saying that the other side has won. But at some point, this clash between cultures, the secular militants and those who believe in traditional moral values, we just can't live in a bifurcated society any longer. One side will triumph over the other, and it's my hope that those people that believe in traditional moral values will succeed.

Allen: Before we let you go, could you just take a moment to explain what you-all do at the Catholic League and how making documentaries like "Walt's Disenchanted Kingdom" fits into your mission?

Donohue: That's an excellent question. Our primary goal is to fight anti-Catholicism and to fight against infringements on religious liberty affecting any particular group. But we're primarily involved with Catholics and Christians in a more general sense. But the reason we want the voice of the Catholic Church to be out there despite some failures on the part of the leaders, the teachings have always been solid. The teachings of the Catholic Church have been solid and we want that voice to be heard.

So the documentary is tapping into what's going in our culture. We're trying to get support for traditional moral

values as understood by practicing Catholics, observant Jews, evangelical Protestants, most Mormons and Muslims. We should never leave these people out of the equation. They have kids. They're concerned as well. And I dare say, people who are unbelievers, if you've got kids, you've got to be concerned about the direction of our culture. That's what we're trying to do here with this documentary.

CALL FOR PROBE OF JANE'S REVENGE

On January 30, Bill Donohue sent a letter to Rep. Jim Jordan, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, asking for an investigation of Jane's Revenge, the violent anti-Catholic and pro-abortion terrorist group. He mentioned that he had previously asked U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland to commence such a probe but never received a reply.

We sent Jordan a copy of Donohue's letter to Garland and a report on Jane's Revenge done by our staff. Here is the report.

Jane's Revenge Fact Sheet

Overview

Jane's Revenge is a militant group of pro-abortion extremists. They use the tactics of domestic terrorism to target pro-life activists, many of whom are Catholic. They frequently employ incendiary bombs, vandalism, and other forms of property destruction to intimidate those they disagree with. Here is a list of their actions.

Acts of Violence

May 8, 2022: Madison, WI—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for firebombing the Wisconsin Family Action offices.

May 14, 2022: Reisterstown, MD—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Alpha Pregnancy Center.

May 25, 2022: Lynnwood, WA—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Next Steps Pregnancy Services.

May 30, 2022: Eugene, OR—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Dove Medical Center, a pregnancy resource center.

May 30, 2022: Hollywood, FL—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing the Respect Life Office, a pregnancy resource center run by the Archdiocese of Miami.

June 2, 2022: Des Moines, IA—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing the Agape Pregnancy Resource Center.

June 2, 2022: Washington, DC—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center.

June 7, 2022: Amherst, NY—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for firebombing CompassCare, a pregnancy resource center.

June 7, 2022: Asheville, NC—Jane's Revenge allegedly vandalized Mountain Area Pregnancy Services.

June 8, 2022: Vancouver, WA—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Options360 Women's Clinic, a pregnancy resource center.

June 10, 2022: Gresham, OR—Jane's Revenge allegedly firebombed First Image, a pregnancy resource center.

June 14, 2022: Minneapolis, MN—Jane's Revenge allegedly vandalized Minnesota Citizens for Life.

June 19, 2022: Dearborn Heights, MI—Jane's Revenge allegedly vandalized Lennon Pregnancy Center.

June 19, 2022: Redford, MI—Jane's Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Pregnancy Care Center.

June 21, 2022: Jackson, MI—Jane's Revenge allegedly vandalized the offices of Representative Tim Walberg and the Jackson

Right to Life.

June 25, 2022: Paso Robles, CA–Jane’s Revenge allegedly vandalized the Tree of Life Pregnancy Center.

June 25, 2022: Longmont, CO–Jane’s Revenge allegedly firebombed Life Choices, a pregnancy resource center.

June 25, 2022: Winter Haven, FL–Jane’s Revenge allegedly vandalized the Life Choice Pregnancy Center.

June 25, 2022: Lynchburg, VA–Jane’s Revenge allegedly vandalized Blue Ridge Pregnancy Center.

June 26, 2022: Portland, OR–Jane’s Revenge allegedly vandalized All Saints Parish.

June 27, 2022: Burlington, VT–Jane’s Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing a pregnancy resource center.

June 29, 2022: Everett, WA–Jane’s Revenge claimed responsibility for firebombing a pregnancy resource center.

July 3, 2022: Hialeah, FL–Jane’s Revenge allegedly vandalized the Pregnancy Help Medical Clinics.

July 3, 2022: Southfield, MI–Jane’s Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing Mother and Unborn Baby Care.

July 5, 2022: St. Paul, MN–Jane’s Revenge allegedly vandalized Birthright, a pregnancy resource center.

July 8, 2022: Worcester, MA–Jane’s Revenge claimed responsibility for vandalizing the Problem Pregnancy and Clearway Clinic.

DOES BUTTIGIEG REALLY HAVE A HUSBAND?

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg recently told Fox News host Brett Baier that his travel expenses were not inappropriate, especially given that other public officials have taken their spouses on official business trips. “Why is

it any different when it's me and my husband?" Baier had no answer.

Does Buttigieg really have a husband? Of course not. He may love Chasten but he can never be his husband. Why not? Because he has been disqualified by nature.

It is true that Buttigieg is legally married, but that is a legal fiction. The Britannica Encyclopedia defines a legal fiction as "a rule assuming as true something that is clearly false." The idea that a man can have a husband is clearly false—he can only have a wife—despite claims to the contrary.

Buttigieg's "marriage" is recognized by the positive law, or by what lawmakers and judges posit, but it is not recognized by the natural law. The natural law, which was first promulgated by Aristotle and Cicero (and later amended by Aquinas), holds that morality is a function of human nature, and that we can arrive at moral strictures on the basis of observation and reason.

As human beings, Aquinas said, we are given to three natural inclinations, one of which is reproduction (the others being self-preservation and reason). Reproduction has been ordained by nature, and nature's God, as the province of a man and a woman. Two men cannot reproduce anymore than two women can. It therefore makes no sense to say that people of the same sex can marry.

Marriage exists so that the sex drive of men and women can be constructively channeled in such a way as to provide for stable families, without which children suffer. But only people of the opposite sex are capable of performing this function (even allowing for the reality that some are sterile).

There is an anatomical goodness-of-fit to a man and a woman that permits them to become one flesh, and it is this union—and only this union—that allows them to reproduce. This

is natural. Without a male and a female mating, the world would come to an end. Deviations from this are therefore unnatural.

Think of it this way. It is an axiom of natural law that everything has a law that is built into its nature. For example, it is a law of electricity that if we want to generate it, we must insert the plug into the socket. Having two plugs or two sockets touch each other delivers no juice. Plugs and sockets are related, but they are different, and attempts to conjoin them always render sterile results.

Here are some other analogies.

No man can have a husband anymore than a man can bear a child. He can say he does but that doesn't make it true. A stepfather can tell strangers that he is the father of his wife's children, but that doesn't make it true. If someone introduced his uncle to a stranger, saying, this is my aunt Joe, no one would believe him. Those who have blue eyes can claim they have brown eyes, but that doesn't change reality. A left-handed person can claim to be right-handed, but observation tells us otherwise. Gorillas do not give birth to kangaroos.

Nature can be stubborn. It is not a social construct. It is fixed. The sooner we learn this verity, the better off our society will be.

So what should we call Chasten, if he is not Buttigieg's husband? His partner. The two of them may not like it, but truth is not determined by what is popular. It is determined by what makes sense according to nature and nature's God.

SUPER BOWL OFF-THE-FIELD CONTROVERSIES

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. Alexandria 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.

WAR ON RELIGION SPIKING IN U.S. AND U.K.

People of faith, mostly Christian, in the United States and the United Kingdom, are being harassed and arrested by government agents at an alarming rate. The most common reason why these non-violent persons are being bullied is their biblical objection to the radical LGBT agenda. Their freedom of speech and freedom of religion are being trounced, and most civil libertarians are cheering it on, so far gone are they from their founding principles.

Here are a few examples of this war on religion.

United States:

- In January, 2023, a dozen Catholic students and their chaperons from a Greenville, South Carolina Catholic high school were ordered out by staff of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington D.C. because they wore beanies with pro-life messages. In town for the annual March for Life, they were allegedly mocked and cursed at by the museum staff.
- In January, 2023, Ivan Provorov, a hockey player for the Philadelphia Flyers, skipped the warmups on Pride Night because he was expected to wear a pro-Pride jersey. A member of the Russian Orthodox Church, he was subjected to hate speech by some fans and commentators. "I respect everybody's choices," he said. "My choice is to stay true to myself and my religion."
- In January, 2023, Paul Shoro, a black Christian, walked into the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota, wearing a T-shirt that said, "Jesus Is The Only Way." Security officers, responding to complaints, said to him, "If you want to shop here you need to take off that shirt." He was explicitly told that "Jesus is associated with religion and it is offending people."
- In August, 2022, on the first day of class at George Washington University, a female psychology professor, Lara Sheehi, berated a Jewish female student in class because she said she was born in Israel. The professor continued to harass Jewish students throughout the semester, smearing their reputations and using bigoted and obscene language to describe Israel on Twitter.
- In April, 2022, three students at the University of Idaho were asked by a fellow student why the Christian Legal Society (to which they belonged) required its members to believe in the Christian understanding of marriage. After they gave a biblical answer, they were reported to school officials, and three days later the university's Office of Civil Rights and Investigation

censored their speech, ordering the Christian students to stop all communication between them and the complaining student.

- In January, 2022, a Michigan junior high school student filed suit in U.S. District Court against his high school district because he was suspended for three days the previous fall for stating his Christian beliefs in a private text conversation in a hallway at Plainwell High School.
- In January, 2022, a U.S. Army veteran was arrested for holding a sign that said "God bless the homeless vets." He was standing on the sidewalk in front of Alpharetta City Hall, a town in Georgia. He was handcuffed by police and charged with "panhandling," though all he did was hold the sign. He sued a year later.
- In October, 2021, a scholar-in-residence at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia, who "proudly and openly identified as a Christian woman of color," was condemned for criticizing DC Comics for making Superman's son bisexual. Students protested and wanted her removed from the campus, despite the fact that she deleted her tweet.

United Kingdom:

- In December, 2022, a Christian Englishwoman, Isabel Vaughan-Spruce, was arrested for silently praying outside an abortion clinic. She faces two years behind bars.
- In December, 2022, a Christian Englishman, Adam Smith-Connor, was accosted by the police for silently praying outside an abortion clinic. The British army veteran was asked, "Can I ask what is the nature of your prayer today?" He was fined 100-pounds (roughly \$123.65).
- In April, 2022, Pastor John Sherwood was arrested by London police for causing "alarm and distress" to pedestrians. His crime was publicly quoting from Genesis

about God's design for mankind.

- In April, 2022, a 76-year-old grandmother in Liverpool was questioned by the police, and then fined, for praying silently on a public street.

Notice that in every one of these cases it was militant secularists who complained about, or bullied, people of faith, most of whom are Christians. It is not the latter who are seeking to deny the rights of secularists; no, it is secularists who are punishing people of faith.

While all of these incidents are horrific, none smacks of totalitarianism more than the English cop who asked the army veteran, "Can I ask what is the nature of your prayer today?" That is right out of Stalin's Russia, Hitler's Germany and Mao's China. If they can find the technology to read your mind, some will demand that Christians caught praying in public be shot. That's where we're headed.

WESTERN WORLD AT WAR WITH CATHOLICS

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.

Meanwhile, 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 very recently!

In the U.S., the FBI began investigating orthodox Catholics, citing the far-left Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) as its source; it quickly dropped its probe. In an important whistle-blowing article published by Kyle Seraphin, a former FBI special agent, the Richmond Field Office of the FBI 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 we are 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 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 or 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.

DONOHUE FIRST TO BAT FOR NEWSMAX

DirecTV, owned by AT&T, decided on January 25 to discontinue carrying Newsmax, the fourth highest-ranking cable TV news channel. The reasons it offered—a conflict over fees—did not strike us as persuasive.

Bill Donohue has known Chris Ruddy, the Newsmax owner, for decades, and he was not about to disbelieve his account. Chris insisted that the decision to cut Newsmax was politically motivated.

The number of prominent persons who have rallied to Chris' side, asking people to drop DirecTV, is considerable. Politicians, corporate leaders, TV personalities, sports figures, actors, lawyers, religious leaders—it's a Who's Who of American public figures.

The first person to come to bat for Chris was Bill Donohue. He was closely followed by Sen. Lindsey Graham, Sen. Tom Cotton, and President Donald Trump. "Bill Donohue: Catholics Should Drop DirecTV" was how Newsmax flagged his news release. Newsmax then issued its own statement, "Catholic League's Donohue Calls on Faithful to Cancel DirecTV."

We are happy to help all good causes.