WOMEN, GAYS AND "BOSTON LEGAL"

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments today on last night's episode of the ABC program, "Boston Legal":

"There is no one in Hollywood more fascinated—and angry—about the Catholic Church than 'Boston Legal' creator David E. Kelley. Last night he shared with us once again his wish list. The episode focused on the plight of yet another terribly oppressed woman. The source of her oppression, of course, is the Catholic Church. She wants to become a priest, but she refuses to walk down the block to join the Episcopal church. So she realizes Kelley's dream by evincing a hatred for diversity and tolerance: she sues the Church for discrimination.

"Orthodox Judaism, Mormonism, Islam and Orthodox Christianity merit honorable mention in the show (they have the same clergy strictures), but they don't really count: it is the big bad Catholic Church that Kelley wants to knife. For example, in the courtroom lies are told about the Catholic Church's alleged support for slavery, the execution of witches and the Inquisition. [Note: It was the Catholic Church-not any other religion-which first opposed slavery, and it was St. Patrick who was the first public person in history to fight against it; and for the most part, it was the civil authorities, not the Church, who punished witches and were responsible for the Inquisition.] In the end, Kelley's biggest fantasy is realized-the Catholic Church's tax-exempt status is revoked. Oh, yes, Kelley also speaks vicariously about sodomy: it should not be a sin.

"In the real world, now that imperial judges in California have overturned the express will of the people by allowing Sam to marry Steve (they have not ruled on whether Sidney can make it a trifecta), Kelley must be gushing. But it won't last: he'll get another reality check in November."

Contact ABC's Kim Rozenfeld at <u>kim.rozenfeld@abc.com</u> and ask her if any of Kelley's friends dying of AIDS has ever been serviced in one of those tax-exempt Catholic hospitals.