Something's gone awry at Disney. The quintessential family values company has recently shown a side to the public that is very disturbing. To be exact, Disney is the force behind a movie that not only casts priests as being depraved, it explains their depravity by blaming the Catholic Church. The movie, "Priest," was initially scheduled for release on Good Friday, but because of a protest lodged by the Catholic League, the date was switched. It is Disney that owns Miramax and it is Miramax that is releasing the movie. Disney, you should know, is leaning on Miramax to stop the distribution of a controversial movie, "Kids," yet it maintains that when it comes to "Priest," it can't even issue a public statement dissociating itself from the movie.

Think of it this way. How do you think Jews would react if a movie called "Rabbi" portrayed five rabbis in a depraved condition? Would gays tolerate a movie that showed them to be morally destitute? What about a cruel caricature of African-Americans? To top it off, what if it were the cultural heritage or lifestyle of these groups that best explained their behavior? And just think what would happen if those movies had been scheduled to fall on Yom Kippur, Gay Pride Day or Martin Luther King Day.

You get the point. Disney wouldn't do it to Jews, gays or blacks. But Catholics, that's different.

So what is the Catholic League doing about this? We're leading a nationwide charge against Disney, making use of every legal means available — from boycotts to stockholder revolts — all designed to send a clear and unmistakable message to Michael Eisner, chairman of Disney. You can help by letting him know what you think. Write to him at: 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank, CA 91521. Or call at (818) 560-1000 or (818) 560-5151. Better yet, mail Mr. Eisner one of your old Disney toys or videos.

The Catholic League is the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization, funded wholly through membership dues. We publish a monthly journal, Catalyst, that tracks anti-Catholicism nationwide and reports on what we are doing about it.

— William A. Donohue
President

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