

The following ad appeared in the Sept. 12 issue of the New York Times

WILL THE REAL CENSORS PLEASE STAND UP!

It is not uncommon for the Catholic League to be labeled a censor for merely exercising its freedom of speech. Yet when we protest anti-Catholicism, we *never* ask the government to penalize others for practicing their First Amendment rights. Unfortunately, this is not true of those associated with the upcoming Catholic-bashing film, "Dogma."

The real censors are Los Angeles lawyer Dan Petrocelli, an attorney for Bob and Harvey Weinstein (the duo behind "Dogma"), and the film's writer/director Kevin Smith. In reply to actor Ben Affleck's quip that the movie was "meant to push buttons," I said, "The Catholic League has a few buttons of its own to push, and we will not hold back."

And for that, Petrocelli wrote the following: "Statements like these may be interpreted to announce or imply an intention by the League to

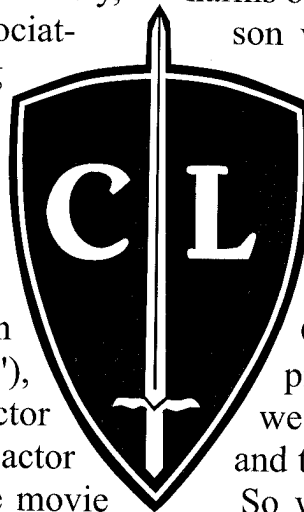
go beyond the bounds of legitimate and peaceful dissent or protest, and to stimulate, motivate, or incite danger or violence. Please be advised that any such impermissible activity authorized, committed, or encouraged by the League that harms or threatens harm to any person will not be tolerated. We

intend to hold the League fully accountable for any wrongdoing, injury, or damages it causes."

Kevin Smith followed suit: "If anyone...ANYONE...gets hurt in the process of their protest, we're holding Bill Donohue and the League responsible."

So what's our line? Freedom of speech. What's their line? Censorship. It's not the Catholic League that wants to call in the cops—it's the likes of Petrocelli, the Weinsteins and Smith.

Let the movie—and the protest—begin. And keep the cops out of it.



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