POLITICAL ELITES ANGER AMERICANS; CULTURAL ELITES ARE WORSE

SHAME ON DISNEY-ABC

ABC, which is owned by Disney, will launch a new show on March 8, "The Real O'Neals." It is billed as a comedy about an Irish-Catholic family, based loosely on the life of one of the producers, Dan Savage. Our complaint is not, at this point, about the show (though the trailer raises concerns about the Catholic element). It's about hiring Savage.

Here's a sample of Savage's remarks about Catholicism:

The Eucharist

• Savage accused a politician of having sex—he used an obscenity—with the consecrated Host, the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

Jesus and the Virgin Mary

- "As everyone knows, Mary was a virgin when she conceived and a virgin when she gave birth. This means, of course, that Jesus busted His own mom's hymen, kicking it down like a door on His way into the world."
- Commenting on a statue of the Virgin Mary on the back of a toilet, he said, "Mary's head was angled in such a way that HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD WAS LOOKING RIGHT AT YOUR ****."

Pope Benedict XVI

- "I betcha the pope's ass is leaking all over the throne of St. Peter right now."
- Speaking about marriage, Savage said "What the pope is saying is that the only thing that stands between my **** and Brad Pitt's mouth is a piece of paper."
- Savage called him a "******** Power-Hungry, Self-Aggrandized Bigot."

Pope John Paul II

• "The 'repair' on this statue of John Paul II makes him look like he just stuck 2 fingers in a squeaky clean altar boy."

Cardinal Francis George

• The act of "rubbing your penis between someone's ass cheeks as foreplay...is known variously as frottage, outer-course, the Princeton Rub, or 'the pearl tramp stamp.' But in Chicago, it's known as 'the Cardinal George.'"

Priests

- Men are attracted to the priesthood so they can "wear dresses and have sex with men."
- "Rape a kid making his first confession—holy ****, that'll **** a kid up for life....Catholic children make their first confession at age seven—and they're alone with a priest, in a dark little box, when they make it....So one rapey parish priest could have access to dozens or hundreds of children, completely alone and with no parents present, week-in, week-out, for decades. Access to children alone—that's built right into this particular sacrament."
- "I am just done being lectured about children and their safety by Catholic-***** bishops, priests, cardinals."

Want to know more about Dan Savage? When ill, he tried to infect the office of Christian activist Gary Bauer.

"I started licking *doorknobs* (his italic). The front door, office doors, even a bathroom door. When that was done, I started in on the staplers, phones and computer keyboards. Then I stood in the kitchen and licked the rims of all the clean coffee cups drying in the rack." He was delighted to give Bauer an infected pen: "I pulled the pen out of my mouth and handed it to him. Score! My bodily fluids—flu bugs and all—were all over his hand!"

Many more remarks like these could fill the pages of this newspaper: The point is obvious—Savage is an obscene bigot.

When it comes to its family shows, ABC typically shows its Disney colors by acting responsibly. For example, the gay characters on "Modern Family" are so well presented that it has won awards from GLAAD. "Black-ish" has won NAACP Image Awards. And to make sure that Asian-Americans would not be offended by "Fresh Off the Boat," ABC offered screenings for Asian groups and invited Asian-American political operatives to a Washington event.

Why, then, are Catholic families not afforded the same respect? Why has ABC allowed Dan Savage to portray them?

Ben Sherwood is president of Disney-ABC Television Group. Contact him at ben.sherwood@abc.com

Bill Donohue President



CATHOLIC LEAGUE for Religious and Civil Rights
450 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10123

www.catholicleague.org