



# CATHOLIC LEAGUE

*For Religious  
and  
Civil Rights*

December 6, 2023

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Hon. Jim Jordan  
Chairman  
House Committee on the Judiciary  
2056 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3504

Dear Chairman Jordan:

The House Report on the weaponization of the FBI, and its probe of traditional Catholics, is stunning; I am sharing with you my analysis of the Report. I will soon send you another piece I am doing on the FBI's reliance on sources that are hostile to Catholicism.

Having written to you several times before about this matter, I would first like to say that I appreciate all the work that you and your staff are doing to learn the truth.

The Report ends by saying, "FBI Richmond has not issued a public apology or removed any of the employees involved in creating the document [the memorandum on the probe of traditional Catholics]." In reference to your work as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee on this issue, it also says that the FBI "continues to resist several of the Committee's request for transparency and answers."

We know from the Report that Field Offices in Milwaukee, Los Angeles and Portland were involved in working with the Richmond Field Office. Ergo, this is not a regional matter. We also know that plans were made to disseminate the Richmond investigative findings nationwide. Accordingly, the apology should come from FBI Director Christopher Wray.

On December 5, Sen. Josh Hawley had the opportunity to ask Wray about the document in question. "Did you fire the people that wrote it?" Wray responded, "No." He then tried to justify his passivity by saying,



“A number of the individuals involved in writing that product in the Richmond office were themselves Catholic! So, the notion that they were targeting their own faith....”

Wray is totally unconvincing. As someone who has led the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization for over three decades, I have unfortunately met more than my share of Catholics who claim to be Catholic but who nonetheless harbor a deep animus against the Catholic Church. Indeed, some of the most vicious anti-Catholics I have ever met are Catholic.

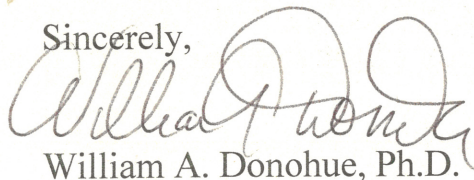
I say this because it is important for you and your staff to dig deeper and find out if this anti-Catholic caper in the FBI originated outside the Bureau. I suspect that either it may have, or at the least outsiders worked in tandem with them.

We know from the Report that the FBI employees relied on sources for information about the Church that are downright hostile to it. To be exact, the Southern Poverty Law Center, *The Atlantic*, and *Salon* are three left-wing sources that are known for their hyper-critical comments about Catholicism. So why did the FBI rely on these outlets, and not those that are authoritatively Catholic, yet not partisan?

You may recall that Wikileaks revealed that John Podesta was working with those who wanted to create a “Catholic Spring,” or revolution, in the Catholic Church by setting up dummy Catholic groups. So my concerns are not based on some empty theory.

I urge you to pursue this issue further and finally get to the bottom of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William A. Donohue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W".

William A. Donohue, Ph.D.

President