

# Editorials

## Busy... But

Although Madalyn Murray O'Hair has not, we repeat NOT, petitioned the Federal Communications Commission, to end religious broadcasting, she nonetheless has been busy on several other fronts.

The atheist leader, although recent reports indicate her following has been dwindling, has promised that 1978 would be a "year of litigation" in behalf of her causes.

She is trying to halt churches from using bingo games as fund-raising projects in Texas, trying to have the motto "In God We Trust" removed from U.S. coins and currency, seeking to halt prayers at

all public functions, and seeking a ban on placing voting booths in church buildings.

Seems Mrs. O'Hair was forced to enter a Lutheran church in order to vote and her sensitivities were bruised. It's a wonder the church didn't crumble.

There seems to be lots to worry about for an atheist these days. Thank God. But we want to reiterate, that with all her personal causes, Mrs. O'Hair has not tried to ban religious broadcasting from the airwaves.

## Expectations

An interesting point was raised at the recent meeting of the Religious Public Relations Council in Houston, Texas.

Louis Moore, religion editor of the Houston Chronicle, said that "some of the people in the media who oppose the coverage of religion do so

out of bad experience."

He said that those who deal with religious people often find them to be "some of the nastiest and rudest people when they want to be." He added that "we expect religious people to be straight forward, honest, non-manipulative and decent."

We think that that is a reasonable expectation and we commiserate with our secular press counterpart. For, sad to realize, the view Moore expresses is all too often valid.

Often those supportive of a cause do more to damage it by unreasonable and, yes, nasty is the word for it, behavior than if they had been merely apathetic in the first place. We involved in religion can understand the overzealousness of some and tolerate it. But we shudder to think of the damage that is being done as regards those with fringe involvements.

# and Opinions

## Knowledge Lacking

Editor:

First let me say that I look forward to receiving the Courier-Journal each week, especially Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's pastoral message.

In the May 17 edition, Father Louis Hohman responds to N.M. in the Open Window, and it is obvious that there is an almost total lack of knowledge and understanding about the Episcopal Church, and the world-wide Anglican Communion.

It is important for us to recognize the difference between "Roman" and "Catholic."

The Church of England, and her sister autonomous Churches around the world, including the Episcopal Church in the U.S., have always maintained the Catholic Faith, the Catholic Scriptures, the Catholic Ministry of Bishops, Priests and Deacons in Apostolic Order, and the Catholic Sacraments. The difference between our two Churches is that we maintain, with the Orthodox, that our unity is focused upon Christ, not the Pope, who is, for us Anglicans, the Bishop of Rome.

We usually use the phrases "Holy Eucharist" or "Holy Communion," while members of the Church of Rome say "Mass," but we, too, on occasion use that word. More important, we have always maintained the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We have chosen not to say how this happens (Roman Catholic "Transubstantiation" or Lutheran "Consubstantiation") but we believe He does come.

The word "Protestant" used to be in our legal title. It was inserted at the time of the American Revolution when the Church of England no longer had jurisdiction because of the political changes. We have always meant "Protestant" to mean "non-papal" or "non-Roman" and have never meant it to mean "non-Catholic" as is

popularly thought and accepted.

Rather than re-hash old, worn-out arguments, I would urge members of the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches to learn more of one another, using the ARC documents and Graymoor studies.

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## Thanks Pastor, Father Hedges

Editor:

There is a senior citizen packing his geritol, prune juice, training wheels and bike. He is getting ready to leave as pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church. This man has no ring around his collar, just love. I feel blessed to have been a member of his parish. His whole being reflects Christ to me.

At a time when people choose to criticize the leaders of our church publicly, I for one would like to thank Fr. Hedges for the kindness he has shown my family and me. Through his actions he has shown me who Christ really is. Thank you, Father; you will be missed.

Diane Sousa  
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## Public Schooler Takes Issue

Editor:

I would like to express my opinion about an article in your paper. It appeared Wednesday, May 3, under Speaking Out in the RapAround section. It was written by Anthony Monaco.

I happen to go to a public school, East High. What I want to know is how can Monaco say such things as "The weakness of the public school system is twofold; first, it is failing to teach the basics, and secondly, there is a lack of discipline?"

First of all he shouldn't say things like this because he doesn't go to a public school, and secondly, he's making a general statement about these problems.

True, it can happen in some city public schools, but also in suburban schools too. No school is perfect so why does Monaco have to pick on us, the public schools? I am sure his school has its problems in discipline, so why didn't he mention that?

I'd also like to say that East as a public school does not slack off on discipline. From what I've seen proper action is always taken when schools rules are broken.

All schools have their problems in teaching the basics, but again Monaco picks on us, the public schools. I'm sure both the city public schools system and the suburban school system are doing their best to help kids do math and learn how to read. At East High, there are special rooms, where anyone can go to receive help in a particular subject. The rooms are for Math, English, Reading and for all the other subjects too.

I would like to conclude that Anthony Monaco had better get his facts straight before he starts to put down the public school system.

Christine Knapp  
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## Community Chest Not All Good

Editor:

I cannot understand why Bishop Hogan is going all out in support of the Community Chest, when some of the efforts which are supported by this fund are so definitely anti-Christian.

Family Planning, for instance. I have heard that a girl of 13 can go there and receive contraceptives without the knowledge or permission of her parents. I thought that any kind of artificial birth control was against the teaching of the Catholic Church. Also, when an organization does this sort of thing, it is usurping the authority of the parents of the young people involved.

Girl Scout movement—I have heard that this organization supports ERA, which in turn is pro-abortion, pro-Gay Lib, etc.

Then there is the giving of money to the Gay Rights fund to promote the furtherance of that movement. When the controversy arose last year in the Rochester area concerning giving money to the Gays, at least one of the officials who voted to give the money said that he was under the impression that the clergy were very much in favor of the move.

Are these areas "consonant" with Catholic teaching and the welfare of the Catholic people? I don't think so!

Pauline Chayka  
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## Thank You For Story

Editor:

We at Catholic Family Center wish to thank you and the members of your staff who were involved in presenting the story of the Indo-Chinese Refugees in the May 3 issue of the COURIER-JOURNAL. April 23, 1978 was a momentous day in the lives of these people as they became permanent residents of the United States. They are now looking forward to the next step when they can become citizens of the United States.

In the short time that they have been members of our community (approximately three years) a very high percentage have become self supporting and are, in fact, contributing to our economy and paying their share of taxes. They have been eager to become integrated into our society by immediately enrolling in English classes and any other educational courses that would prepare them to enter our work-force. They had no desire to be dependent on their

sponsors or on the welfare system but had great motivation to become independent as soon as possible.

These refugees who are in our midst may be considered the fortunate ones. They were able to escape safely and to begin a new life in a free country. Many thousands are not so fortunate. As you well know the number of persons leaving Vietnam in small boats has increased dramatically, but sanctuary is not easy to find. It is said that only one in three boats survive the treacherous crossing of the South China Sea. Also, the refugee situation in the camps in countries bordering the South China Sea is becoming worse.

Catholic Family Center, as the Diocesan Office responsible for Refugee Resettlement, continues in its efforts to find resettlement opportunities for some of these families. We, however, cannot do this alone. We need the help of church groups, organizations, individuals who are willing to give of their time and energy to sponsor a family. It does involve work but the rewards and satisfactions are great. Anyone interested in learning more about what sponsorship involves may call Catholic Family Center, 546-7220. Angelina Boella  
Catholic Family Center  
50 Chestnut St.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14604

## Guidelines

Letters intended for publication must be addressed to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

Expressions of opinions should be brief, no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed, double-spaced, with names and addresses.

We reserve the right to edit as to length, offensive words, libelous statements, or to reject altogether. Generally speaking, however, only limited grammatical corrections will be made and letters will reflect the writer's own style.

We encourage readers to submit opinions but since we try to print letters from as many different contributors as possible we will publish no more than one letter a month from the same individual.

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"MR. LIPSCOMB, HERE, IS A MEMBER OF THE MUGGING COMMUNITY!"