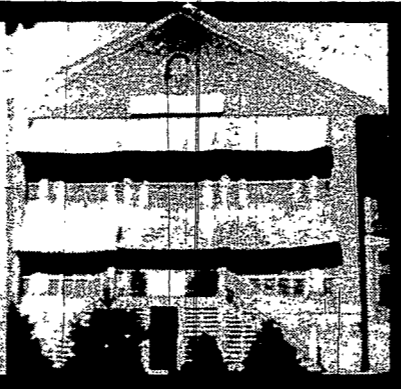


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UMass Professor: 'Life' and 'Peace' Must Join Forces

By John Dash

There is a single package of causes alive in the U.S. which needs the concerted efforts of both the "conservative" Right-to-Life forces and the "liberal" anti-war groups.

That package includes war, abortion, capital punishment, suicide and euthanasia.

Gordon C. Zahn, a University of Massachusetts professor, made those statements here last week; and he also said that Right-to-Life forces and the anti-war movement had better link up or the very times in which we live will force them to. Zahn holds impeccable credentials in both parties.

In an interview prior to a lecture at St. John Fisher College, Zahn said that the popular view characterizes the "anti-abortion people as conservative, whereas the anti-war as liberal. It keeps people from recognizing the similarity of their causes."

Zahn also observed that the popular view is held by all but a minority of people in both groups.

Neither party recognizes

Somehow we must free ourselves from the grip of "scientism."



"how wide their positions should be, starting from the same principle: the value of human life."

And yet they must. "The logic of the situation demands it," he said.

Zahn recognized back in 1971 that the two groups had to join forces. He wrote a piece to that effect in Commonweal Magazine, entitled, "A Pacifist Looks at Abortion." Zahn, a soft-spoken man, has long been identified with pacifism. Catholic — ever since he was interned at Camp Simon in New Hampshire during World War II as a conscientious objector.

He has written a book about that experience which was recently published by the U. of M. press. It is entitled "Another Part of the War/The Camp Simon Story."

Zahn said last week he sees a devaluation of human life in our society that can only be reversed by a "return to the moral, religious values of the 19th century."

He scored the epithet "Victorian" for such values, saying that in that era human life was held in far greater esteem than it has been since World War I.

As evidence he cited the "depersonalization of war," and the rise of pornography, abortion, the return to capital punishment, and "euthanasia — that is going to be the great issue."

He also said, "Somehow we have to free ourselves from the grip of 'scientism.'" He describes scientism as a philosophy that holds "at bottom, we are not in control of ourselves."

He said scientism is at the root of "the new mythology of sex which teaches that sex is merely a stimulus/response."

In such a mythology, "abortion demeans both the fetus and the parents. It deprives the parents of the responsibilities of mature people."

Papal Delegate Gets Qualifications Report Of Bishops Committee

The number one qualification for the next bishop of Rochester is that "he must be a spiritual leader," the Selection of Bishops Committee has reported to Archbishop Jean Jadot, the apostolic delegate in Washington, D.C.

The committee listed what its members judged as the six most essential qualifications for episcopal leadership for the diocese following a diocesan-wide questionnaire survey, hearings throughout the 10 regions of the diocese, and hearings of the three consultative bodies — the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Priests Council and the Sisters Council.

The six qualifications as listed by the committee:

1. He must be a spiritual leader.
2. He must possess a sense of direction.
3. He must be a leader.
4. He must be a competent administrator.
5. He must be available.
6. He must be a courageous teacher.

The qualifications were

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listed in the conclusion of a 31-page report to the apostolic delegate. Also included were four appendices, Sample Questionnaire, Questionnaire Results, Graphical Presentation of Qualifications, Graphical Presentation of Needs Assessment.

The 31-page report proper had four main parts — Introduction, Process, Results of the Questionnaire, and Results of the Hearings.

The Introduction explained the formation of the committee, how its members were chosen, its early work and how it set up the process.

The committee was well along in the project when Bishop Joseph L. Hogan announced his resignation on Nov. 29, 1978. This "necessitated some major changes in the process," the introduction states and the next section, the Process, explained revisions.

The chapter on the Process detailed the work of the committee in formulating a questionnaire, its distribution,

compilation, and promulgation of results.

Results of the questionnaire were published in the Courier-Journal of Jan. 3, 1979, as well as news stories explaining the formation and work of the committee and on the various regional and consultative body hearings.

In the third section, Results of the Questionnaire, the committee reported that "of the approximately 10,000 questionnaires distributed, 4,276 or 45 per cent, were returned — a most gratifying response."

Of 19 possible choices of qualifications in the questionnaire, six were picked at least 40 per cent of the time by all vocational groups — clergy, sisters and laity. They were:

A good leader who is able to define roles, encourage participation and delegate authority; a person who provides strong spiritual leadership; a person with a sense of direction, rooted in the past and with a vision of the future; an informed person with an understanding of Holy Scripture, the spirit of the Gospels and the documents of Vatican II; a

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After 5 Years ... the Catechetical Directory

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — The National Catechetical Directory — more than five years in the making and involving the reported largest consultative process in the American Catholic Church — has been published to guide Catholic teaching in this country.

Commissioned by the U.S. Catholic bishops in 1971 with the aim of checking the turmoil and confusion following the Second Vatican Council, the work, entitled *Sharing the Light of Faith*, stresses traditional Catholic doctrine on such subjects as papal authority and sexual morality but emphasizes growth in faith of the individual and the community rather than doctrinal formulas as the object of religious education.

Msgr. Wilfrid Paradis, project director for the production of the directory, and Sister Mariella Frye, associate project editor, told a news conference here that the 182-page book is a first-ever basic document governing content and methods of Catholic catechesis or religious education for all age levels in this country.

Both educators, who are officials of the U.S. Catholic Conference Education Department, explained that the new directory is not a catechism of basic doctrine but a "pastoral writing" which sets goals, suggests means, and furnishes guidelines for Catholic religious education.

Msgr. Paradis said that the directory is "more than a catechism in the traditional

sense" in that it "legitimizes the very best that has taken place in the last 20 years in the sacred sciences and psychology, sociology, anthropology — and proposes that as a norm for catechesis in the United States."

Sister Frye said that a basic theme of the document stresses catechesis as a "life-long process, not just for children and youths, but for people at every stage of their lives."

She added that "if a parish takes this directory seriously and really works to implement it, it could be a means of total parish renewal that would make the parish truly a community of faith."

"But it won't be easy," she said, "because you're going to have to change people's attitudes."

More than 650,000 copies of the document's first draft, including a Spanish edition, were circulated in 1974, and some 80,000 recommendations from priests, educators, parents and scholars were received by the 11-member directory committee.

The final document was approved by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1977 and sent to the Vatican for review. The Congregation for the Clergy approved it last October with recommendations for changes before final publication. Msgr. Paradis said the changes were minor.

Msgr. Paradis said that the controversial Catholic doctrines — infallibility of the Pope, divorce and remarriage, abortion, birth

control, premarital sex — are all treated according to Catholic teaching, in a clear way, pointing out what is right and wrong. However, it does so in a very pastoral way. In other words, it isn't waving a stick at anybody."

Sister Frye said the

Locally ...

The directory will be implemented in religious programs and adult education at the beginning of the 1979-80 school terms, according to Sister Roberta Tierney, diocesan director of education.

She added that there will be "nothing brand new because we've had input into

directory showed a great deal of ecumenical sensitivity. She said that the section on interfaith and interreligious relations takes into consideration dialogue with other Christian churches, with the Jewish community, with Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and people of no faith at all.

its (the NCD's) preliminary stages."

"Time will be spent during the spring looking at how the message can be passed on to the students," she said. "I would say it's not going to be anything revolutionary — just giving us a solid handle on the total program."