

THE CENTER FOR BIO-ETHICAL REFORM

PRESS RELEASE

Monday, April 27, 2009

In response to the decision by the University of Notre Dame to honor Barack Obama, America's first infanticide-supporting president, with an honorary degree and an invitation to deliver their 2009 commencement address, The Center For Bio-Ethical Reform (CBR) will immediately begin displaying large abortion photos on the sides and backs of a fleet of billboard trucks which will operate in the South Bend area between now and the conclusion of graduation ceremonies. The signs link Mr. Obama to his obsessively pro-abortion policies.

CBR will also display large, hand-held signs, which will graphically emphasize the same linkage along all routes leading to the school.

Because the pro-life community at Notre Dame has relentlessly covered-up the horror of abortion, CBR has decided to fly enormous, aerial billboards over the campus. If the Secret Service and the Federal Aviation Administration impose Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) for a longer period than is typical for a presidential appearance, or which restrict more airspace than is typical for a presidential appearance, CBR will also fly its aircraft at Notre Dame during the fall semester, 2009, during an aerial campaign which will last far longer than is typical for a presidential appearance.

Bishop John D'Arcy, whom CBR greatly admires for his decision to boycott graduation ceremonies, has asked that demonstrations not be "unhelpful" or "unseemly." CBR's pictures are "unseemly" because abortion is "unseemly" but they will be displayed quite peacefully. CBR's criticisms of Mr. Obama's abortion fanaticism cannot fairly be condemned as "attacks" but they will be appropriately scathing.

Fr. John Jenkins, the university's president, assures us that he isn't making a moral statement that the university supports abortion. He is, however, making a political statement that abortion doesn't matter very much. For Mr. Obama, this is an empowering declaration. His purpose in coming to Notre Dame isn't to convert Catholics on abortion, it is to convince Catholics that abortion is a matter of little

consequence. Fr. Jenkins has also said he hopes this invitation will create a foundation for future dialogue on this issue but the only dialogue which would be meaningful would be a real debate. CBR will be watching closely to see if Notre Dame invites Mr. Obama to participate in public, a one-on-one, exchange of views on this issue. Because CBR doubts that Notre Dame will ever issue such an invitation, or that Mr. Obama would ever accept it, CBR's photos are our best hope of rebutting Mr. Obama's abortion extremism.

In a perversely paradoxical sense, it is the pro-life community at Notre Dame which is responsible for the abomination which this invitation represents. By steadfastly opposing the display of abortion photos on their campus, they have allowed abortion supporters to create the misleading impression that abortion is a nominal evil. Dr. Martin Luther King didn't trivialize lynchings by handing out white carnations or empty red envelopes. He won passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by forcing the American people to look at shocking images of African Americans being savagely beaten for trying to register to vote.

Terrible photographs have helped end child labor abuses, civil rights injustices, and America's involvement in ill-conceived wars; and terrible photographs will help end abortion, even if pro-life activists must show them over the objection of pro-life pacifists. Notre Dame can keep the truth off their campus, but they can't keep it out of their airspace. The cover-up is about to end at this once-great institution in the same way CBR intends to end it at every other Catholic university whose pro-life community has been carrying water for the abortion industry. We love and respect our well-meaning but misguided pro-life friends but it is time to save the babies from those who conceal the horror of abortion and then wonder why so few Americans are horrified by abortion.

To see the signs which will be displayed at Notre Dame, please visit www.abortionNO.org. To contact Gregg Cunningham, the director of The Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, please email messages to cbr@cbrinfo.org. To arrange print media and broadcast media interviews, please contact Mark Harrington at mark@cbrinfo.org or telephonically at 614-419-9000.