

Focus on Religious Freedom

From Catholics for Freedom of Religion
www.cffor.org

"We must never adjust ourselves to religious bigotry." Martin Luther King Jr.

How to Crush Religious Freedom:

Anti-Catholic Bigotry: Some Senators assailed U.S. district court nominee, Brian Buescher, for his membership in the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic charitable organization, suggesting this affiliation might disqualify him for judgeship. The questions asked seemed to be a **religious litmus test**, since the positions under examination are held and taught by the Catholic Church itself and are not unique to the Knights of Columbus.

"The sheer ignorance, not to mention injustice, in the senators' describing the K of C as 'extreme' would be baffling - if it weren't part of a pattern of bigoted thinking already sanctified by other senators ... in (their) vulgar 2017 grilling of now-judge Amy Coney Barrett ("The dogma lives loudly within you, and that's a concern')," wrote Archbishop Chaput, PA.

"We were extremely disappointed to see that one's commitment to Catholic principles through membership in the Knights of Columbus - a charitable organization that adheres to and promotes Catholic teachings - would be viewed as a disqualifier from public service in this day and age," said a spokesperson for the Knights.

Rev. Eugene Rivers, an African-American Pentecostal minister, decried the "anti-Catholic bigotry" shown by the senators. **"As a leader of black Christians, I feel particularly strongly about the Knights of Columbus.** For more than a century they bravely defended minorities. If Catholics like the Knights can be targeted, what should members of my Pentecostal church expect?

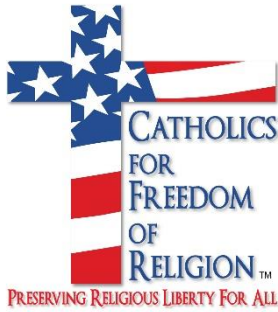
"We share traditional views on abortion and marriage. **What about Orthodox Jews, Muslims, Mormons and evangelical Christians?** Even the Rev. Martin Luther King's biblical beliefs would be anathema to (these senators).

"It's ugly, it's vindictive, and it damages all of us," said Archbishop Chaput about these hostile attacks on religious faith among the nation's leading legislators.

(en-volve.com, 12/23/18; dailysignal.com, 1/10/19; washingtontimes.com, 12/30/18)

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Shortened Version of this Bulletin Article:



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