

## WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE, THE CHURCH DOESN'T NEED ENEMIES

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PINE BLUFFS – Disturbing news! Despite the Catholic Church's opposition to abortion, some American Catholic colleges and universities refer their students to Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers through their web sites.

### LAY GROUP REVIEWS WEB SITES

According to LifeNews.com's Editor, Steven Ertelt, The Cardinal Newman Society, a Virginia based lay group whose mission is to promote Catholic identity at Catholic colleges and universities, discovered, during a review of Catholic school's web sites, web links to pro-abortion groups and abortion providers. These schools are also referring students to abortion facilities and pro-abortion businesses for internships. Surprised? Don't be. Socialism and Communism aren't the only untoward influences on Catholic college and university campuses. For years, on-campus groups that dissent from Church teachings have spread their insidious poison among Roman Catholic youth. Individual professors do it, too. In the name of 'Academic Freedom,' many college instructors refused to sign the mandatum or mandate required of Catholic theology faculty contained in Pope John Paul II's "Ex Corde Ecclesiae," which gives local bishops power to decide that persons teaching Catholic theology will teach nothing contrary to church doctrine.

### CARDINAL NEWMAN SOCIETY SHINES SPOTLIGHT ON PROBLEM

CNS has spotlighted this problem before. In 2002, while not calling for anyone's scalp, it reported that 12 Catholic colleges and universities were providing links and referrals to Planned Parenthood and other abortion groups. All the schools in that report removed the links except

Loyola of Chicago.

In a 2004 report, CNS again identified concerns with a number of Catholic colleges and university web sites, once more pointing up the problem and politely urging presidents of the schools involved to remove the links and referrals from their web sites. Several of these schools have taken no action. That's mostly what you get from liberal administrators on some Catholic college campuses, who seem more concerned about political correctness than the moral formation of the students we, as parents, entrust to them.

The offending schools include Boston College, DePaul University, Dominican University of California, Georgetown University, Loyola of Chicago, Loyola of New Orleans, Santa Clara University, Seton Hall, and Dominican University of California. Patrick J. Reilly, president of CNS, said: "Faithful Catholics [especially those who send their kids to these colleges] expect Catholic colleges and universities to embrace a culture of life and avoid scandal." Indeed, America's Roman Catholic bishops, in a document about pro-abortion politicians and communion, instructed Roman Catholic colleges not to give platforms to pro-abortion elected officials, and instead, to help build a pro-life culture. This came as quite a shock to several institutions of higher learning calling themselves Catholic, such as my alma mater, Loyola of Baltimore, which, in its quest for federal and state expansion funds, routinely invited such pro-abortion personages as Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) to speak at commencement exercises on campus, and at the conclusion of their remarks, bestowing upon them honorary degrees. Talk about sending mixed messages to our youth!

#### WHAT OFFENDING COLLEGES ARE PERMITTING

DePaul University's web site provides an example of what's going on. The Woman's and Gender Studies Program offers students links for "jobs, internships, volunteer opportunities," including a link to the Pro-abortion Feminist Majority Foundation's 'career center.' That center

lists jobs and internships at abortion rights groups such as NARAL Pro-Choice America, Catholics for a Free Choice, the National Abortion Federation, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the American Civil Liberties Union. And at Dominican University of California, Psychology professor Gail Matthews posted a list of “Field Placement Sites” for student internships. Planned Parenthood of Marin County was on her list. With friends like these, the Church doesn’t need enemies.

Next time — more about the decline of a strong religious identity at Catholic universities, the need to encourage a renewal of the Roman Catholic intellectual presence in secular society, and a list of solid Roman Catholic colleges and universities in the United States.

*Tony Sacco, author of [The China Connection](#) and [Little Sister Lost](#), is a licensed private investigator, holding a B.S. degree in Political Science from Loyola College and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Maryland. His column appears in the Wyoming Catholic Register. He’s a frequent contributor to the WREN Magazine. E-mail him at [anthonyjsacco@hotmail.com](mailto:anthonyjsacco@hotmail.com) and visit his website at [www.saccoservices.com](http://www.saccoservices.com).*