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OBAMA’S WAR ON RELIGION (part 2 of 2)

by Bill Donohue

*Obama’s Secular Policies*

*President George W. Bush was the first president to initiate faith-based social service programs; he wanted to put an end to the exclusionary policy of funding only public social service entities. There is a mountain of social science evidence showing the results of faith-based programs: homes for juvenile delinquents; drug rehabilitation centers; counseling services; foster care arrangements; prison ministries.*

Bill, I'll agree with you on the part about prison ministries. You definitely need clergy in prison because nearly every one of the inmates is religious. But an interesting statistic about prison populations Bill, that I'm sure you'll enjoy: despite being outnumbered by Protestants in the general population by more than 2-1, the prison population is exactly the reverse with Catholics outnumbering Protestants by more than 2-1.

*If there is one issue that has been at the heart of the culture war over the past several decades, it is abortion. The nation is split on this issue, though the vector of change is certainly moving in a pro-life direction: more Americans consider themselves pro-life than ever before, and there is scant support for abortion-on-demand through term. Without doubt, President Obama is the most radical president we’ve ever had on this subject. His enthusiasm for abortion rights—he has never found an abortion he could not justify—is so unyielding that he even supports selective infanticide.*

Bill, actually the most prolific abortionist in history is ... your God. If life begins at conception, as you claim, then He murders 50 million fetuses every year through miscarriage. Yet you have no problem with that. In the Bible, your God murders countless children and showed no mercy to fetuses when He commanded his goons to disembowel pregnant women. Yet you have no problem with that either.

*Now it is possible to take an abortion-rights position that at least respects the right of religious institutions not to cooperate in what the Catholic Church calls an “intrinsic evil.” But Obama has shown no such respect. Indeed, his war on religion extends to the days when candidate Obama made a pledge to Planned Parenthood in 2007. He told his fans that “the first thing I’d do as president is sign the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA).”*

*FOCA is the most radical piece of abortion-rights legislation ever written: it would overturn virtually every law restricting abortion in the nation. Worse, it might very well force Catholic hospitals to perform abortions. If they refused, federal funds would be cut off, effectively putting them out of business.*

Bill, you just admitted to lying. You said it would force Catholic hospitals to perform abortions. Then you admitted that, in reality, it would not force them to perform abortions but would only force them to look for other sources of funding. I don't even have to debate you. You debate yourself ... and lose.

*This is Obama’s vision of healthcare and religious liberty. Fortunately, the bill never made it to his desk; Catholics and Evangelicals fought hard to block it.*

Bill, since I just proved that they would not be forced to perform abortions, what they accomplished with their threats was to keep government money flowing in. There is a word for that in the Penal Code ... it's called extortion.

*As an interesting side note, when he was in the U.S. senate, Obama supported government intervention in the case of Terri Schiavo; he voted to provide the physically disabled woman with nutrition.*

Bill, you finally found something with which you agree with Obama. What's interesting is that I completely disagree. The fact that you are on Obama's side is all the evidence I need, that I got that one right.

*But his pro-life epiphany didn’t last long: in 2008, when asked which senatorial vote he regretted the most, he cited this one.*

Bill, that's called learning from your mistakes. Not something *you* have to worry about.

*In the same year, Obama was asked when life begins (Senator John McCain answered “at conception”). Obama’s answer was classic. “Whether you’re looking at it from a theological perspective or a scientific perspective,” he allowed, “answering that question with specificity is above my pay grade.” It was a dishonest dodge.*

Actually Bill, it was the most honest answer one could give, which is why, to you, it was dishonest. As you just proved Bill, you wouldn't know honesty if it kicked you in the balls.

*Once in power, Obama moved quickly to enshrine the abortion agenda. Three days after becoming president, Obama reversed President George W. Bush’s ban on federal funding for international groups that promote or perform abortions; only 35 percent of Americans agreed with him on this issue.*

Bill, legality isn't determined by opinion polls.

*When coupled with Obama’s opposition to school vouchers, including a successful scholarship voucher program for the residents of D.C., this effectively meant that if a poor inner-city pregnant woman, typically an African American, wanted to end her pregnancy, the government would pay for it. But if she insisted on taking her baby to term, hoping to later place her child in a private school, the same government wouldn’t give her a dime.*

Bill, she wasn't being denied the right to put her child in a public school; nor was she being denied the right to earn the money necessary to send her child to a private school; but if she wants to send her child to the more expensive school then she needs to find a way to pay for it.

*Obama’s Assault on Catholicism*

*Americans who oppose abortion have learned to live with Roe v. Wade,*

Bill, like most everything you say, that's not true either. It sounds like you've conveniently forgotten about the abortion clinic bombings and the murder of doctors who perform legal abortions.

It sounds like you've managed to dismiss as fantasy the news reports of picketers who hurl invectives at unfortunate women. And what about the avalanche of legislation designed to circumvent abortion law?

Opponents have not learned to live with the law; they use every means possible including violence in an effort to force their beliefs on Americans and overturn our laws.

*The Obama administration’s willingness to violate conscience rights in pursuit of ObamaCare was evident from the beginning. In 2009, Senator Orrin Hatch and Senator Mike Enzi sought to include language in the healthcare bill that would prohibit public funding of abortion. It was voted down, much to the applause of the Obama administration. A similar bill by Rep. Eric Cantor went down to defeat. Senator Tom Coburn sponsored an amendment that would provide conscience-rights protections for healthcare workers, and it too was defeated. Representatives Bart Stupak, Joe Pitts, and Sam Johnson also tried to bar federal funds for abortion; their efforts met the same fate.*

Bill, in a medieval theocratic society, like the one you dream of, their efforts would have succeeded and women would have been kept in their religious chains. But keep fighting Bill ... the battle is far from over.

*What was most exasperating about this entire matter was the insistence on the part of Obama officials that nothing in the healthcare bill would allow for the public funding of abortion. Then why fight with such ferocity bills designed to make sure this never happens?*

Bill, they were voted down because they were dishonestly written attempts to circumvent Obama's healthcare bill which put the funding on the insurance companies ... not the public.

*By the end of 2009, the real agenda of the Obama administration had become so transparent that even its friends at the New York Times felt obliged to come clean. That November the Times ran a news story showing how Obama had betrayed his promise. Reporter Robert Pear wrote that the president “was not comfortable with abortion restrictions inserted into the House version of major health care legislation, and he prodded Congress to revise them.” The pro-life community, largely faith-based, felt disabused by these shenanigans. But they had no idea how bad matters would soon become.*

Bill, the House version was pro-life. It would have gutted Obama's bill. The House was doing everything in its power to prevent Obama from fulfilling his promise to provide healthcare to America's poorest citizens.

*On January 20, 2012 Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius rolled out what would come to be known as the HHS mandate: Catholic institutions would be required to pay for contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs in their healthcare plans for employees. The inclusion of abortion-inducing drugs was striking. The administration could have settled for contraception,*

Bill, you dishonest little twit. If they had settled for contraception you would have written this same essay minus the abortion crap. Your feelings on contraception are well known, so you are not fooling anyone.

*Its real long-term interest was plain: eventually, as broached by FOCA, Catholic hospitals would be required to perform abortions.*

Bill, why don't you Ghost Worshippers just get out of the hospital business and stick to eating crackers in church?

*After Catholics pushed back, a new version was introduced three weeks later. But it was a distinction without a difference: it mandated that the insurance carrier of Catholic non-profits must pay for these services.*

Bill, how do you figure that's not a difference? Are you blind? No, you're just a dishonest clergyman. Of course there's a difference, a big difference.

*This was just a shell game. In reality, many Catholic non-profits are self-insured (for example, the Archdiocese of Washington is self-insured).*

Well Bill, then it sounds like maybe they need to look into getting some insurance.

*Then there is the issue of Catholic entities that are not self-insured: why should they have to pay their insurance company for services they deem immoral?*

Bill, because those decisions are between a patient and their doctor.

Bill, you believe killing is immoral right? Says so right there in the first set of the Ten Commandments. It doesn't have restrictions or limitations; it just says "Thou shalt not kill." Yet our nation is involved in wars almost every decade (which isn't surprising for the most Christian nation on Earth), we are engaged in other covert killing operations, we execute criminals (which is most strongly supported by Christian Evangelicals), and America carries out all these killings using tax dollars. Using your logic(?), since killing is forbidden and therefore immoral, shouldn't you be complaining to the government that you shouldn't have to pay taxes to support what you consider immoral?

Oh, that's right ... 'you people' don't pay taxes.

*Another issue that won’t go away is the right of Catholic business owners not to pay for services that violate their conscience.*

Bill, yet you have no problem with forcing the 20% of Americans with no religious affiliation to pay for your faith-based nonsense schools where you teach 21st century children all about your invisible ghost.

*It is important to acknowledge that Catholics are not asking for special rights—they are simply asking the Obama administration to respect the status quo.*

Bill, respecting the status quo IS asking to continue the practice of granting special rights. One example being your tax-exempt status.

*The administration won’t budge, saying the best it will do is exempt Catholic churches. Obama officials arrived at this conclusion by following the thinking of the ACLU (as I have recounted in two books on the organization, the ACLU has never been a religion-friendly institution).*

Bill, it's not surprising that an organization dedicated to preserving the liberties of *all* Americans would be one of the biggest enemies of the Catholic Church.

*In 2000, ACLU lawyers helped devise legislation in California that took a novel view of what constitutes a religious institution. It argued that a truly religious entity had to employ and serve mostly people of its own faith. By adopting the ACLU rule, the Obama administration essentially sought to punish Catholic universities, hospitals and social service agencies because they do not discriminate against non-Catholics. In other words, if these institutions were to display signs saying, “No Jews Allowed,” they would be just fine.*

No Bill, they wouldn't. Catholics have hunted Jews down for centuries but modern laws prevent you from continuing your biblical activities so you are now forced to help those you despise, which ironically is what Jesus tried to get you to do in the first place.

*Catholic bishops, led by Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, have made their objections known loud and clear. So have non-Catholics. Evangelical Protestants, in particular, have joined with their Catholic brothers in registering their outrage.*

Bill, it's nice to see enemies come together briefly to fight a common foe. Ever since the Reformation, Catholics and Protestants have been at each other's throats (especially in Ireland) showing everyone ... what they learned from Jesus.

*The U.S. Supreme Court ruled ObamaCare constitutional in June, although it did not rule on the constitutionality of the HHS mandate.*

Bill, that just had to eat your guts, didn't it? Helping the poor. That is so Jesus ... and so unlike Christianity.

*The November election may make all of this moot if Obama loses, but if he wins, Catholic rights will be tested in the Supreme Court. Meanwhile, new legislative efforts are being made to secure conscience rights.*

Bill, be careful what you wish for. Muslims are growing at an alarming rate. If you are allowed conscience rights now, then when they become the majority, they will be entitled to conscience rights ... and we all know what some of them consider moral.

*It is still hard to get the president and his administration to speak truthfully about this issue. In August, President Obama told a crowd at the University of Denver that “We worked with the Catholic hospitals and universities to find a solution that protects both religious liberty and a woman’s health.”*

Bill, and yet this essay proves that no matter how ingenious a solution they come up with, you will simply find an excuse to vilify it. You have no honesty nor honor. You are simply another in a long line of dishonest, evil religious bigots.

*When pieced together, all of these issues—Obama’s secular mindset, his secular allies, his secular policies, and his assault on Catholicism—show an animus to religious liberty.*

Bill, let me list of few religious liberties which you are no longer allowed:

1) slavery

2) stoning adulterers

3) executing homosexuals

4) killing Atheists

5) capital punishment for working on the Sabbath

6) being forced to marry one's rapist

7) allowing sick children to die without medical assistance

Bill, we're working on the rest. But now to totally expose your dishonesty I will tell the audience how you are trying to fool them. You are using the term "religious liberty" to rile up people in defense of the First Amendment.

But as this list just showed, religious liberty doesn't grant you the right to abuse others. Religious liberty in the First Amendment grants you the right to worship without government interference, not to go around crusading, bombing, shooting, and otherwise attacking those who do not share your wacky moral beliefs.

*It is no exaggeration to say that this nation has never witnessed anything like it.*

Bill, wait a few years and you'll witness even more like it. Atheism is replacing Ghost Worship. It's happening all over the world. America is the last great bastion of Christianity. It is the main battleground for evolution and global warming deniers. It is the main arena where you find science locked in a battle with ghost worship. This is a battle that is not going your way Bill.

I watched a video debate where you ridiculed evolution. Even your own Popes accept the proven science of evolution. So you are not in lock-step with mainstream Catholic beliefs as much as you try to pretend to be.

*The frontal assault on religion, especially on its public role, is unprecedented.*

That's right Bill, you people have managed to stifle dissent and free speech for centuries, usually with violence. Muslim radicals in the 21st century provide a great example of what Christian life has been like for centuries. But modern humans are removing you bastards from power; that's why you desperately seek to use the government to insure your survival. But science is providing the knowledge, upon which, humans are learning to build the courage to stand up and face, the horrible threats of the spirit world.

You think it's rough now Bill?

Come back in another life and you'll discover that you will actually have to get a real job.

*Explicit references to our religious heritage have been scrubbed clean from speeches and official pronouncements; the professed enemies of Christianity have been given a free hand shaping public policy;*

Bill, our government does not allow shaping by "free hands." We have checks and balances written into our Constitution to protect us from that. A class in government might be a good investment for you, Bill.

*faith-based programs have been allowed to wither;*

Bill, not according to what you wrote earlier.

*the radical pro-abortion and pro-gay agendas have been set loose to undermine our First Amendment freedoms;*

Actually Bill, they are protected by the very amendment that *you* are trying to undermine.

*and attempts to force people of faith to violate their conscience have reached a dangerous level.*

Bill, then maybe you should adjust your conscience and morals to come into line with modern humanity rather than trying to keep alive, the cadaver of religion.

*The war on religion carried out by the Obama administration is not the product of someone’s imagination—it is real. Whether it succeeds depends less on them than on us.*

Bill, that's pretty bad news for you then because at one time nearly everyone in America was Christian; now barely 70% are. Among the young, the polls are even worse for you; and they represent the future. Your Middle-Eastern death cult is fading rapidly (though not rapidly enough). Future humans will likely look back on these millennia as a time when humanity went through a period of mass insanity before evolving into civilized human beings. I suspect that, in the future, people like you will be given the psychiatric help you so desperately need.

If not, we could be in for another millennium ... of hell on Earth.

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THE SCIENCE SEGMENT

Major Step Toward an Alzheimer's Vaccine

A team of researchers has discovered a way to stimulate the brain's natural defense mechanisms in people with Alzheimer's disease. This major breakthrough, opens the door to the development of a treatment for Alzheimer's disease and a vaccine to prevent the illness.

One of the main characteristics of Alzheimer's disease is the production in the brain of a toxic molecule known as amyloid beta. Microglial cells, the nervous system's defenders, are unable to eliminate this substance, which forms deposits called senile plaques.

Researchers identified a molecule that stimulates the activity of the brain's immune cells. The molecule, known as MPL (monophosphoryl lipid A), has been used extensively as a vaccine for many years, and its safety is well established.

In mice with Alzheimer's symptoms, weekly injections of MPL over a twelve-week period eliminated up to 80% of senile plaques. In addition, tests measuring the mice's ability to learn new tasks showed significant improvement in cognitive function over the same period.

The researchers see two potential uses for MPL. It could be administered by intramuscular injection to people with Alzheimer's disease to slow the progression of the illness. It could also be incorporated into a vaccine designed to stimulate the production of antibodies against amyloid beta.

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FAMOUS QUOTES

MARK TWAIN (no biography - previously quoted)

"There is one notable thing about our Christianity:

bad, bloody, merciless, money-grabbing, and predatory ...

ours is a terrible religion.

The fleets of the world could swim in spacious comfort

in the innocent blood it has spilled."