

*Socialism, Political Correctness in the church, and Gender Ideology Threaten the church. Two come from outside the church, the other one comes from within by clergy and lay who are worldly in their thinking rather than Catholic.*

# THE EMPTY PROMISE OF SOCIALISM: CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT CHRIST

by [Fr. George Rutler](#) • ChurchMilitant.com • March 7, 2020

## Lessons from the popes and from history

Materialism, fantasy and false worship were the temptations Satan thrust at Christ, and he is tempting our nation the same way. These seductions are a formula for socialism, which Winston Churchill in 1948 defined as "The philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance and the gospel of envy."

A poorly educated generation succumbs to adolescent idealism, bereft of history, unaware that a cult of the state has

been a consistent failure, costing countless millions of lives in modern times.

State worship was resisted by the earliest Christians, who refused to offer incense to Caesar. Socialism is simply communism not yet in power, and its smiling face in the guise of "democratic socialism" quickly scowls once it has control. As the economist Ludwig von Mises showed in various ways, the essence of socialism is coercion and manipulation. Pope John XXIII, quoting Pope Pius XI, taught in 1961: "No Catholic could subscribe even to moderate socialism."

Socialism in the guise of benevolence exploits the naïve. As a corollary, Yeats said: "The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity." Lack of conviction moved appeasers to sign the Munich Agreement, and in present times it has ceded the Church's integrity to the Chinese government. Naïve people were scandalized by the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, but Stalin and Hitler were simply socialists in different uniforms. Just as the National Socialist manifesto of 1920 tried to replace the Church with a pastiche of "Positive Christianity," which was Christianity without Christ, so has the Chinese government ordered that images of Christ be replaced with images of Party leader Xi Jinping.

In 1931, Pope Pius XI denounced the exaltation of the state as "idolatry." He insisted that "Religious socialism, Christian socialism, are contradictory terms; no one can be at the same time a good Catholic and a true socialist." From a conviction born of suffering under National socialism and Soviet socialism, Pope John Paul II maintained that "the fundamental error of socialism is anthropological ... [because it] considers the individual person simply as an element, a molecule within the social organism... ."

# Socialism in the guise of benevolence exploits the naïve.

As the Catholic Church is the largest charitable organization in the world, Catholics should note what a present candidate for his party's presidential nomination, who calls himself a Democratic socialist, said years ago: "I don't believe in charities ... government, rather than charity organizations, should take over responsibility for social programs." But Pope Benedict VI has said: "We do not need a state which regulates and controls everything, but a state which, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, generously acknowledges and supports initiatives arising from the different social forces ... ."

The prophet Samuel warned the Israelites who wanted a king in charge of everything: "He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves" (1 Samuel 8:17). That voice is louder now.

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## Catholic PC Cowards

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### TRANSCRIPT

I'm Michael Voris, coming to you from the lobby of the conference center near Cleveland Ohio where this year's Bringing

America Back to Life Conference was held this past weekend, brought to you by the Cleveland Right to Life.

So the Catholic vote will be especially interesting and telling to keep track of throughout Campaign 2020. And that means measuring attitudes of the P.C. Catholic crowd, most of whom are cowards lacking any real conviction except for their own comfort. A little harsh, you say? Not at all, because the reality is far worse.

Centuries ago, heck even decades ago, Catholics were made of real stuff; they had guts and the men spoke like men. That is one of the appeals of Donald Trump to devout Catholics, meaning people who actually believe the Faith. He talks like an average Joe, and you never leave the room wondering what he meant by something. Indeed, even beyond Catholics, that is his appeal to nearly all of his supporters — his ticket of admission, so to speak, into the kitchen table discussion.

**Controlling speech by politicians by labeling it 'racist' and controlling speech by religious leaders by labeling it 'uncharitable' are two sides of the same coin.**

But since Church Militant is for Catholics specifically, we'll confine these comments to that audience and say, Catholics overall have become politically correct quislings, led around by the nose by a group of emasculated men in robes, many of whom are gay, and who have for decades now, sided with the P.C. crowd in the culture.

**By condemning *any* speech that even remotely smacks of straight-up clarity, they have reduced any substantive discussion in the Catholic world to one of emotions and being nice and polite and all that garbage. They call it "tone," and if you don't have the appropriate "tone" — as decided by them — then you aren't allowed in the discussion.**

Church Militant knows a thing or two about all this, just for the record. And of course, so does President Trump, blasted

because of his "tone" — a criticism that plays right into the hands of his detractors, who are more concerned with his "tone" than the nation collapsing around them. Trump speaks plainly, period. And given the dominant P.C. culture, there *needs* to be a leader who stands up and calls you-know-what on all this.

**The politically correct crowd has weaponized the very notion of civility and decorum to lull people, including various Catholics, into a sleepy haze of unawareness. They are the first to say, "Don't judge," but are actually the ones doing the judging by condemning good Catholics for judging.** Of course, we are supposed to judge. God has given each of us the ability to judge, to discern and then direct our actions accordingly to the moral good.

But no — bishops, clergy and cowardly Catholics — who, for the record, all profit personally from going along with this — prefer to sit idly by and damn the president for his "tone," but feign some concern for the preborn.

**The Marxists in the hierarchy have so polluted Catholics' thinking, that by pointing at a supposed "lack of charity" they are able to dispense with any discussion on the actual substance.** Likewise, the "hate factor" the Left holds for Trump, completely fabricated so as to gin up great distaste for him, is *really* aimed at derailing him from getting pro-life judges on the court.

For the first time in living memory, there is an actual pro-life president in the White House and he is remaking the federal judiciary and most importantly, the U.S. Supreme Court. That very issue is what inspired that demonic response from Chuck Schumer last week in front of the court, actually threatening not one, but two U.S. justices *by name*. For the Left, it's always been about abortion. It's their high sacrament — the gateway to unbridled sex for elites and disguised genocide for minorities.

But, given the great divide over abortion in America, they have chosen to go after Trump in another manner, by painting

him as "intolerant," a "racist," a "Russian," a "martian" — anything and everything they could throw at him. They whine on incessantly about his tweets, where he speaks pretty directly. Who cares if he destroys the notion of political correctness in his tweets and speeches? That Marxist tool should have long ago been dismantled, but it reigns supreme in the minds of the college educated, a disproportionate share of whom are Catholics.

**Controlling speech by politicians by labeling it "racist" and controlling speech by religious leaders by labeling it "uncharitable" are two sides of the same coin. The coin is suppression of truth.** And suppressing the truth by never allowing dialogue to be had is exactly what Marxist clergy and politicians are all about.

Trump, in many ways, speaks like Church Militant and vice versa.

Man, because he is created by God in the Divine Image, has not just the capacity for truth, but actually is drawn to it. So Satan, through his offspring in the political, cultural and religious arenas, must suppress any discussion or presentation of truth, because he knows that when man hears it, it will echo within him and be recognized. So the language must be controlled, such as "pro-choice" instead of "pro-child killing." You'll hear "Love wins" instead of "perverted sex," "guns kill" instead of "people kill," and so forth.

Politicos do this all the time, the way they name legislation and frame debates. Think of the badly named notion "global warming." It had to be quickly dumped and renamed "climate change" once science said the temperatures were actually dropping, not increasing. But facts have never gotten in the way of the Left's agenda, and that includes, most dangerously, in the Church.

So, are there lots of Catholics who are somewhat devout but turned off by Trump's "style"? No doubt. **But those people better wake up and realize the reason they see his style**

**as off-putting is because they have been conditioned by a bunch of weak or homosexual bishops and priests who have hidden their filthy evil behind the word "charity." They use that as cover for corrupting the Faith and placing the souls of countless Catholics in eternal jeopardy.**

They are the ones who are uncharitable in the highest order. They endanger the souls of everyone they come into contact with, with their departure from Tradition in the Church — claiming nearly everyone goes to Heaven, or we have a reasonable hope all are saved, or mortal sin is very difficult to commit, or there is no need to convert and on and on. They dress that evil up in a very nice "tone," but it remains evil nonetheless.

Trump, in many ways, speaks like Church Militant and vice versa. Straight-talk appeals to many people, even if P.C. weaklings are bothered by it. The simple reality is, sometimes you have to verbally belt someone across the face to get them to realize they are being duped and led astray.

In politics they are led astray to the destruction of their country. In theology, they are led to Hell.

# **VATICAN BLASTS UN PUSH FOR ABORTION, LGBT, GENDER IDEOLOGY**



by [Jules Gomes](#) • ChurchMilitant.com • March 7, 2020 77  
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## **Holy See calls attack on religious freedom 'unacceptable and offensive'**

GENEVA (ChurchMilitant.com) - The Holy See has condemned the "ideological colonization" of a United Nations report which is demanding the submission of religious-based morality to progressive laws and policies supporting abortion, LGBT rights and gender ideology.



Ahmed Shaheed, Special Rapporteur on Religious Freedom

In a strongly-worded statement, Abp. Ivan Jurkovič, the Vatican's permanent observer to the U.N., reiterated that "the Holy See has always understood 'gender' and related terms according to the ordinary, generally accepted usage of the word 'gender,' based on the biological identity that is male and female."

"Particularly unacceptable and offensive are the numerous references that recommend that freedom of religion or belief and conscientious objection must be surrendered for the promotion of other so-called 'human rights,' which certainly do not enjoy consensus," Jurkovič told the 43rd session of the Human Rights Council, Monday in Geneva.

## **UN Seeks Repeal of Laws Preserving Faith, Family**

Speaking Monday in Geneva, the Slovenian prelate slammed the U.N. for failing to address the religious persecution of "millions of persons worldwide" and, instead, "pushing a vision of human society that is not shared by all and does not reflect the social, cultural and religious reality of many peoples."

The Holy See notes "the growing influence within the international organizations of powers and interest groups that impose their own visions and ideas, sparking new forms of ideological colonization, often in disregard for the identity, dignity and sensitivities of peoples," Jurkovič stated.

The Vatican's criticism has been provoked by the annual report presented by Ahmed Shaheed, the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, which is calling for laws based on religious or traditional morality to be repealed if they conflict with liberal human rights, ideologies and trends, chiefly in the area of gender, sexuality and reproductive rights.

In his 19-page report, titled "Freedom of Religion or Belief," Shaheed uses the term "LGBT+" 62 times and "abortion" 23 times, insisting that "freedom of religion or belief must not be used for ends that are inconsistent with the United Nations Charter or relevant human rights instruments."

"It is rather unfortunate, yet increasingly less surprising given its frequency, that a U.N. report, which should defend the fundamental and universal human right of freedom of religion or belief as well as the right to conscientious objection, is now attacking the very reality it is called to defend," Jurkovič remarked.

The U.N. report deconstructs the definition of gender "as narrowly focused, physiologically based interpretations" and claims a pre-eminence for "international law" which "has further evolved" beyond the traditional and biological basis for "sex."

The Holy See has always understood 'gender' according to the ordinary, generally accepted usage of the word 'gender,' based on the biological identity that is male and female.

Shaheed's report castigates religious interest groups for characterizing LGBT+ rights advocates as "immoral actors" who are "seeking to undermine society by espousing 'a gender ideology' that is harmful to children, families, tradition and religion."

## **Countries Singled Out**

It excoriates countries which prohibit homosexuality "on the grounds that it upholds the tenets of Islam or Christianity" and censures four Catholic-dominated countries in Latin America for "complete bans on abortion."



Polish LGBT groups portray pro-family government as tyrants

Catholic Poland is singled out for "a campaign by interest groups ... against 'gender ideology,'" for attempting "to change the constitution to define 'the family' according to religiously grounded heterosexual norms" and for "misusing freedom of religion or belief to oppose self-determination rights for gender diverse persons."

Another predominantly Catholic country slated for censure is the Philippines where, according to the report, "the criminalization of abortion and lack of access to contraception is often justified by reference to religious postulates."

"In countries that do not criminalize homosexuality, some religious groups have successfully campaigned against the introduction of schoolbooks on sex education by arguing that the books promoted homosexuality," the report states.

## **Religious Objections Denied**

A particular area of concern is the report's repudiation for "conscientious objection by healthcare providers and institutions unwilling to perform abortions or provide access to contraception on religious grounds."

In Uruguay, where nearly half the population identify as Catholic, "women can elect to have an abortion, but in certain regions, up to 87% of medical providers refuse to perform abortions," the report disapprovingly notes, also criticizing Poland, the United States and Kenya for legal "conscience clauses" which make "access to legal abortion effectively unavailable to women in significant parts of the country."

**Gender ideologies assert themselves as absolute and unquestionable, even dictating how children should be raised.**

Shaheed's report dovetails "religious tenets" with "pseudoscience" and "traditional values rooted in interpretations of religious teachings about the social roles for men and women in accordance with their alleged naturally different physical and mental capacities."

## **Biased Sources, Flawed Methodology**

The U.N. Special Rapporteur uses primary sources from the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute (Planned Parenthood's former

research arm) to support the proposals in his report. It also openly states its preferential option for "feminist and human rights scholars" who argue that "deference" to the "autonomy and traditions of religious institutions is problematic" and, instead, hails pro-abortion groups like the U.S.-based Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice and Poland's #IamLGBT.

Critics have slammed the report for its flawed methodology and disingenuous conflation of concerns from female genital mutilation (FGM), polygamy, marital rape, modesty dress codes, forced veiling, early and forced marriage, treatment of religious, discrimination against religious minorities converts — practiced mostly in exclusively Muslim-dominated countries — with the promotion of abortion, contraception, the LGBT+ agenda, gender reassignment surgery and gender ideology, which seeks to erase the biological categories of male and female.

## **Conflict With Vatican's View**

In 2019, the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education categorically rejected "gender theory," which "denies the difference and reciprocity in nature of a man and a woman and envisages a society without sexual differences, thereby eliminating the anthropological basis of the family."

Gender theory creates "a cultural and ideological revolution driven by relativism" and such ideologies "assert themselves as absolute and unquestionable, even dictating how children should be raised," the document "Male and Female He Created them," affirmed, quoting Pope Francis' unequivocal position on gender ideology.