



## Focus on Religious Freedom

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### **Another Violation of First Amendment Protections: More March for Life Students Expelled from a Public Building**

"Earlier this week, a lawsuit was filed against the Nation Archives and Records Administration (NARA) stating that the morning of January 20, 2023, the day of the March for Life, several visitors to our museum in Washington, D.C., were told by NARA security officers 'to remove or cover their attire because of their pro-life messages,' the National Archives statement read. "As the home to the original Constitution and the Bill of Rights, which enshrine the rights of free speech and religion, we sincerely apologize for this occurrence." <sup>(1)</sup>

This lawsuit follows the suit against the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum where March for Life students were expelled for refusing to remove their hats that simply said, "Rosary PRO-LIFE."

### **20 States Demand FBI Cease Targeting Catholics**

The attorneys general of 20 states have demanded the FBI produce "all materials" related to its recently leaked 'anti-Catholic' memo that targets so-called "Radical Traditionalist Catholics" (RTC) as "un-American." <sup>(2)</sup> These Catholics believe the Catechism of the Catholic Church's teachings about the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, marriage between one man and one woman, the biological reality of male and female, and they may attend the Latin Mass.

In the leaked memo, the FBI cites various reports from the Southern Poverty Law Center that has a history of targeting Christians and conservative groups while receiving millions of dollars from far-left organizations and promoting the LGBT agenda.

The 20 attorneys general demanded the FBI "immediately and unequivocally order agency personnel not to target Americans based on their religious beliefs." They "request a full explanation of the document's origins, documents related to its implementation," and "whether the FBI has begun infiltrating houses of worship in conflict with the FBI's internal guidelines." <sup>(3)</sup>

While the FBI has retracted the document following intense backlash over its contents, Attorney General Miyares of Virginia has emphasized they remain unpersuaded by the FBI's "damage-control efforts."

***Definition of persecution: hostility and ill-treatment, especially on the basis of ethnicity, religion, or political beliefs***

(news.yahoo.com, 2/10/23(1); faith wire.com, 2/9/23; aclu.org, 2/10/23; lifesite news.com, 2/11/23(2); washingtontimes.com, 2/10/23(3); catholicleague.org, 2/9/23)