



FAITH & CITIZENSHIP



Pew Center Poll

- By 3 to 1, Americans want presidents to have “strong religious views”
- Divided on whether churches should express political views
 - YES: Evangelicals, Weekly attenders, Blacks
 - NO: Catholics, Mainline Protestants
- Most think churches should not endorse candidates

Important for President to Have Strong Religious Beliefs

	Comp agree	Mostly agree	Dis- agree	DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	30	39	27	4=100
College grad	22	38	38	2=100
Some college	29	42	25	4=100
HS or less	36	38	22	4=100
Age 18-29	21	37	38	4=100
Age 65+	36	39	19	6=100
Northeast	22	41	32	5=100
Midwest	26	42	27	5=100
South	40	38	19	3=100
West	25	35	36	4=100
Republican	44	39	14	3=100
Democrat	26	38	33	3=100
Independent	23	40	33	4=100
White Protestant	39	41	17	3=100
Evangelical	54	36	8	2=100
Mainline	21	45	28	5=100
Black Protestant	43	41	13	3=100
Catholic	27	43	27	3=100
White non-Hispanic	22	47	29	2=100
Unaffiliated	8	26	62	4=100



Pew Center Poll

- Communion and Politics
 - Catholics oppose denying communion more than Protestants
- Same-Sex Marriage
 - “Very important” to evangelicals and weekly attenders
- Stem-Cell Research
 - Slim majority favor doing research more than saving embryos
- Israel
 - View of Prophecy & Bible has major impact
 -

Same-Sex Marriage



Most Oppose Gay Marriage

	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Opp</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Total	36	55	9=100
Conserv Rep	11	83	6=100
Mod/Liberal Rep	33	59	8=100
Independent	41	49	10=100
Mod/Cons Dem	40	50	10=100
Liberal Dem	71	26	3=100
White Protestant	27	66	7=100
Evangelical	14	81	5=100
Mainline	43	47	10=100
Black Protestant	25	64	11=100
Evangelical	15	79	6=100
Catholic	42	48	10=100
White non-Hispanic	41	49	10=100
Unaffiliated	60	30	10=100

Broad Opposition to Gay Marriage among Frequent Church Attenders

	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Opp</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Church attendance			
Attend weekly or more	21	73	6=100
Attend less often	47	43	10=100
White evangelical Protestant			
Attend weekly or more	9	88	3=100
Attend less often	23	69	8=100
White mainline Protestant			
Attend weekly or more	37	58	5=100
Attend less often	44	44	12=100
White non-Hispanic Catholic			
Attend weekly or more	30	59	11=100
Attend less often	49	42	9=100

Stem Cell Research



Political, Religious Divides Over Stem Cell Research

	<i>More important to...</i>		
	<i>Conduct research</i>	<i>Not destroy embryos</i>	<i>DK</i>
	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
Total	51	35	14=100
Republican	37	50	13=100
Democrat	60	26	14=100
Independent	55	32	13=100
White Protestant	44	44	12=100
Evangelical	31	57	12=100
Attend weekly	23	68	9=100
Less often	47	37	16=100
Mainline	58	28	14=100
Black Protestant	40	40	20=100
White non-Hisp Cath	59	32	9=100
Attend weekly	46	46	8=100
Less often	67	22	11=100
Unaffiliated	68	21	11=100
<i>Heard about stem cell debate...</i>			
A lot	62	30	8=100
A little	45	40	15=100
Nothing at all	33	39	28=100

Question wording: "All in all which is more important, conducting stem cell research that might result in new cures OR not destroying the potential life of human embryos involved in this research."

The US & Israel



Views of God, Biblical Prophecy and Israel

	<i>Believe that Israel...</i>	
	<i>Was given by God to the Jews</i>	<i>Fulfills prophecy of second coming</i>
	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Total	42	35
White	40	33
Black	55	49
East	24	22
Midwest	40	36
South	56	45
West	37	29
Total Protestant	53	47
White evangelical	69	59
White mainline	27	19
Black Protestant	60	56
Total Catholic	27	22
White, non-Hisp	29	21
<i>Bible is...</i>		
Literal word of God	70	62
Word of God, not literal	34	26
Not word of God	10	6

Support for Israel – the Biblical Connection

	<i>Sympathize more with... (vol.)</i>			
	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Pales- tinians</i>	<i>Both/ neither</i>	<i>DK</i>
	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Total	44	9	25	22=100
<i>Israel was given by God to the Jews?</i>				
Yes	63	4	16	17=100
No	36	18	30	16=100
<i>Israel is the fulfillment of biblical prophecy?</i>				
Yes	60	7	14	19=100
No	38	14	32	16=100

Drawing Lines

- **BAD:** Religion in Politics is **WRONG** because it allows some to force religious views on others
- **BETTER:** Always wrong to use laws, power of state to coerce conscience, or to use civil law to enforce Divine Law



Drawing Lines

- **BAD:** Church involvement in politics is **DANGEROUS** because it undermines the salvation mission and prophetic voice of the church
- **BETTER:** The Church must avoid the **SPECIFIC** danger of entanglement with a particular politician, party, or movement

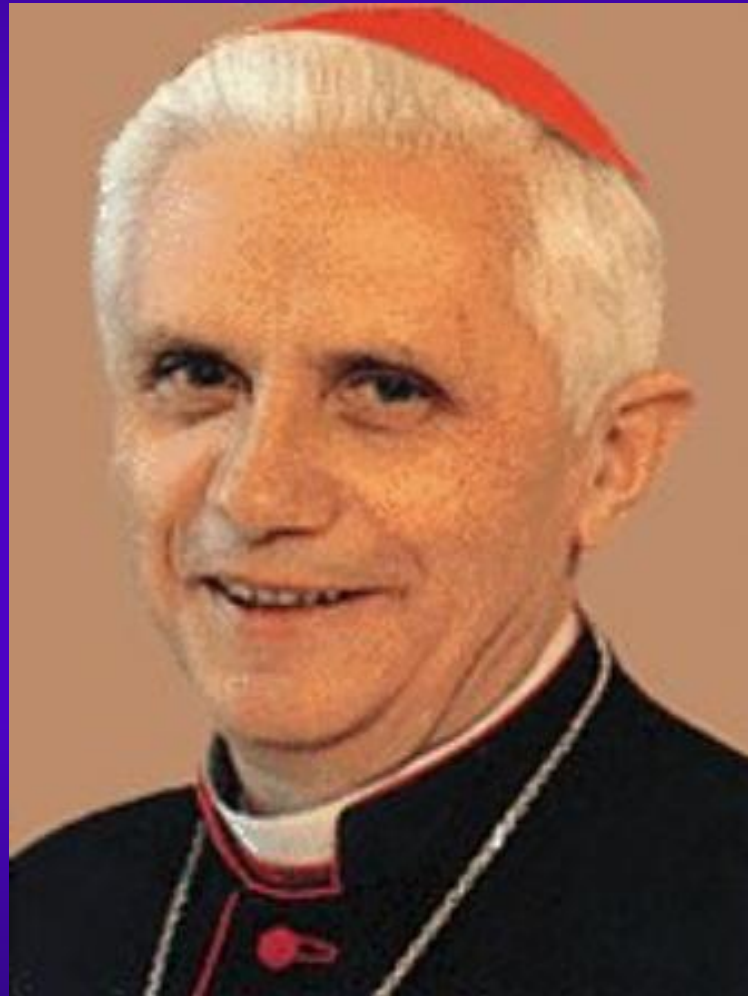


Archbishop Raymond Burke of St. Louis




- 2004: Church should deny holy communion to John Kerry or any Roman Catholic politician who was pro-choice

Josef CARDINAL Ratzinger



Ratzinger's 2004 Statement



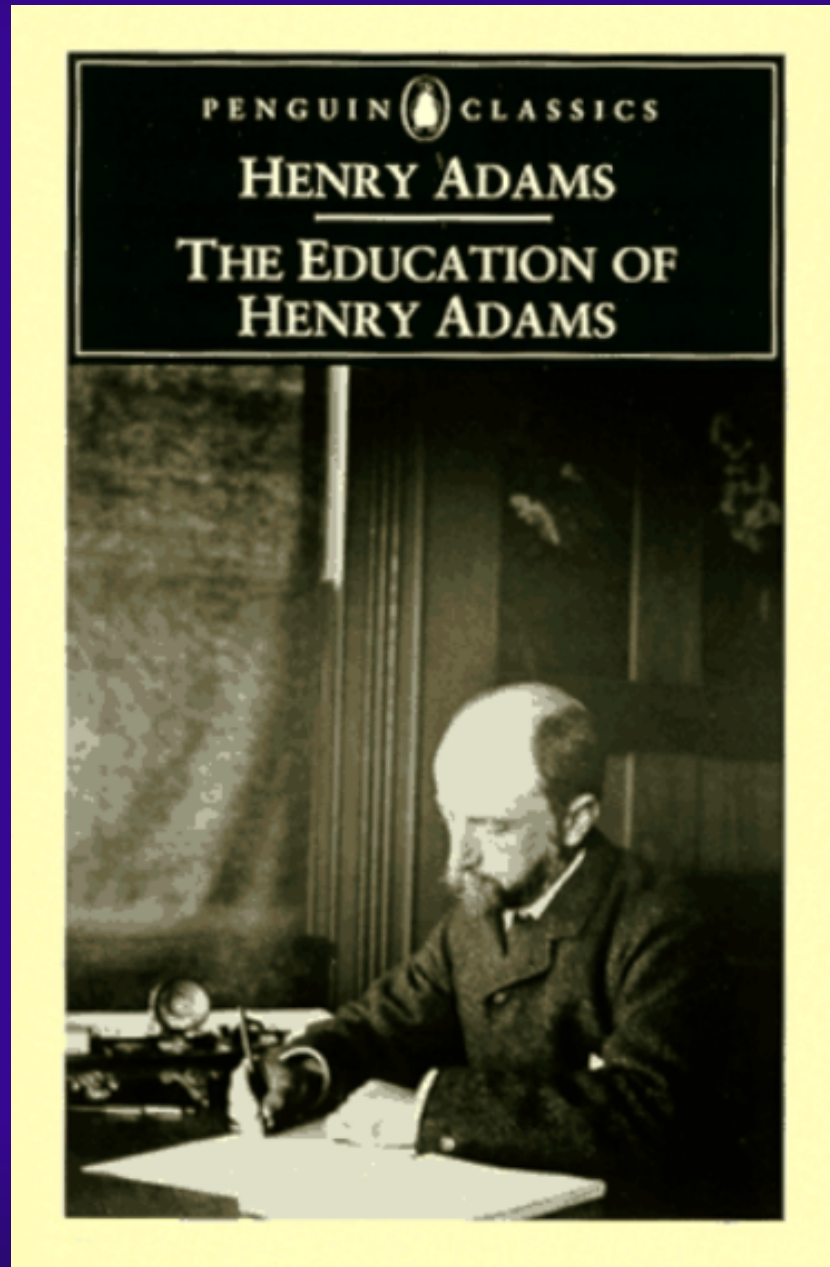
"A Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation in evil, and so unworthy to present himself for Holy Communion, if he were to deliberately vote for a candidate precisely because of the candidate's permissive stand on abortion and/or euthanasia.

When a Catholic does not share a candidate's stand in favor of abortion and/or euthanasia, but votes for that candidate for other reasons, it is considered remote material cooperation, which can be permitted in the presence of proportionate reasons."



What does the Lord require of you?

Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God



“Politics is the organization of hatreds.”



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