

Do Protestant churches really have a bigger problem with pedophilia?

What does the research show?

ROGER ASKED A GOOD QUESTION: IF the Catholic Church was the REAL CHURCH... Why do they PERMIT... Priests & Bishops.... TO MOLEST CHILDREN...?

LENNY ASKS AN EVEN BETTER QUESTION: If the Protestant Churches were the REAL CHURCH...Why do they PERMIT...Protestant ministers & deacons TO MOLEST CHILDREN... and then criticize Catholics when Protestants have a huge problem in their own churches?

I apologize to my Protestant friends who do get it; this is not for you. This is for the few Protestants who don't know the facts and then make unfair cheap shots at the Catholic Church.

I have to admit I was surprised at a few of my Protestant friends who still wanted to stand in judgment of the Catholic Church even after they learned there was a bigger problem in Protestant Christianity. They are acting like modern day Pharisees pointing out the sin of others while not acknowledging their own.

"The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, , "O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous –or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithe on my whole income" (Lk 18:11-12).

The Evangelicals were busy confessing the sin of Catholics rather than their own sin. But why do they do it when Jesus spoke against this? The answer is simple; they were using it as a negative recruiting tool to get people out of the Catholic Church and into the Evangelical Churches. In fact one Baptist minister said they wanted to gobble up all the Catholics they could get because of the scandal. I am sure this worked to some degree more or less, but what happens when these people find out there is an even bigger problem in Evangelical Churches.

MORE PROTESTANT MINISTERS GUILTY OF PEDOPHILIA THAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS NEW RESEARCH REVEALS

Sue Widemark A Penn State historian, [Philip Jenkins](#), has done in-depth research of pedophilia and sexual abuse among the clergy and has come up with some rather eye opening facts (*Pedophiles and Priests, Anatomy of a Crisis*, Oxford University Press, 1996, Paperback edition, 2001).

It seems that while .2 to 1.7 percent of Catholic clergy have been guilty of pedophilia (or sexual abuse particularly of boys, p. 80-82), a whopping 10 percent of Protestant ministers have been found guilty of sexual misconduct with a 2 or 3 percent pedophilia rate (p. 50-52).

This is all the more interesting, notes Jenkins, since there has been NO media term "Pastor Pedophilia" coined at all! Jenkins theorizes that the media, proving the 'point' of the 'necessity' of sexual promiscuity, overemphasizes any instance of pedophilia found among the Catholic clergy since it can use this to criticize the entire idea of celibacy. But it is interesting that the NON Celibate Protestant ministers have a MUCH GREATER problem with it than the celibate Catholic priests! Protestant pastor pedophilia is not within the frame of our 'social constructionists' as Jenkins calls the media:

"One of the more egregious molestation cases of the 1980's concerned a Pentecostal minister named Tony Leyva, who had abused perhaps a hundred boys in various southern states over a period of several years... The Leyva case if not mentioned in any of the books or analytical articles on clergy abuse, which is noteworthy because in so many ways Leyva's career resembled that of the internationally notorious former parish priest James Porter... in a sense the Leyva story may have been 'worse' than Porter's in that there were accomplices in his sexual activities... It has since been forgotten because it does not fit within the cultural frame that dominates public discourse, and that emphasizes the Catholic role to the virtual exclusion of others" (p. 10-11). Very few people have ever heard of Tony Leyva! The same is true of three brothers, all Baptist ministers, who were charged with child molestation in the 1990's; the public learned little about this highly unusual series of cases because it was not deemed worthy of dissemination by those fixated on Catholic scandals. And the case of a Baptist pastor and a bus driver, in

Washtenaw County , Michigan , who raped multiple small boys who were attending Sunday School (p. 12).

Once the media elites focused their attention on framing the issue in terms of the 'celibacy' problem, it became difficult for them to assert that the problem was larger among the non-celibate Protestant clergy.

Jenkins' research was based on several highly respected studies and statistics. He points out that whereas sexual misconduct has always been a problem, among Catholic and non-Catholic clergy as well as among the general populace, what is new now is that the 'problem' of priest sexual abuse, constructed by the media as a result of a 'moral panic' occurring in the mid-1980's.

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HERE IS THE DEFINITIVE STUDY comparing molestation between Priests, Rabbi's, Ministers and School Teacher (CATALYST – MARCH 2004, p.8 “Sexual Abuse in Social Context: Catholic Clergy and other Professionals”). Go to: <http://www.catholicleague.org/release.php?id=780>.

<http://www.catholicleague.org/catalyst.php?year=2004&month=March&read=1713>

<http://www.catholicleague.org/rer.php?topic=The+Sex+Abuse+Scandal&id=110>

<http://www.catholicleague.org/catalyst.php?year=2006&month=March&read=1999>

Even the mighty Jewish talk show host Michael Savage got on the band wagon and lambasted the Church for all those scandals. It wasn't long after that and one of Michael's, Jewish rabbis was picked up in a sting operation where he was caught on tape soliciting underage girls. This seemed to quiet Michael down a bit.

Roger and others will no longer be using pedophilia as a negative recruiting tool. They will be too busy explaining to people in their own churches why they got out bad information.