

February 8, 2008

## **Citizens for Community Values of Indiana NoSpecialRights.net Task Force**

### **ACTION ALERT**

They're Back! Homosexual Activists are pushing the vulgar play at the University of Notre Dame again! The Anthropology Department and the Sociology Department, along with the College of Arts & Letters are poised to bring the offensive Ensler play back to the campus. Call or write today to stop this from tarnishing the character of Notre Dame any further . . . Several Bishops scheduled to meet at Notre Dame have already refused to meet on the Campus due to the return of the Monologues. Apparently, the Chairmen of these Departments and the Dean of the College of Arts & Letters think that the parents, profamily leaders, Church Leaders and ND Alumni are not watching . . .

How sad that academic leaders think so little of the University named after the Mother of Jesus by Fr. Sorin. Let's help them remember that the University of Notre Dame should stand for sexual purity not sexual promiscuity and adventurism. The Notre Dame Administration's failure to comprehend this profoundly simple truth is embarrassing. The Notre Dame Family does not need to be protected from sexual activists like Ensler and the GLBT movement. It needs to be protected from educators who think that entertaining vulgarity and embracing sexual activism is a sign of sophistication rather than capitulation to the base culture of modern society.

When many concerned Alumni, faculty, students and parents spoke out against Fr. Jenkins' failure to return Notre Dame to it's spiritual foundations a couple of years ago, the Board of Trustees gave him a vote of confidence. Now here we go again . . . Perhaps the President's role is not the only one that should be scrutinized. Now, serious questions are being raised about the judgment of the Dean of the College of Arts & Letters, as well as regarding the thought process of the Chairmen of the Anthropology and Sociology Departments. What a profound contrast between these modern educators and early Notre Dame educator and Congregation of the Holy Cross Founder Fr. Basil Moreau.

*"Education is the art of helping young people to completeness; For the Christian this means that education is helping a young person to be more like Christ, the model of all Christians."*

-Moreau, Christian Education 10

"We shall always place education side by side with instruction; the mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart. While we prepare useful citizens for society, we shall likewise do our utmost to prepare citizens for Heaven."

-Moreau, Circular Letter 36

Notre Dame should live up to this wholehearted pledge of Moreau. The Bishops understand this and that is why they are being "instructive" to Notre Dame's entire family with their principled actions. The question we must ask is "If Notre Dame is not a good place for Bishops to gather, why should we send our children there?"

*Join the spiritual battle for the heart and soul of Notre Dame! --Patrick Mangan, ND '80*

**Key Contact Information To Express Opposition to Notre Dame Allowing Vagina Monologues Back on the Campus:** *Mark Schurr and Rory McVeigh report to Mark Roche. All three are in the approval process. Please contact all three to express your 'loving opposition to the homosexual agenda' and your disappointment and disapproval of the vulgar play "The Vagina Monologues". (For More Information go to [www.nospecialrights.net](http://www.nospecialrights.net).)*

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*"All it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing." – Edmund Burke*

Section

# B Local

Friday  
Feb. 8,  
2008

South Bend  
Tribune

## Seminar for bishops will not meet at ND

■ Event moved because of 'Vagina Monologues.'

By MARGARET FOSMOE  
and CLAUDIA BAYLISS

Tribune Staff Writers

**SOUTH BEND** — A theological seminar for Roman Catholic bishops that had been scheduled for the University of Notre Dame will be moved off campus because of a planned performance of the play "The Vagina Monologues."

The Catholic bishops made the decision because they disagree with the university administration's decision to allow a student performance of the controversial play.

"Because of the likelihood of

the presentation of the play 'The Vagina Monologues' at Notre Dame this year, the bishops made a collective decision to move the seminar off campus," the Most Rev. John M. D'Arcy, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, said Thursday in a written statement. The bishop declined a request for an interview.

The seminar, which includes Notre Dame faculty speakers and is co-sponsored by the university's Institute for Church Life, had been scheduled for Monday through Wednesday on campus. Instead, it will be at the convent of the Sisters of St. Francis in Mishawaka.

Notre Dame spokesman Dennis Brown confirmed that

the bishops moved the gathering off campus and that the decision was related to "The Vagina Monologues."

The university issued the following written statement:

"We understand that not all are in full agreement about the propriety of allowing performances of this play on a Catholic campus. Because of concerns about the play and its potential performance, we have worked collaboratively with the bishops to move the conference out of respect for everyone involved.

"Notre Dame and the U.S. bishops have worked together constructively in the past, they are working together on this current meeting, and we are

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## Seminar

sure that our partnerships will continue in the future.”

Brown said the Rev. John I. Jenkins, Notre Dame's president, is not available for an interview on this issue.

Notre Dame students are planning a March 26-28 production of “The Vagina Monologues” in a campus classroom. All such student events require an academic sponsor. The departments of sociology and anthropology have tentatively agreed to co-sponsor the production.

The departments are awaiting a formal proposal from the student planners about academic

panel discussions to coincide with the performances, said Mark Schurr, chair of the anthropology department. Once the proposal is presented and approved by the sponsoring departments, it also must be approved by the College of Arts & Letters.

The student planners could not be reached for comment.

“The Vagina Monologues,” by playwright Eve Ensler, is a theater production that deals frankly with women's views on their bodies and sexuality. It is performed annually on hundreds of college campuses with the goal of raising awareness about sexual assault and domestic violence.

Notre Dame student productions of the play were performed annually on campus from 2002

to 2006, and an off-campus version was presented last year.

Jenkins two years ago considered banning “The Vagina Monologues” because he was troubled that the play's portrayal of sexuality opposes Catholic teachings. That prompted an extensive debate about Notre Dame's Catholic identity.

After listening to widespread campus discussion, Jenkins announced that a Catholic university has nothing to fear from engaging in topics of the wider culture.

He did not ban the play. However, performances must be in a classroom setting (not a theater), the production cannot be used to raise money for community groups and each show must include an academic panel discussion.

The Notre Dame board of trustees passed a resolution in 2006 expressing confidence in Jenkins and agreeing in principle with the policies he developed for evaluating campus events that touch on the university's Catholic identity.

D'Arcy has publicly criticized

Notre Dame and Jenkins for allowing the play. In 2006, the bishop issued a nine-page pastoral response critiquing Jenkins' decision and his reasons for not banning the play.

The Committee on Doctrine has seven members: the Most Rev. William E. Lori, bishop of Bridgeport, chairman; the Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, bishop of Toledo; the Most Rev. José H. Gomez, archbishop of San Antonio; the Most Rev. Robert J. McManus, bishop of Worcester; the Most Rev. Arthur J. Serfatelli, bishop of Paterson, N.J.;

the Most Rev. Allen H. Vigneron, bishop of Oakland, Calif.; and the Most Rev. David A. Zubik, bishop of Pittsburgh.

The committee has several consultants, including John C. Cavadini, professor and chair of Notre Dame's theology department; and Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago. Cavadini could not be reached Thursday for comment.

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