

# 'Voter's Guide for Serious Catholics' raises interesting questions

It's called a "Voter's Guide for Serious Catholics."

And it says, "This booklet gives clear and concise official church statements on five 'non-negotiable' moral issues. After reading it, there will be no doubt or confusion about what the church teaches and requires of her children."

Richard Clarke, the former anti-terrorism advisor to White House occupants, was blistered when his book, taking to task former and current administrations — Clinton, and Bush in particular — was released right before his appearance before the 9/11 Commission and just as the presidential election campaign was getting into gear.

Now comes the "Voter's Guide for Serious Catholics." One can see through this as a carefully planned and timed political interference. Assumingly, its target is none other than Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic presidential nominee-in-

Jim Hightower

## A three-minute gripe

President Bush tried in his State of the Union speech to diffuse the growing anxiety and anger about the loss of middle class jobs by making the bald-faced assertion that the solution is simple: more job training. Millions of unemployed and underemployed Americans must have stared in slack jawed disbelief as this son of privilege mouthed the corporate line that everything is OK with our economy, if only the workers would get more training and improve their skills.

Training for what? Here came George's whopper: "Much of our job growth will be found in high-skilled fields." That's not true and Bush knows it.

Bush's own labor department reports that of the 30 occupations that will account for the highest job growth between now and 2010, two-thirds require minimal skills. Yes, high-tech companies will create 284,000 more jobs for computer software engineers in that period — but many more jobs than that will be created in each of these very low-tech fields: freight movers, home



Tom Dreiling

• Wednesday Special

waiting, whose liberal thinking on and embracement of some sensitive issues has some Catholics shaking their heads.

We find it odd that this voter's guide is surfacing at this time. Readers of the *Free Press* alerted me by e-mail to the publication. Some were disappointed in it, others thought it was an appropriate disclosure.

The guide points out, in a disclaimer, that "Nothing in this voter's guide should be construed as an endorsement of any particular candidate or political party."

Here are a few other samplings from the guide:

### How this voter's guide helps you

This voter's guide helps you cast your vote in an informed manner consistent with Catholic moral teaching. It helps you eliminate from consideration candidates who endorse policies that cannot be reconciled with moral norms that used to be held by all Christians.

On most issues that come before voters or legislators, a Catholic can take one side or the other and not act contrary to his faith. Most matters do not have a "Catholic position."

But some issues are so key, so elemental, that only one position accords with the teaching of the Christian gospel. No one endorsing

the wrong side of these subjects can be said to act in accord with the Church's moral norms.

This voter's guide identifies five "non-negotiable" issues and helps you narrow down the list of acceptable candidates, whether they are running for national, state, or local offices.

Candidates who endorse or promote any of the five non-negotiables should be considered to have disqualified themselves from holding public office, and you should not vote for them. You should make your choice from among the remaining candidates.

### Your role as a Catholic voter

Catholics have a moral obligation to promote the common good through the exercise of their voting privileges (cf. CCC 2240). It is not just civil authorities who have responsibility for a country. "Service of the common good require[s] citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community" (CCC 2239). This means citizens should participate in the political process at the ballot box.

But voting cannot be arbitrary. "A well-formed Christian conscience

does not permit one to vote for a political program or an individual law that contradicts the fundamental contents of faith and morals" (CPL 4).

Some things always are wrong, and no one may vote in favor of them, directly or indirectly. Citizens vote in favor of these evils if they vote in favor of candidates who propose to advance them. Thus, Catholics should not vote for anyone who intends to push programs or laws that are intrinsically evil.

Please do not keep this voter's guide to yourself. Read it, learn from it, and prepare your selection of candidates based on it. Then give this voter's guide to a friend, and ask your friend to read it and pass it on to others. The more people who vote in accord with basic moral principles, the better off our country will be.

Voting as suggested by the guide will certainly create much confusion among Catholics who think Democrat and who think Kerry. Are those people, if they cast their ballot for Kerry, inheriting the same sinful burden the guide would sug-

gest the senator is carrying?

This places, by example, Ellis County, Kansas between a rock and a hard place. That county is predominantly Catholic and Democrat. And it would be correct to assume that Ellis County will go Kerry in November.

Where, on the ladder of responsible and moral judgment does that put those Ellis County Catholics who voted for Kerry?

I am not putting the cart before the horse. Sen. Kerry's name was not mentioned in any place I could find in the guide. But sometimes the obvious is so obvious you almost see it in print.

As a Catholic I can only suggest to my fellow believers that they consider ALL aspects of the presidency.

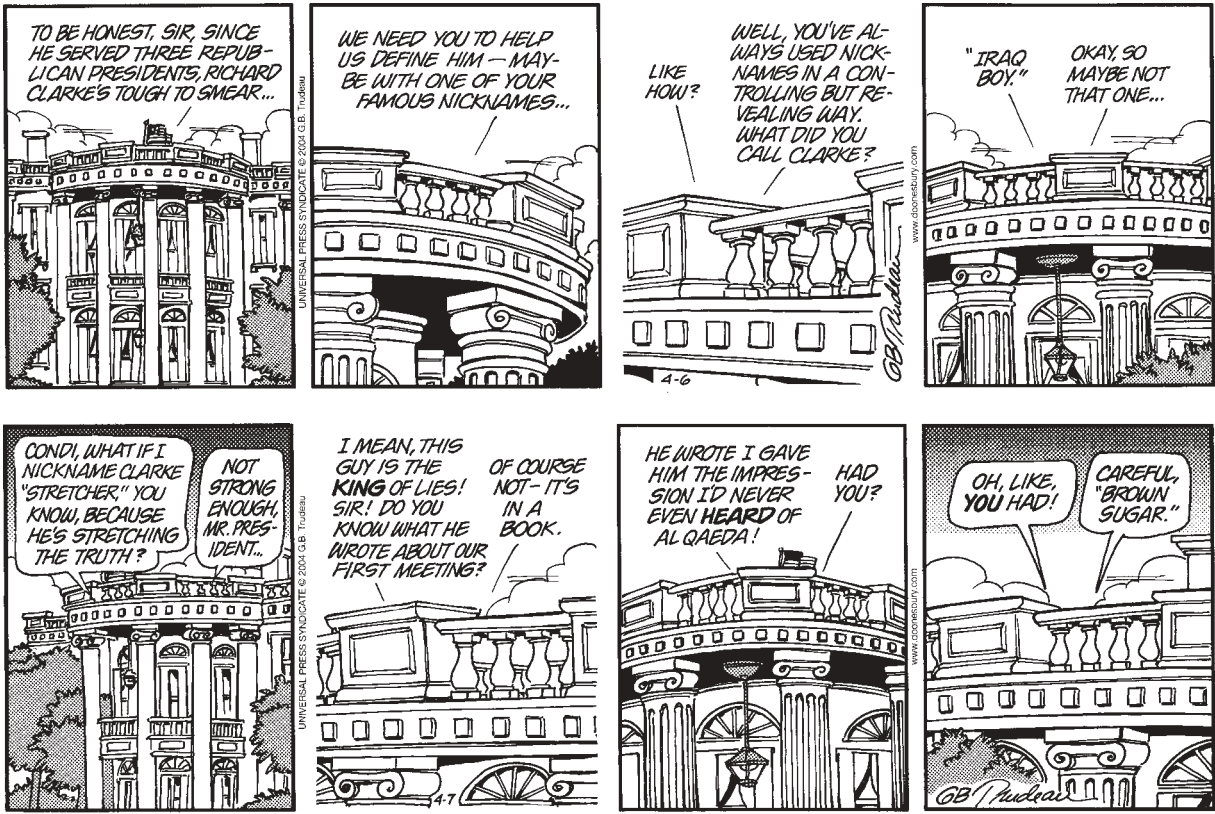
When it's over the exit polling and all the other statistical breakdowns will show this result, for most part:

Catholic Democrats voted Kerry. Catholic Republicans voted Bush.

With a few exceptions, I'm sure. No surprise. That's just the way it is.

Doonesbury

• Gary Trudeau



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TV LISTINGS sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

WEEKDAYS

APRIL 6 - APRIL 12

	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News	Good Morning America					Make-over	Make-over	The View	Hollywood	News	
KSNK/NBC (8) (9)	News Cont'd	Today							Live With Regis and Kelly	Martha Stewart Living		
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News	The Early Show					The 700 Club		The Price Is Right	The Young and the Restless		
K15CG (3)	World News	Priscilla-Yoga	Body Electric	Caillou	Boohbah	Barney-Friends	Dragon Tales	Lions	Sesame Street	Clifford-Red	Teletubbies	
WGN (13)	Changing	Believer Voice	Celebrity Justice	Hillbilities	Hillbilities	Happy Days	Matlock		In the Heat of the Night	Rockford	Varied	
NICK (29)	Oddparents	Rocket Power	Rugrats	SpongeBob	Max & Ruby	Rubbadubbers	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Little Bill	Maggie-Beast
FAM (30)	Digimon-Digital	Bey-blade	Power Rangers	Digimon-Digital	Growing Pains	Living the Life	The 700 Club		7th Heaven	Full House	Growing Pains	
USA (31)	JAG	Nash Bridges					Movie	Varied Programs	Movie		Varied	
TBS (37)	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Movie					Dawson's Creek	Dawson's Creek	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	
TNT (38)	The Lost World	The Pretender					Charmed	ER	ER	Judging Amy		
DSC (42)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Assignment Discovery		Varied Programs	Designer Guys	Designer Guys	Rally Round the House		
A&E (47)	Varied Programs	Movie					Murder, She Wrote	Murder, She Wrote	Murder, She Wrote	City Confidential		
ESPN (49)	SportsCenter	SportsCenter					SportsCenter	Varied	SportsCenter	Varied Programs		
HBO (7)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs										
DISN (17)	JoJo's Circus	Stanley	The Wiggles	JoJo's Circus	The Wiggles	Stanley	Rolie Polie	Rolie Polie	Out of the Box	PB&J Otter	Koala Brothers	The Wiggles
MAX (21)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs					Movie	Varied Programs				

THURSDAY

APRIL 8

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	(5:59) News	Ent. Tonight	Extreme Make-over: Home Edition (CC)	Stephen King's Kingdom Hospital	PrimeTime Thursday (CC)	News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)				
KSNK/NBC (8) (9)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace (CC)	The Apprentice: Down to the Wire (N)	ER Where There's Smoke (N) (CC)	News	The Tonight Show (N) (CC)	Late Night (N)			
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	Survivor: All-Stars (N) (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Without a Trace: Trip Box (CC)	News (CC)	Golf: Masters	Late Show (CC)				
K15CG (3)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Sunflower	Kansas Spotlight	The New This Old House: Hour (CC)	Frontline: Diet Wars (N) (CC)	World News	Keeping Up	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)				
WGN (13)	Will & Grace	Home Improvement	Movie: Trial and Error ** (1997, Comedy) Michael Richards. (CC)		WGN News at Nine (CC)	Becker (CC)	Becker (CC)	Eliminate	The 5th Wheel			
NICK (29)	Rugrats (CC)	SpongeBob	Oddparents	Sabrina	Full House	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	
FAM (30)	7th Heaven Drunk Like Me (CC)	Movie: The Sandlot ** 1/2 (1993, Comedy-Drama) Tom Guiry, Mike Vitar. (CC)	Who's Line?	Who's Line?	The 700 Club (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)						
USA (31)	Law & Order: Special Victims	MLB Baseball: New York Mets at Atlanta Braves. Turner Field. (Live)	Movie: Contact *** (1997) A devoted scientist hears a message from outer space. Jodie Foster. (CC)					Law & Order: Special Victims	Law & Order: Special Victims			
TBS (37)	Friends (CC)	MLB Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Atlanta Braves. Turner Field. (Live)	NBA Basketball: Orlando Magic at New Jersey Nets. Continental Airlines Arena. (Live) (CC)					NBA Basketball: Minnesota Timberwolves at Sacramento Kings. ARCO Arena. (Live) (CC)	Inside the NBA			
TNT (38)	NBA Tip-Off (Live)	NBA Basketball: Orlando Magic at New Jersey Nets. Continental Airlines Arena. (Live) (CC)	Monster Garage: Monster Nation 3	The Crusades (CC)	Pure Genius: High-tech game. (N)	Monster Garage: Monster Nation 3	The Crusades (CC)					
DSC (42)	News Detective: Forensic Science	Cold Case: Files Silent Witness; Innocence Lost (CC)	American Justice: Reservation	NHL Hockey: Conference Quarterfinal -- Teams to Be Announced. (Live) (CC)								
A&E (47)	Reservation	Cold Case: Files Silent Witness; Innocence Lost (CC)	American Justice: Reservation	NHL Hockey: Conference Quarterfinal -- Teams to Be Announced. (Live) (CC)								
ESPN (49)	Break up the Bombers: The Yankees on Trial (N)											
HBO (7)	(5:00) Movie: Drumline (2002)	Movie: Swimfan ** 1/2 (2002, Suspense) Jesse Bradford. (CC)	Movie: Old School ** (2003, Comedy) Luke Wilson. (CC)	Real Sex 28: Bedroom Tricks	Deadwood (CC)							
DISN (17)	Sister, Sister	Lizzie McGuire	Movie: Jumping Ship ** (2001) Andy Lawrence. (CC)	Kim Possible	Sister, Sister	Boy Mts. World	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Even Stevens	Sister, Sister		
MAX (21)	(5:30) Movie: Kiss of Death (1995)	Movie: Risky Business *** (1983, Comedy) Tom Cruise. (CC)			Movie: Unfaithful (2002) A housewife has an affair with a charming stranger. (CC)			Movie: The Mummy's Kiss				

WEEKDAYS

APRIL 6 - APRIL 12

	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	All My Children	One Life to Live					Dr. Phil		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	ABC Wild News
KSNK/NBC (8) (9)	News	Family Feud	Days of Our Lives	Passions	Inside Edition	Family Feud	Millionaire	Jeopardy!	News	News	NBC News	
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News	Bold, Beautiful	As the World Turns	Guiding Light	The People's Court					Oprah Winfrey	News	CBS News
K15CG (3)	Reading Rainbow	Mister Rogers	Varied Programs					George Shrinks	Beren Bears	Liberty's Kids	Cyberchase	Arthur
WGN (13)	News	Varied	In the Heat of the Night	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Home Improve.	Will & Grace	
NICK (29)	Max & Ruby	Dora the Explorer	Rugrats	Rugrats	Varied Programs		SpongeBob	Amanda	U-Pick	Romeo!		
FAM (30)	Family Matters	Family Matters	Step by Step	Step by Step	So Little Time	Full House	7th Heaven	Walker, Texas Ranger	Texas Ranger	Varied		
USA (31)	JAG	Varied Programs										
TBS (37)	Cosby	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Home Improve.	Seinfeld	
TNT (38)	Law & Order	NYPD Blue					Judging Amy	Angel	Charmed			
DSC (42)	Surprise by Design	Surprise by Design					Rally Round the House	Double Agents	Varied Programs			
A&E (47)	American Justice	Movie					Murder, She Wrote	Murder, She Wrote	City Confidential			
ESPN (49)	Varied Programs						Around the Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter			
HBO (7)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs										
DISN (17)	JoJo's Circus	Stanley	Winnie-Pooh	House of Mouse	House of Mouse	Recess	Lilo & Stitch	Recess	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Even Stevens	Sister, Sister
MAX (21)	Movie	Varied Programs					Movie	Varied Programs				

FRIDAY

APRIL 9

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	(5:59) News	Ent. Tonight	George Lopez	The Big House	Hope & Faith (N)	Life With Bonnie	The D.A. (Season Finale) (N) (CC)	News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)		
KSNK/NBC (8) (9)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Dateline NBC (CC)					News	The Tonight Show (N) (CC)	Late Night (N)		
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	Joan of Arcadia	JAG Back in the Saddle (CC) (DVS)	The District Jupiter for Sale (CC)	The District Jupiter for Sale (CC)	News (CC)	Golf: Masters	Late Show (CC)			
K15CG (3)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Wash. Week	Wall-Fortune	Market-Market	Kansas Week	Jews & Christians: A Journey of Faith	BBC World	Red Green	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)			
WGN (13)	Will & Grace	MLB Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Atlanta Braves. Turner Field. (Live) (CC)					WGN News	Becker (CC)	Becker (CC)	Eliminate	The 5th Wheel	
NICK (29)	Rugrats (CC)	SpongeBob	Jimmy Neutron	Danny Phantom	Danny Phantom	Chalk Zone	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby Show	Cosby Show
FAM (30)	7th Heaven Cutters (CC)	Movie: Rookie of the Year *** (1993, Comedy) Thomas Ian Nicholas. (CC)	Who's Line?	Who's Line?	The 700 Club (CC)	Paid Program	Paid Program					
USA (31)	Law & Order: Special Victims	Golf: The Masters -- Second Round. From Augusta, Ga. (CC)										
TBS (37)	Friends (CC)	MLB Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Atlanta Braves. Turner Field. (Live)										
TNT (38)	Law & Order Harm (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Swordfish ** 1/2 (2001, Action) John Travolta, Hugh Jackman. (ITV) (CC)	Movie: Swordfish ** 1/2 (2001, Action) John Travolta, Hugh Jackman. (ITV) (CC)	Movie: Snake Eyes ** 1/2 (1998) (CC)								
DSC (42)	Monster House (CC)	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 2	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 3	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1	American Chopper: Mike's Choice 1
A&E (47)	American Justice Night Stalker (CC)	Airline	Who Killed Laci Peterson? (CC)	Movie: Reservoir Dogs *** 1/2 (1992) Violent thieves ponder the identity of a police informant. Harvey Keitel. (CC)	Airline	Laci Peterson						
ESPN (49)	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: New Jersey Nets at Indiana Pacers. Conseco Fieldhouse. (Live) (CC)	NBA Basketball: New Jersey Nets at Indiana Pacers. Conseco Fieldhouse. (Live) (CC)	NBA Basketball: Sacramento Kings at Phoenix Suns. America West Arena. (Live) (CC)								
HBO (7)	(4:15) Movie: Harry Potter-Chamber	Deadwood (CC)	Deadwood Deep Water (CC)	Deadwood (CC)	On the Record (N)	Movie: Double Team ** 1/2 (1997)						
DISN (17)	That's Raven	Lizzie McGuire	Movie: Atlantis: Milo's Return ** (2003, Adventure) (CC)	Lilo & Stitch	Barbarian	That's Raven	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Even Stevens	Sister, Sister		
MAX (21)	(5:15) Movie: The Rich Man's Wife	Movie: Falling Down ** 1/2 (1993, Drama) Michael Douglas, Robert Duvall. (CC)			Movie: Two Weeks Notice ** 1/2 (2002) Sandra Bullock. (CC)			Bedtime Stories	Movie: Sapphire Girls (2003) (CC)			