

Dear Kurt,

You wrote on April 11, 2008:

Dear Fred,

I spoke to the senior administration, and shared your request that they consider your original proposal for resolution of the student complaint, namely the one contained within the italicized insert in the copy of the original summary, dated April 8.

In response, the senior administration directed me to inform you that You have until Monday, April 14, 5 p.m., to willingly remove from your Office door the materials described in the student complaint in order to informally resolve this complaint in a manner that is acceptable to both parties (complainant and alleged offender.)

I have removed from my door the three items described in the student's complaint. As per above the three items were removed before 5 pm on April 14, 2008. I agree that I will not post those items on my door again. I do NOT agree to this "willingly" but instead under the duress of the threat/promise of having a formal disciplinary process begin.

You also wrote:

Included in this offer of an informal resolution is the expectation, based on the institution's core values, that there will be no similar postings in the future.

This "offer" leaves me confused. How can I know what is allowed, i.e., what qualifies as "similar postings"?

Is the word Islam banned from my door?

How about the word Muslim?

How about the letter M with a slash through it?

How about the word Mohammed ?

How about my Moe Howard parody {I know you took a picture of it and have seen my door}?

Can I show a mere picture of carnage caused by a Muslim suicide bomber?

Can I caption that carnage picture "The Religion of Peace' strikes again"?

Can I print and post a complete news story about Pope Benedict baptizing (on Good Friday) a famous Italian Muslim who converted to Catholicism?

(see below)

Pope Baptizes Prominent Italian Muslim

AP Associated Press

Mar 22 09:24 PM US/Eastern

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press Writer



[Pope Baptizes Prominent Muslims at Easter Vigil](#)

VATICAN CITY (AP) - Italy's most prominent Muslim, an iconoclastic writer who condemned Islamic extremism and defended Israel, converted to Catholicism Saturday in a baptism by the pope at a Vatican Easter service.

Can I post this from the Christian Science Monitor? “The Los Angeles Times reports that the uproar came after the pope [attacked the Muslim concept of holy war](#) (jihad) as "a violation of God's will and nature."

He used the word "jihad," a politically and emotionally charged Arabic term for holy war or struggle. And he quoted a 14th-century Byzantine emperor who derided Islam and its founder, the prophet Muhammad. The emperor, Manuel II Paleologus, said, according to Benedict, that Muhammad had introduced "things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

Benedict, in the same speech, held up Christianity as the "profound encounter of faith and reason."

Can I post a news story related to the above which relates how some nuns in Africa were murdered by Muslims in retaliation for the Pope's remarks?

I would need much more information about what standards of judgment I should follow ["gospel values" are horribly vague]; or procedures you would require me to follow so that I do not run afoul of your directives.

I do not intend to violate the school's values in the future, but I DENY that the existing materials on my door (including the three I have removed), violate Marywood's values. Clarification is sorely needed. I intend to follow the Handbook expectation that everything at Marywood should follow respect for "a gospel-based value system." But this standard, too, is amazingly vague--just consider the variety of Catholic interpretations of said values in America. A vague phrase or two does not make for practical policy.

*In addition, I am not sure how prosecuting a complaint by a Muslim student about criticism of Islam in terms of **its** non-gospel values expresses support for a gospel-based value system!*

Finally, you wrote, "Please let me know if you have any questions."

*Again, I have raised questions (see above) yet I have met the 5 pm deadline for removing the material in question from my door. It is not clear to me what the resolution of those questions will be, nor is it clear how a **PRACTICAL RESOLUTION** of "...the expectation, Based on the institution's core values, that there will be no similar postings in the future" will work out.*

Sincerely,

Fred

(Frederick F. Fagal, Jr.)
April 14, 2008

PS Attached please find two photographs which prove that I have removed the offending items.