



## The Reverend Dr. Thomas E. Sagendorf

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Senator Ken Salazar  
US Senator from Colorado  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Salazar:

I commend you for calling a spade a spade with your remarks re. James Dobson and his Focus on the Family. You have hit the nail on the head. I view Dobson not at all as a representative of faithful Christianity. In fact, the man seems never to have heard of the Sermon on the Mount. Instead, Dobson is a power-hungry Southern demagogue in the tradition of Huey Long. He claims to possess a corner on the truth, have all the answers, is self-righteous to a fault, and, had he the capacity, would gladly impose his extremist political agenda on the entire nation.

Dobson is a very dangerous man!

As a retired United Methodist clergy with 40 years of pastoral experience, I am reminded of the situation I encountered in my first parish appointment. I served a circuit of three churches, one of which accurately could be called a "holiness church." I never served a congregation where the lay people quoted more scripture and claimed a greater degree of righteousness. But I soon discovered that there was a great disparity between the way they talked and the way they acted. Toward each other and toward the world.

This experience taught me a lesson that I've never forgotten. There is no more effective an arena for the Antichrist than to become clothed in religious rhetoric and pretense. To claim to represent the one true faith. This is exactly what the Dobson juggernaut has done. It is, in fact, a right-wing political/social/economic crusade wrapped in Christian language. It is the greatest of blasphemies!

Dobson is not representative of faithful Christianity. His violent, almost fascist approach to raising children, for example, is anathema to what Jesus said and taught. He must be openly confronted at every turn and identified for what he is. An impostor.

If it is correct that we shall know the truth and thereby be set free (and I certainly believe it is), your speaking the truth about James Dobson and Focus on the Family is of great service not only to the American public but to all humanity.

Keep up the good work!

Yours truly,

The Rev. Thomas E. Sagendorf

cc: James Dobson, Focus on the Family