



CATHOLICS FOR  
THE  
COMMON GOOD

A NEW CATHOLIC ACTION

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# Catholics for the Common Good

## A Lay Apostolate for the Evangelization of Culture

Inspired by Pope John Paul II, Catholics for the Common Good has developed a unique model to support the secular role of the laity in the mission of the Church. This lay-led apostolate is a bridge from the academic to the practical – introducing concepts from Catholic social teaching and insights from Christian anthropology to the culture through a network of Catholic activists.

CCG provides strategic and tactical direction to Catholic individuals and organizations on current issues of interest, and organizes them for meaningful coordinated action with information and arguments that also help them build a practical working knowledge of the principles of Catholic social teaching.

Since its founding in 2004, Catholics for the Common Good (CCG) has developed a reputation of faithfulness and effectiveness working closely with the California Catholic Conference on a wide range of issues from physician-assisted suicide to marriage and family. In 2008, the California Catholic Conference called on CCG to lead the lay Catholic part of the Proposition 8 campaign, ProtectMarriage.com.

CCG endeavors to help form the exemplary Catholic citizen as someone who understands the dignity of the human person completely and clearly, engages in social and political participation with faith, reason, and charity, is “Catholic first” before allegiance to any ideology, and is able to explain the principles of Catholic social teachings to their family and friends.

While it is common for faith-based public policy organizations to have an underlying ideology, CCG works to start with the foundational principles of the social teachings that are neither liberal nor conservative but are based on revealed truth and reason. The introduction of ideological considerations is avoided by restricting activities to issues where the application of the teachings is so clear there is little room for disagreement. These include issues such as abortion, euthanasia, embryo protection, genocide, human trafficking, marriage, family, parental rights, religious liberty, human rights, extreme poverty, etc.

The CCG way requires that faith, reason and charity be always central to social and political participation, even in the face of persecution. The true Christian advocate must prayerfully maintain solidarity with the victims of injustice rather than focus on the sins of the victimizers. Focusing on the sins of others drains grace, obstructs love, and encumbers the awareness of one's own sins.

Catholics for the Common Good, is currently working with the Executive Director of the California Catholic Conference, and the President of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, and others in the development of a major educational strategy based on Christian anthropology and principles of social teaching to reframe the debate on issues related to marriage and family.

Catholics for the Common Good (501c4)  
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