

Abp Chaput's Flawed Moral Analysis

Michael Sean Winters | Jul. 3, 2012 Distinctly Catholic

I just came across this comment by Archbishop Charles Chaput in [an interview at the National Catholic Register](#) [1]:

Q: What does the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold the constitutionality of President Obama's health-care reform legislation now mean in the struggle to defend religious freedom?

Chaput: I think it's a disappointment on the part of many of us in the Church because we had hoped the decision would make our lawsuits unnecessary. But a decision of the court is a decision of the court, and we have to accept it in a generous kind of way. We have to do all we can to make sure the position of the Church on religious freedom is clearly articulated and that the challenge to religious freedom, as embodied in the mandates from the Health and Human Services agency, are overturned.

So, if I understand the archbishop, he is saying that if the ACA had been overturned, leaving more than 30 million of his fellow citizens without any prospect of getting health insurance, that would be a fine outcome because then the lawsuits filed against the HHS mandate would be unnecessary?

Hmmmm. Getting to pull a lawsuit on the one hand. Health insurance for 30 million people, mostly the working poor on the other hand. Not much of a choice if you ask me. There is something eerily narcissistic in Abp Chaput's comments, which are also quite different from the statement issued by the USCCB. He should withdraw his comments or lay down the miter and apply to be head of a pro-GOP SuperPAC. If he continues to both, he will only eat away at what little moral authority he still has.

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Links:

[1] <http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/archbishop-chaput-its-going-to-be-a-long-fight/#ixzz1zZDtuiwC>