

Automatic excommunications

Bruskewitz gained national attention^[11] in 1996 for asserting that membership by Catholics in his diocese in the groups listed below, which he described as "totally incompatible with the Catholic Faith", would incur automatic excommunication.^[12]

- The Catholic group [Call to Action](#) and its Nebraska affiliate Call to Action Nebraska^[13]
- [Planned Parenthood](#) and its affiliate [Catholics for a Free Choice](#), for [pro-choice](#) activities
- The [Society of St. Pius X](#) and its chapel in Lincoln (Saint Michael the Archangel Chapel)^[14]
- The [Freemasons](#) and their affiliate organizations, [Job's Daughters](#), [DeMolay](#), [Eastern Star](#), [Shriners](#) and [Rainbow Girls](#)
- The [Hemlock Society](#) (now renamed [Compassion & Choices](#)) for its advocacy of [euthanasia](#).

His pronouncement was appealed to Rome, but in 2006 the ruling was upheld by [Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re](#), the Prefect of the [Congregation for Bishops](#).^{[15][16]}

The bitter controversy ignited by Bruskewitz's threatened excommunications was one of the factors that led Cardinal [Joseph Bernadin](#) to initiate his unsuccessful Common Ground Project to bring the warring American Catholic factions together.^[17]

Excerpt from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fabian_Bruskewitz