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## J. GRANT SWANK, JR.

### TRADITIONAL CATHOLIC PROFESSOR PUNISHED FOR TEACHING BELIEFS

By J. Grant Swank, Jr.

Feb 8, 2004

Hes a traditional Roman Catholic. He teaches philosophy. For teaching what he believes to be religious truth in a philosophical context, Dr. James Tuttle has been demeaned, belittled and punished outrightly before faculty and students.

He teaches in Ohio at Lakland Community College. Hes an honest man who wont mask his religious beliefs from his students. According to WorldNetDaily, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) learned that the professor has been taken from his classroom, "threatened with dismissal" and for all intents and purposes demoted.

Dr. Tuttle put his statement of belief in his syllabi so as to be completely open with prospective students. In his belief system is a traditional Catholic Christian. He is also a believer who has studied philosophy as a discipline to be taught on a liberal arts college campus.

Yet hes being told in no uncertain terms that he has to separate his beliefs from his lectures. That is impossible, given the integrity of Dr. Tuttle. "To say that a philosophy professor cannot discuss religious ideas is to render him incapable of meaningful discussion of some of the greatest minds in the history of his field. Feminists are not forced to veil their feminism, and Catholic philosophers should be free to be Catholic philosophers," stated Greg Lukianoff, director of legal and public advocacy for FIRE.

It was in March

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