

If that is true, and by “help” you mean a government program, it is a profound indictment of a people gone to seed. This country was not founded, populated, or made great by people who believed people need some help from government.

It is true that there will always be people who need help. I believe Jesus said as much. But to the extent we conclude from that datum that government must intervene, we do a disservice to those we are supposedly helping, as well as the people from whom we are stealing to provide the “help.”

Politicians shouldn’t be yelling at people in need; nor should they be promising to lift their neighbors’ wallets to alleviate their poverty. They should be getting out of the way so Burke’s “little platoons” can provide real help.

When once a politician picks a pocket to satisfy a constituent, he will never stop . . . and the only limiting principle becomes how much he can pinch without getting punched.

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## THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN FORMING A “CLEAR, VIBRANT, WINSOME, AND EFFECTIVE ‘WORLD VIEW’”

*Posted on November 7, 2012 by Daniel Kelly*

**F**ATHER SIRICO, OVER ON THE CORNER, SAYS ONE OF THE REASONS Romney did not win yesterday is that the church has failed to play a robust role in the civic life of our society. I couldn't say it better myself, and so I'll let him:

Finally, and with specific application to our religious institutions, now under more governmental threat than at most any other time in the history of the Republic, there must be a recognition of failure on our part to make persuasive, compelling, and authentic the message and identity we bear. The very existence of our social-service institutions is taken for granted at the moment that these have themselves lost their own *raison d'être* (witness the wholesale sell-out of Catholic Bishops by the Catholic Hospital Association in the face of the HHS mandate, among others). At least with regards to the Catholic bishops in the United States, along with various movements of Evangelical Protestants, there is a growing recognition of a failure in our role in forming a clear, vibrant, winsome, and effective "world view." The recognition is growing, as I say, but what this election gives evidence of is that we have a great deal more yet to accomplish.

I hope it's not too late.

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