

3 Sir Constantine Drive
Markham, Ontario
L3P 2X1
January 20, 1981

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Committees and Private
Legislation Branch
Comités et Législation Privée

To: The office of the Prime Minister
Mr. John Gamble - MP York North
Mr. Serge Joyal - MP
The Honourable Senator Harry Hayes

Sub

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus, St. Patricks Markham - Council #7689, may I take this opportunity to provide you with our comments and concerns relative to your consideration of a New Constitution for Canada.

We have two specific concerns: The first is the continuation of the current provision of the British North America Act that provides tax support to Separate Catholic education for the children of Canada's Roman Catholics. We sincerely hope that a revised constitution will continue to preserve the Catholicity of those schools.

Our second concern while much more contentious is of equal importance to the Roman Catholics of this country. We respectfully submit that any provision of a Bill of Rights must also consider the rights of those Canadians conceived but not yet born. Our current abortion laws deny the very right of human existence to the unborn.

Our prayers and best wishes are with you for the important and critical decisions facing you this year.

Yours Very truly

Terrance G. Ryan

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C.C. - Mr. Russell J. Cadiau
Warden - Ontario Council
Knights of Columbus