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Nancy Pelosi, Late-Term Abortion, & ‘Sacred Ground’

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by [KATHRYN JEAN LOPEZ](#) June 13, 2013 1:57 PM

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As Ramesh [notes](#), during a press conference today, Nancy Pelosi got annoyed at a male reporter for bringing up Kermit Gosnell and asking her about late-term abortion.

Calling what happened in Gosnell’s clinic “reprehensible,” she took the I’m-a-mother-and-you’re-a-man approach (which is just another version of an approach [seen](#) on MSNBC last night), adding: “As a practicing and respectful Catholic, this is sacred ground to me when we talk about this.”

She added: “This shouldn’t have anything to do with politics.”

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REIHAN SALAM

@RadioFreeTom Sounds about right to me.
[@reihan](#)

JONAH GOLDBERG

@MediocreClimbAb well, if you don't know jack about the history of the term ideology you can be forgiven for thinking that
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PHOTO ESSAY

KRAMPUS COMES TO TOWN

Pelosi: Late-term abortions 'sacred'



It's unclear what exactly in the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church would lead her to believe that law protecting innocent human life wouldn't be a priority of a "practicing and respectful Catholic."

In the evasion, it's hard not to interpret her introduction of religion into the backlash against a simple question as an attempt to use religion as cover. [It certainly wouldn't be a first.](#)

Additionally, it's unclear what exactly was reprehensible about what happened in Gosnell's clinic, in Pelosi's estimation. Was it that an adult woman died? Because Nancy Pelosi probably passes prettier clinics — perhaps [the one next to a George Washington University dorm](#) — that are okay with that whole born-alive approach to abortion-completion.

It's also entirely unclear what this "sacred ground" she speaks of is. Human life is; shutting a man down for asking an honest question is nothing but a contribution to our continued collective [looking away](#). Would she agree with [Leroy Carhart](#) in [sacramentalizing abortion](#) — even in its latest stages — itself?

Thanks to [John McCormack](#) for asking and for flagging. He is another one of those blessed men (thank you, too, Ramesh, author of an [excellent book](#) on the topic, which remains a resource) who care about women and children.

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