

Duquesne University

Duquesne Scholarship Collection

Hallowed Secularism

The Collective Works of Bruce Ledewitz, Adrian
Van Kaam C.S.Sp. Endowed Chair in Scholarly
Excellence and Professor of Law

1-3-2012

January 3, 2012: Jacques Berlinerblau's anti-Religion List

Bruce Ledewitz

Duquesne University, ledewitz@duq.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dsc.duq.edu/ledewitz-hallowedsecularism>



Part of the [Constitutional Law Commons](#), and the [Law and Philosophy Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Ledewitz, B. (2012). January 3, 2012: Jacques Berlinerblau's anti-Religion List. Retrieved from <https://dsc.duq.edu/ledewitz-hallowedsecularism/608>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the The Collective Works of Bruce Ledewitz, Adrian Van Kaam C.S.Sp. Endowed Chair in Scholarly Excellence and Professor of Law at Duquesne Scholarship Collection. It has been accepted for inclusion in Hallowed Secularism by an authorized administrator of Duquesne Scholarship Collection. For more information, please contact beharyr@duq.edu.

Title: Jacques Berlinerblau's anti-Religion List

Date: 2012-01-03T04:10:00.002-05:00

1/3/2012—Jacques Berlinerblau, Director of the Program for Jewish Civilization at Georgetown, has listed on the Washington Post <http://www.blogger.com/img/blank.gif> On Faith blog, his list of Top 10 religion stories to watch. Two of these stories illustrate the needlessly adversarial tendencies of the academic left when it comes to religion. The first is his praise of the decision of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg not to allow clergy to speak at the tenth commemoration of the 9/11 attacks. What is so wonderful about that? Why is it not like saying he kept away poets? No wonder religious people believe that religion is under attack in America. Berlinerblau will not be satisfied until all religious images and references are banned in the public square. Aside from that, it is likely that this principled stand that Berlinerblau admired had nothing to do with the separation of church and state and was simple prejudice to keep a Muslim cleric from speaking at the event. Berlinerblau is praising bigotry. Number six on Berlinerblau is the failure of the effort by Bronx Household of Faith, from holding its Sunday services at Public School 15, where it has worshiped since 2002. The denial of a community group to use public property available to everyone else merely because the group is religious and its proposed use is religious is probably unconstitutional. We shall see. But whether it is unconstitutional or not, this is discrimination against the private expression of religion. What business is it of the government what use I intend to make of public property when it is available to all? What's next? Government censorship of unpopular messages at public parks? The use was on Sunday when any community group is permitted to use the space. If you don't want religion, don't open up government property to everyone else.