

Religious Freedom Coalition

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Why Does Robert Novak reprint liberal lies?

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In his February 16, 2006 column, "[Menaced Holy Land Christians](#)" Robert Novak falls in with the anti-Israeli liberals like Al Sharpton who blame Israel for the problems of Christians in the Holy Land. His "proof" is the tiny village of Aboud which stands in the way of Israel's security fence.

Meanwhile Novak had no time to interview Professor Justus Weiner who was in Washington, DC that same week to publicize his new book, [Human Rights of Christians in the Palestinian Society](#). The book culminates eight years of research by Justus Weiner, who is a scholar in residence at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and a human rights attorney. In his book Justus Weiner details how Christians have been persecuted by the Muslim majority in the birthplace of Christ.

More than once the Religious Freedom Coalition has provided to Mr. Novak's office, and to the entire establishment news media as well, materials describing the plight of the dwindling number of Christians in Bethlehem.

Meanwhile, the Christian population of Israel has more than doubled in the last decade and a good number of the men and women who serve in the Israeli Defense forces take their oath on the New Testament. Mr. Novak does not understand the complicated relationship of evangelicals with Israel because he has never felt the need to spend any time with those of us who actually work in that area of the world.

As chairman of the Religious Freedom Coalition I would be willing to discuss the real situation of Christians in the Holy Land with Mr. Novak on air, any time, in any venue. I would also be happy to arrange interviews for Mr. Novak with numerous persecuted Christians in Bethlehem who do not blame Israel for their plight. Indeed, I will pay for the phone calls!

Above is the statement of William J. Murray, chairman of the Washington, DC based Religious Freedom Coalition concerning the Novak column mentioned above. Mr. Murray is available for media.

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