

# Why appeal to conscience when you can misrepresent the church instead?

By [Steve Thorngate](#)

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[Candidate John F. Kennedy:](#)

If  
the time should ever come--and I do not concede any conflict to be remotely possible--when my office would require me to either violate my conscience or violate the national interest, then I would resign the office.

[Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia:](#)

If I  
thought that Catholic doctrine held the death penalty to be immoral, I would resign. I could not be a part of a system that imposes it.

[Mark Silk:](#)

What  
[Scalia] has done, then, is make his church's doctrine do the work that Kennedy assigned to his conscience, and in the process fibbed.

[More.](#)