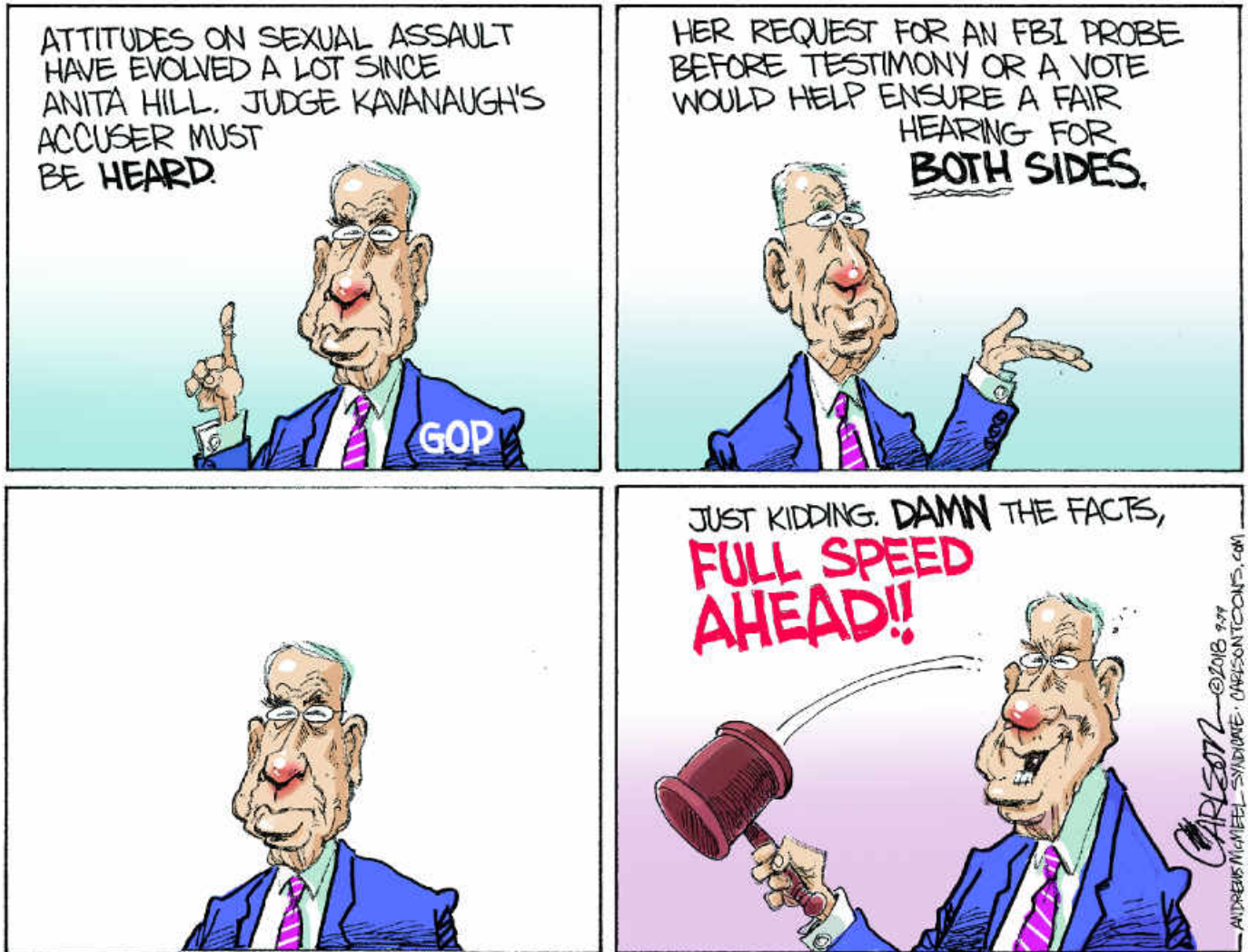


[Opinion](#)



by Dennis Coday

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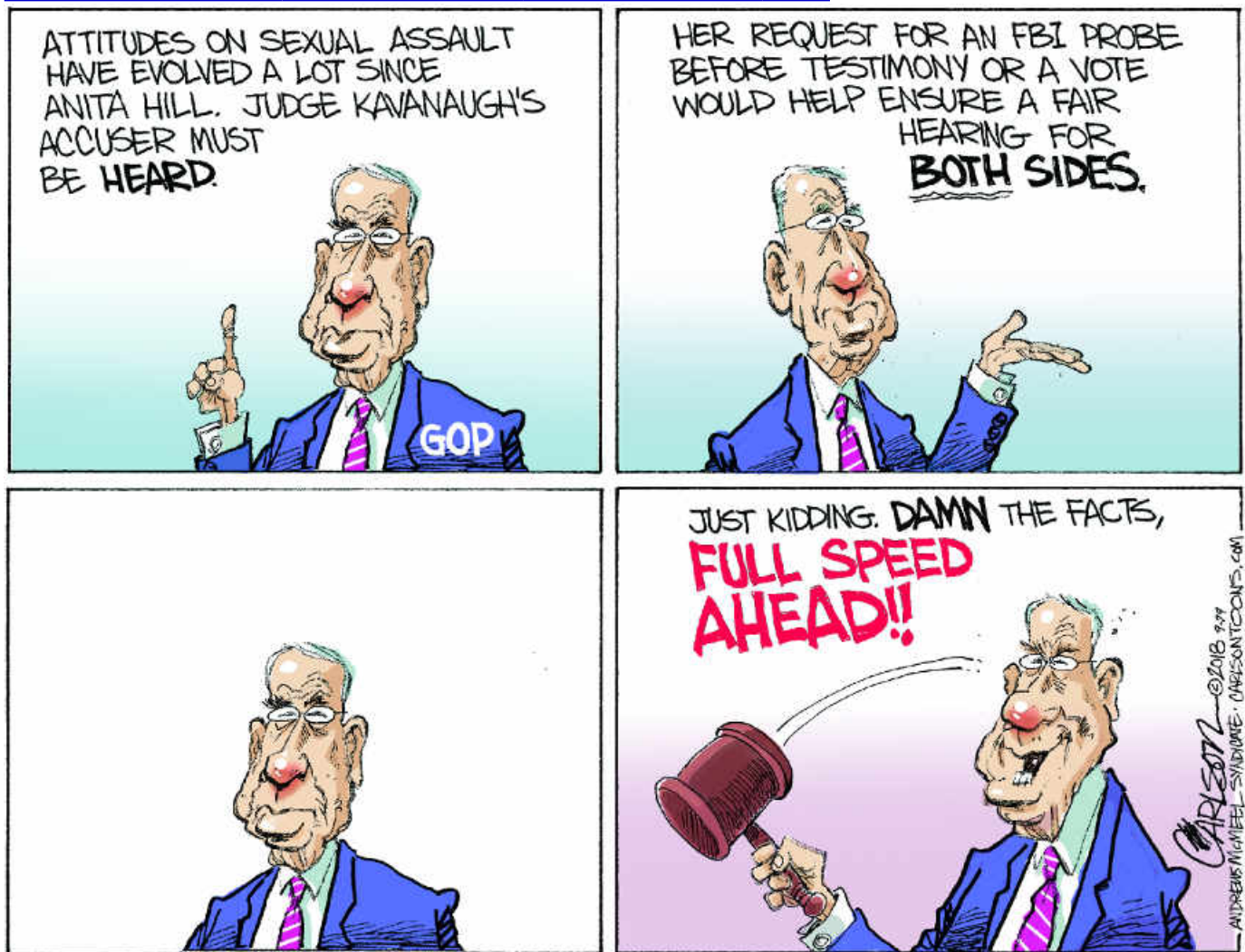
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September 21, 2018

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V Encuentro -- The four-year nationwide consultation with the Hispanic Catholic community -- is happening in Grapevine, Texas, this weekend. Stay with NCR for complete coverage. Here's a couple of pieces to introduce you to the topic: [V Encuentro to be an 'expression of community'](#)

On "NCR in Conversation," the NCR podcast, Soli Salgado, staff writer for Global Sisters Report who covers issues related to Hispanic communities and social justice, talks about [Hispanic Catholics to gather at V Encuentro](#)

Read all of NCR's coverage of this issue at [La Iglesia Hispana.](#)

Meanwhile, Pope Francis will be visiting Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia Sept. 22-25. What's that all about? [Pope's upcoming trip signals support for nations on](#)

[Russia's periphery](#)

In the U.S. of A., amid more church sex abuse revelations, approval of Pope Francis has dropped to 53 percent among the general public. [But U.S. Catholics still support him.](#)

[Pope Francis accepted the resignations of two more Chilean bishops,](#) bringing to seven the number of bishops who have stepped down since June in response to the clerical sexual abuse scandal in their country.

A Religion News Service reporter Jack Jenkins talks with Washington magazine about what it's like to be covering the church now: [Understanding the Controversy Over Washington's Cardinal Wuerl.](#)

Benedictine Sr. Joan Chittister says that in the midst of the angst that has accompanied the revelation of unparalleled amounts of sexual abuse of children in the Catholic Church, [the cry for reform gets louder by the day.](#)

Here's a follow up to a story I mentioned in Monday's Morning Briefing: [Pope names administrator as Indian bishop investigated for alleged rape](#)

Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men [have sold the Silver Spring, Maryland, building they've co-owned since 1982](#) and shared with other Catholic organizations.

Start your day inspired with daily Scripture reflections. Join NCR's sister publication, Celebration, for [Daily Bread](#), a series of short reflections written by four authors who meet regularly to share the readings.

Or reflect on [Pencil Preaching by Pat Marrin](#). Every morning Pat Marrin breaks open the Word with a pencil sketch and a short meditation.

Pope Francis' exhortation [Gaudete et Exsultate \("Rejoice and Be Glad"\)](#) has inspired many. NCR and Celebration have the resources to help you on your [journey of 'small holiness'](#).

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Defying orders from his archbishop, a Chicago priest went ahead with plans to burn a rainbow flag and revealed he had taken more actions **to erase his parish's history of being LGBT-friendly.**

The new conservative focus on homosexuality in the clergy as a root cause of the abuse crisis has brought the longstanding debate over Catholic teaching on sexuality into sharper focus. **Sex Abuse Scandal Deepens Divide Over Gay Priests**

A former nuclear launch officer is warning that President Donald Trump's nuclear weapons strategy is encouraging **an arms race that could increase the chances of a catastrophic nuclear war.**

Germany's Faith-Based Sanctuary Activists Have Created a National Movement. **Participating groups include both Protestants and Catholics.** But it's under growing pressure from politicians waging war on the right to asylum.