

Published on *National Catholic Reporter* (<https://www.ncronline.org>)

March 31, 2010 at 10:20am

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## Covering the coverage

by Heidi Schlumpf

NCR Today

The Catholic media often analyze how the secular media cover the church--specifically the sex abuse story. Now a secular publication--the *Atlantic*--is analyzing how Catholic media are covering it.

NCR gets high marks, as do *Commonweal* and *America*. Not surprisingly, the *National Catholic Register*, a conservative publication, is more concerned about anti-Catholic spin from the secular media than with the crimes committed by priests.

I take issue with the author's opinion that NCR's March 26 editorial represents a "turning point in the publication's coverage of the scandal." The editorial's call for accountability is just the latest in years--no, decades--of strongly worded observations and appeals from this newspaper's editors, columnists and reporters.

Still, it's interesting that the *Atlantic* thought it worth analyzing Catholic coverage. And even more interesting that three of the four publications chosen are more progressive ones. I wonder what they would say about diocesan newspapers' coverage?

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