

## Covering the coverage

Heidi Schlumpf | Mar. 31, 2010 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](#) [1]--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](#) [2] 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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### Links:

[1] <http://www.theatlanticwire.com/opinions/view/opinion/Catholic-Publications-Response-to-the-Abuse-Crisis-3000>

[2] <http://ncronline.org/news/accountability/credibility-gap-pope-needs-answer-questions>