



# Defending the Family

The Fifth Annual St. Thomas More Lenten Seminar on  
Law and Morality

Friday, April 2, 2004

9:30 a.m.–4:45 p.m.

The University of Dallas, Haggar Student Center

Sponsored by:

The St. Thomas More Society Catholic Attorneys Guild of the Diocese of Dallas  
and

The Center for Thomas More Studies, University of Dallas

For the Catholic lawyer, integrating one's faith into one's practice is an ongoing, but necessary, struggle. Perhaps in no area of the law is that tension more apparent than when issues affecting the family arise. As social pressures are exerted to redefine and restructure the family, the Catholic lawyer is faced with many moral and ethical challenges. In the context of examining the current assaults on the traditional view of the family, this Seminar will present a philosophical and moral framework that each lawyer can use not only in defending the family, but in all areas of their practice.

The specific objectives of this program are to:

- increase the lawyer's historical and philosophic understanding of the natural law and its relation to positive law in the context of issues affecting the family
- explore some of the specific ethical challenges present to Catholic attorneys
- provide a framework for making the ethical decisions that shape the practice of law

## Schedule

8:45–9:30	Registration and Check-in <i>Haggar Center Lobby</i>
9:00–9:20	Rosary <i>Chapel of the Incarnation</i>
9:30–9:45 a.m.	Welcome & Introductions
9:45–10:35	John Paul II Speaks to Lawyers <i>Tim Taylor, M.T.S., J.D.</i>
10:45–12:00	“Speaking of Religion AND the Secular: A Dangerous and Present Bifurcation.” <i>Iain Benson, M.A., L.L.B.</i>
12:05–1:30	Mass and lunch
1:30–2:20	“What is Marriage? Understanding the Issues.” <i>Mark Lowery, Ph.D.</i>
2:20–3:10	“Civil Unions and Same Sex Marriage” <i>Iain Benson, M.A., L.L.B.</i>
3:30–4:30	“Natural Law Liberalism” <i>Christopher Wolfe, Ph.D.</i>
4:30–4:45	Closing and Evaluation

## CLE

*Defending the Family* has been approved for **4.75 hours of Continuing Legal Education, including 4.75 ethics hours**, by the State Bar of Texas.

## Registration

We ask that you pre-register for the seminar via e-mail to [slesko@alum.iup.edu](mailto:slesko@alum.iup.edu), providing your name and the name of your firm, by 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 31, 2004. Please complete the separate registration form and bring it, along with the **registration fee of \$95.00**, to the seminar to complete your registration.

## Presenters

### Tim Taylor, M.T.S., J.D.

Tim Taylor is a partner with the law firm of Andrews Kurth LLP, where he has practiced since 1996. He received his JD with honors from the University of Texas School of Law, and also studied law at Queen Mary & Westfield College in London, England. He received his B.A. from Northwestern University, and holds a Masters in Theological Studies from the Institute for Religious and Pastoral Studies at the University of Dallas. Tim is the current President of the St. Thomas More Society.

### Iain Benson, M.A., L.L.B.

A Canadian citizen born in Scotland, Iain Benson has degrees from Queen's University (Honours English); Cambridge University (law) and Windsor (law). Called to the British Columbia Bar in 1985 he initially practiced in Vancouver. From 1987 - 1993 he was Senior Counsel to the Labour Relations Board in British Columbia. He has served on the medical ethics committee of a large Vancouver hospital and has presented at medical conferences across the world. For the past decade he has worked for the Centre for Cultural Renewal; in 1998 he became the Centre's first Executive Director. He has recently been invited to become Senior Legal Scholar at the Becket Institute at St. Hugh's College, Oxford, a position he plans to take up later in 2004.

### Mark Lowery, Ph.D.

Dr. Mark Lowery is an Associate Professor at the University of Dallas, where he has taught in the Theology Department since 1988. Dr. Lowery holds Ph.D. and M.A. in Systematic Theology and a B.A. in Theology and Philosophy, all from Marquette University. He now specializes in moral theology and has a particular love for Catholic Social Thought. He is a member of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists and University Faculty for Life. He is Assistant Documentation Editor for the *Catholic Social Science Review* and a contributing editor for *Envoy*, a magazine of Catholic apologetics and evangelization. His latest book, *Living the Good Life*, was published in fall 2003.

### Christopher Wolfe, Ph.D.

Christopher Wolfe is a professor of political science at Marquette University. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Notre Dame in 1971 with a major in government and went on to study political philosophy at Boston College, receiving his Ph.D. in 1978. During his graduate studies he "migrated" from political philosophy to American political thought and Constitutional Law. He taught at Assumption College from 1975 to 1978 and came to Marquette in 1978. He chaired the political science department from 1997-2000. Dr. Wolfe's main area of research and teaching has been Constitutional Law. He has written several books on the subject, including *The Rise of Modern Judicial Review: From Constitutional Interpretation to Judge-Made Law, Judicial Activism: Bulwark of Liberty or Precarious Security?* and *How to Read the Constitution*. Dr. Wolfe is currently working on a long-term project on Liberalism, Natural Law, and American