

May 1997

Dear Producer,

Should our kids go to church? Should they have religion?

In today's world religion is not as cut and dry as it once was. Often, in past years, whatever religion our parents believed in, was what we were to believe in also. However, it is not that easy of a decision anymore. What if neither you nor your partner feels strongly about the religion you were brought up believing? How do you go about deciding what religion your children should believe in, if you no longer believe in it yourselves? America has addressed this subject, but never really dealt with it.

Parents who are questioning their own beliefs still may want their families to have some kind of spiritual core. In **RAISING SPIRITUAL CHILDREN IN A MATERIAL WORLD**, (Berkley Trade; April 1, 1997; \$12.00), author Phil Catalfo provides guidance for today's parents who are struggling with these issues.

Based on hundreds of interviews with parents who have faced the challenge of defining their own faith while guiding their childrens', **RAISING SPIRITUAL CHILDREN IN A MATERIAL WORLD** reveals how parents can explore their own personal beliefs while explaining them to their children. Catalfo emphasizes the importance of each individual finding a spiritual practice with which they can agree and be comfortable.

Catalfo, a widely published freelance writer specializing in topics such as spirituality and parenting, recommends creating rituals that will enable parents to help their children discover an authentic faith that promotes compassion, tolerance, and respect. Most of all, he focuses on modern parents' search for spiritual practice that draws on, but is not limited to, their own religious heritage.

I am confident you will find Phil Catalfo to be a perfect guest for your show, and this topic to be very important and timely. For further information, please feel free to contact me at 212/951-8922.

Sincerely,

Susan Douglass
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