## Head of SSPX Refuses to Condemn Bishop Williamson for Holocaust Denial, Damian Thompson, Telegraph, January 23, 2009

Head of SSPX "Refuses to Condemn Bishop Williamson for Holocaust Denial"

By Damian Thompson Telegraph January 23, 2009

http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/damian\_thompson/blog/2009/01/23/head\_of\_sspx\_refuses\_to\_condemn\_bishop\_williams on\_for\_holocaust\_denial



Damian Thompson [the letter]

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To Whom It May Concern.

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am the General Superior of the Society of Saint Pius X. I have been informed of an interview granted by Bishop Williamson, a member of our Society, to the Swedish TV and scheduled to be broadcasted this evening. Although it had been understood that the interview would deal with religious issues only, the reporter asked the bishop's opinion concerning historical matters. It is obvious that a bishop can only speak about questions of faith and morals with any ecclesiastical authorithy. If he deals with secular issues, he is personally responsible for his own private opinions. The Society I am governing has no authorithy to address such issues, nor will it ever claim such authorithy. Our one and only objective is the restoration of the traditional doctrine within the Catholic Church. For this reason, we are accepted, respected and esteemed worldwide. It is shameful to use an interview on religious matters to introduce secular and controversial issues with the obvious intention of misrepresenting and maligning the activity of our religious Society. Such vile attempt will not reach its goal. The Society of Saint Pius X will not renounce its intention to bring the true Catholic Faith and sacraments to Swedish Catholics who have a right to both.

Menzingen, 21th January 2009.

Hernard Fellay

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A letter has appeared on the internet attributed to Bishop Bernard Fellay, head of the Lefebvrist Society of St Pius X. In it, the bishop (or someone pretending to be him) pointedly fails to criticise his fellow SSPX bishop, Richard Williamson, for denying the existence of Nazi gas chambers in a television interview.

Instead, the letter attacks the "vile" behaviour of the Swedish TV company for daring to ask Williamson "secular" questions. "Although it had been understood that the interview would deal with religious issues only, the reporter asked the bishop's opinion concerning historical matters ... It is shameful to use an interview on religious matters to introduce secular and controversial issues with the obvious intention of misrepresenting and maligning the activity of our religious Society. Such [a] vile attempt will not reach its goal."

I find it simply incredible that Bishop Fellay would refuse to comment on Bishop Williamson's claim that there were no Nazi gas chambers; you can see the TV interview here.

If this letter is genuine, then Fellay is turning a blind eye to the wicked madness of one of his bishops; if it is a fake, he must say so immediately.

I know that the issue of lifting excommunications is separate from an individual's historical opinions, however nasty. But Catholics and public opinion throughout the world will be appalled if the Pope does not address this matter before any action is taken. I do not wish to belong to the same Church as Williamson - or, if the letter is authentic, Fellay.