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## Diocese Repudiates Partisan Attack

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# NEWS RELEASE



# University of San Diego

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## DIOCESE REPUDIATES PARTISAN ATTACK

SAN DIEGO, Calif. --The Office of the Chancery of the Diocese of San Diego issued a statement refuting a leaflet attacking U. S. Senatorial candidate, Alan Cranston, distributed during Cranston's appearance Wednesday at the University of San Diego.

The Very Rev. Roger Lechner, Vice Chancellor and Secretary, said the Diocese has no knowledge of the group that made the attack, and that the Most Rev. Francis J. Furey, Bishop of San Diego, named on the leaflet as honorary chairman, has no relationship with the group.

The statement says, "Our attention has been called to a leaflet which was circulated among those present at Mr. Alan Cranston's talk to University of San Diego student body at noon today.

"It amounts to a personal attack on Mr. Cranston and purports to be the product of a group named 'Catholic Citizens for a Decent America' whose 'Honorary Chairman' is stated to be Bishop Francis J. Furey.

"The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego has no knowledge of the existence, or the identity of the members of the group and has not sponsored it, or the material it circulated at Mr. Cranston's talk.

(more)

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Bishop Furey has not accepted any 'honorary chairmanship' of 'Catholic Citizens for a Decent America.'

"In other words the mimeographed statement is not only misleading, but is false. The Catholic Church has not participated and has no intention of participating in the campaigns of Mr. Max Rafferty or Mr. Alan Cranston, or in any partisan political campaign and emphatically disavows any connection with the scruilous, **spurious and irresponsible** leaflet."

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