



David Roemer &lt;david@dkroemer.com&gt;

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**University Chaplain, Family Engagement, Public Safety**

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David Roemer &lt;david@dkroemer.com&gt;

Thu, Sep 22, 2016 at 4:16 PM

To: skg56@columbia.edu, "Bollinger, Lee" &lt;officeofthepresident@columbia.edu&gt;

Dear Mr. Bollinger,

I am a retired New York City high school teacher, and I'd like to give the students and faculty of Columbia University a learner-centered lesson on the arguments for God's existence. I've attached the hand-out I would use. My ideas about the topic are expressed in the following article.

[https://www.academia.edu/23340072/WHY\\_PEOPLE\\_BELIEVE\\_GOD\\_CAUSED\\_THE\\_BIG\\_BANG](https://www.academia.edu/23340072/WHY_PEOPLE_BELIEVE_GOD_CAUSED_THE_BIG_BANG)

On Sept. 15, I communicated this offer to the University Chaplain in an email. There was no response to this email, however, I got a call from your Department of Public Safety and met with Deidre Fuchs and a member of her staff in Low Library this afternoon. Ms. Fuchs told me that Chaplain Davis was not interested in sponsoring such an event. Ms. Fuchs also said that Chaplain Davis discussed the matter with all of the Religious Life Advisors on her staff and that no one was interested in my offer. Ms. Fuchs also told me that I would be guilty of harassment if I contacted the Religious Life Leaders with my offer. I understand this to be a threat to file a civil or criminal charges against me if I send emails, write letters, or telephone the various Religious Life Advisors with my offer. I am writing to warn you that any legal action taken against me for contacting the members of the Religious Life Advisors will result in a civil action by me against Columbia U.

I was also warned not to contact again two undergraduates I sent emails to on March 16, Aug. 13, and Aug. 20. This matter concerns you directly, I believe, because I have communicated about this matter to James Valentini and Matthew Patashnick to no avail.

On March 16, I sent emails to the two co-Presidents of the Catholic Campus Ministry offering to give my lesson. The only response I got was from Fr. O'Reilly who said, "If you contact them again, you will hear from our Safe Environment lawyers who deal with the endangerment and entrapment of minors." I am concerned that the content of my email and Fr. O'Reilly's irrational behavior scandalized the undergraduates. I told Cardinal Dolan about my concerns, but to my knowledge, Cardinal Dolan has done nothing to make sure the students understand the reasons for believing in God and the arguments for God's existence. I believe Msgr. Paddock is the student's pastor. I am asking you to ask Msgr. Paddock to make sure he is carrying out his priestly responsibilities.

My correspondence with the Archdiocese of New York is here:

<http://www.newevangelist.me>

Very truly yours,

David Roemer

[347-414-2285](tel:347-414-2285)

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 **Lesson on God's Existence.pdf**  
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