

By
Joe Sixpack



The Every Catholic Guy

The Dirty House

Once the governor of a state, visiting a mining district, called at some of the miners' homes. The honor of being visited by the governor was greatly appreciated by most, but one woman, when she saw him coming with his entourage, shut the door and hid herself. After knocking in vain at the door, the governor tried at the next house and received a warm welcome.

Later some of her neighbors asked the woman why she hadn't wanted the governor to visit. "I *did* want to see him," she said, "but my house was in such a state, everything so dirty, that I couldn't ask any one in, let alone the governor."

This lady's house being filthy is like the state of a person's soul when they're in mortal sin. Though Jesus knows this soul and wishes to come in via Holy Communion, He knocks and knocks in vain. That soul is unworthy to receive Him, because it's spiritually dead. A state of mortal sin is the only thing that should stop you from receiving the divine Guest.

Oh, wait a minute. I forgot. A majority of Catholics don't really care about pesky little things like mortal sin anymore. They don't worry about abusing Jesus by receiving Him while in a state of mortal sin—a sacrilege. I'm not like St. Padre Pio, who could see the state of a person's soul, but I'm enough like Sherlock Holmes that I can deduce certain assumptive facts from the evidence at hand.

If you're in a typical parish church, then almost everyone goes to Communion at Mass. Assuming everyone's in a state of grace, that's a good thing. But the evidence forces us to conclude that most communicants *are not* in a state of grace—that most are in a state of mortal sin. How do we reach that conclusion?

To begin, although nearly everyone goes to Communion, there are very few (if any at all sometimes) who go to Confession. Priests used to dedicate every Saturday, all day, to hearing confessions. Just as nearly all people today go to Communion, then nearly all people went to confession every week. The unfortunate reality today is that most priests set aside 15-45 minutes out of a 128 hour week to hear confessions, because nobody shows up!

One of the very few things I know a lot about is the effects of original sin. I'm an expert on this because the effects of original sin are alive and well in my soul. The neat thing about recognizing this is that I also know the effects of original sin are alive and well in your soul too. There's no such thing as someone who doesn't experience those effects.

Although we've all had original sin cleansed from our souls through baptism, the effects of original sin remain. That means we're *all* inclined toward evil and subject to ignorance, suffering and

death. Since it can be pretty much assumed that none of the people reading this were immaculately conceived, sin is a given, and that sin must be confessed.

Strictly speaking, only mortal sin must be absolutely confessed. Additional evidence suggests that the vast majority of Catholics are blood-soaked in mortal sin today, but the short or non-existent confession lines also suggest that those mortal sins aren't being confessed.

By Catholics' own admission, 90% of them use artificial contraception. This gravely violates the fifth and sixth commandments of God. There really isn't any need to explain why this violates the sixth commandment, because the practice has been condemned by the Catholic Church for 2000 years, and Judaism for 5000 years. That's pretty much established, then. But why does it make Catholics guilty of murder? Well, because all chemical, as well as many non-chemical, contraceptives are proven to be abortifacients. Millions of babies go down sewer lines every single year, a crime worse than direct abortion by sheer numbers, and the mothers don't even realize it.

Another piece of evidence that the majority of Catholics are steeped in mortal sin (men, at least) is the fact that almost 70% of male Catholics admit to the use of pornography. It goes without saying that the use of pornography gravely violates the sixth and ninth commandments. Pornography is addictive and causes men to objectify women as objects of pleasure rather than appreciate them and their God-given dignity as they deserve. Pornography is incredibly destructive to the person using it, relationships and families.

(By the way, there's an epidemic of pornography abuse among children today. Children as young as ten have been charged with multiple sex crimes after viewing pornography. Don't smugly say this can't happen to your child, if you give him a smart phone as his cell phone. You have no idea what he's doing with it, because you can't monitor his Internet activity.)

I don't have room here to make a deeper case for proof that most Catholics are actually living in a state of mortal sin, piling up more mortal sins with each sacrilegious Communion. I think I don't really need to, unless you're so much of a liar that you can't even admit the truth to yourself. Actually, if you're in that bad of shape, we may as well perform a dirge for you: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. You've got no chance of being able to come with the rest of us."

So what's the solution? Now? Today? For starters, if you know this applies to you and you're reading this before Mass, don't go to Communion. You'll only make things worse for yourself. See all the people sitting around you? Guess what. They won't be there when you have to stand before Almighty God to be judged and hear Him tell you to go to hell. You'll be all alone. So do the right thing all alone.

Go to confession. Don't go to Father's regularly scheduled confession time. Make an appointment, because you really need to come clean with him. Coming clean with Father is coming clean with Jesus. The things I've talked about here and the state your soul is in? Well, that didn't happen over night. You really need some good alone time with Father.

A part of making a good confession is a firm resolve not to sin again, so make up your mind to stay away from mortal sin as surely as you'd avoid the plague... or the IRS (perhaps they're one and the same). I can tell you from personal experience that when you have the reasonable assurance that your soul is free of mortal sin, you'll adopt a whole new outlook on life, you'll have far better relationships with others, and (best of all) you'll have a reasonable expectation you'll get to live in heaven with Jesus and Mary for all eternity.