

Concordia Seminary

801 DE MUN AVENUE SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63105
TELEPHONE: (314) 721-5934

September 24, 1976

This institution is owned, operated, and significantly supported financially by The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, the second largest Lutheran convention or association of churches in North America.

This institution claims a religious exemption under 45 C.F.R. S86.12(b) to the extent that its policies and practices involving both students and employees reflect the fact that only men may be ministers within The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod.

Ralph A. Bohlmann

Ralph A. Bohlmann
President

Concordia Seminary

801 DE MUN AVENUE SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63105
TELEPHONE: (314) 721-5934

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 1, 1985

Mr. Jesse L. High
Regional Director
Office for Civil Rights
Department of Education,
Region VII
324 East Eleventh St.
Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Mr. High:

RE: Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

This letter is in response to your letter of June 27 and is supplemental to the material previously filed on behalf of Concordia Seminary in September, 1976.

Concordia Seminary, a theological seminary owned and controlled by The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, claims an exemption from the provisions of Title IX based upon Statutes Section 1681 (1) (3) and Regulations Section 86.12* which specify that Title IX does "not apply to an educational institution which is controlled by a religious organization if the application . . . would not be consistent with the religious tenets of such organization." Specifically a determination of exemption is requested with respect to the activities subject to Regulations 86.21 Admissions, 86.22 Preference in Admission, 86.23 Recruitment, 86.31 Education Programs and Activities, 86.32 Housing, 86.34 Access to Course Offerings, 86.37 Financial Assistance, 86.38 Employment Assistance to Students, and 86.51 Employment.

*All citations to Regulations are to those as amended and revised as of October 1, 1984.

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In each case the tenet of the religious organization which controls Concordia Seminary is the one which prohibits the ordination of women as pastors of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Since Concordia Seminary exists to train men for ordination into the pastoral ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, it directs its recruitment efforts to those who will qualify for such ministry, and will give preference as to admissions, education programs and activities, housing, course offerings, financial assistance, employment assistance and otherwise to men. Although Concordia Seminary does not automatically refuse admission or access to course offerings or other programs of the Seminary to women, it does reserve the right to exclude them if circumstances warrant that, and in any event makes it clear that admission and access to courses will not produce the same result as for men, namely ordination into the pastoral ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

In addition, since the educating of prospective pastors is generally accomplished through those who themselves are pastors of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Seminary gives preference to men in faculty and certain staff positions which it regards as necessary or desirable as being filled by pastors.

If additional detail is required in order for you to process the Seminary's application for exemption, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



Karl L. Barth
President

KLB:pjd

cc: Mr. Philip E. Draheim
Draheim & Pranschke
Attorneys at Law