



DIVINE WORD COLLEGE  
Epworth, IA 52045

Office of the President  
(319) 876-3354  
(319) 876-3262

May 20, 1977

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS  
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare  
Post Office Box 8214  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Divine Word College, Epworth, Iowa, hereby claims exemption under 45 C.F.R. 86.12 (b) to Title IX requirements affecting admissions, education programs and activities, and employment practices inasmuch as such provisions of the law are incompatible with the religious tenets of the institution.

As President of Divine Word College, I wish to assure HEW that our institution intends to abide by those provisions of Title IX which are not in conflict with our religious tenets.

Our College gives its fullest support to the efforts of the U.S. Government to combat all forms of unjust discrimination to the extent the special nature of this institution allows. We are ready to provide further clarification and documentation, if so required by law.

Sincerely yours,

Louis J. Luzbetak, S.V.D.  
President

LJL/dp

Enclosures: Assurance of Compliance with  
Title IX Forms



# DIVINE WORD COLLEGE

Office of the Academic Dean—Telephone 319-876-3353  
Epworth, IA 52045

July 24, 1985

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

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Ms Cynthia A. Einhellig  
Acting Director  
Office of Civil Rights  
Region VII  
324 East 11th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Ms Einhellig,

In the absence of the President, Rev. John J. Donaghey, S.V.D., I am responding to your letter, dated June 27, 1985.

As mentioned in our telephone conversation of July 23, 1985, Divine Word College does continue to request exemption under 45 C.F.R. 86.12 (b) to Title IX requirements.

In response to the questions proposed in your letter mentioned above, the College presents the following:

1. Divine Word College is an undergraduate institution of higher learning, granting A.A. and B.A. degrees only.
2. The College is owned and operated by the Society of the Divine Word (Divine Word Missionaries), a Roman Catholic religious order of men.
3. Since the purpose of the College is to train young men for the missionary priesthood and brotherhood, and since the Catholic Church forbids the ordaining of women to the priesthood, to admit women to the academic program would be in violation of this restriction imposed by the Catholic Church.
4. The College therefore requests exemption from Paragraph 106.21, Sections (a) and (b) of Title IX.

The College wishes to reiterate the position stated by Rev. Luzbetak in his original letter, dated May 20, 1977:

"Our institution intends to abide by those provisions of Title IX which are not in conflict with our religious tenets."

Sincerely,  
*Joseph D. Simon*  
Rev. Joseph D. Simon, S.V.D.  
Acting President

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