

ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY
LAKE STREET
BRIGHTON, MASS. 02135

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OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

August 18, 1976

Mr. Martin H. Gerry, Director
Office for Civil Rights
Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare
Washington, D.C., 20201

Dear Mr. Gerry:

Ms. Deborah O'Leary of the Office for Civil Rights in Boston has advised me to write to you concerning an exemption from compliance with Title IX.

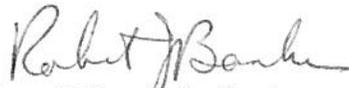
St. John's Seminary, an eight-year institution of higher education, is a Roman Catholic seminary for the education of candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood. The educational policies of the school, its community life, its admission policies, its employment of faculty, and even to a certain extent the employment of other workers are shaped by the one goal of preparing candidates for the priesthood.

As you may know, the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church is restricted by Church law to celibate men. This means that the Roman Catholic seminary does take into consideration the sex, not only of applicants, but also of all those who are involved in the education and life of a celibate community. Therefore, in some cases women are excluded from certain aspects of the seminary program (e.g. women cannot be candidates for the priesthood), and in other cases preference is given to priests (employment of faculty), and in every instance some note is taken of the sex of a person who will be working within our celibate community.

I, therefore, request that St. John's Seminary be granted general exemption from the provisions of Part 86.

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely yours,



Rev. Robert J. Banks
Rector

RJB:MFF

