



The Rev. David Anderson
Executive Director, American Anglican Council
2296 Henderson Mill Rd. NE, Suite 406
Atlanta, GA 30345-02739

May 12, 2006

Dear Canon Anderson,

Your latest version of “EQUIPPING THE SAINTS: *A Crisis Resource for Anglican Laity*” makes a number of statements about theological positions held by Via Media USA. See for example the footnote on page 9, and the statements on page 14. It also seems to deliberately confuse Via Media USA with the Every Voice Network curriculum called Via Media. The American Anglican Council has claimed to be an “orthodox” Christian organization. As such, I assume you accept the Ten Commandments, including the one about not bearing false witness. I challenge you to show even ONE statement or official publication by Via Media USA that espouses the theological positions you claim it holds on page 9 or 14. Since Via Media USA has not issued any theological papers, and since its mission statement affirms the Chicago Lambeth Quadrilaterals, I am confident that you *cannot* back up your claims.

Secondly, as you are well aware, Via Media USA and Every Voice Network are entirely separate organizations with entirely separate leadership, and EVN’s Via Media curriculum was prepared before Via Media USA was founded by a group of ten grass roots organizations (including Progressive Episcopalians of Pittsburgh) in March 2004. The AAC guide consistently misleads and confuses on this point, beginning with the claim on page 6 that Every Voice Network “has ‘re-invented’ itself and formed ‘Via Media’.” Confusing the Via Media curriculum with Via Media USA makes about as much sense as confusing the Anglican Church of Canada with the American Anglican Council because both have the word “Anglican” in their title.

I challenge you either to prove that Every Voice Network and Via Media USA are two manifestations of the same organization (which, as a founder of Via Media USA, I know you cannot) and show a document of Via Media USA that espouses the theological positions described on page 9, or withdraw the guide. If you cannot prove your claims, and persist in misrepresenting Via Media USA by circulating the guide, the AAC will have demonstrated its own moral bankruptcy.

Sincerely,

Joan R. Gundersen, Ph.D.
President, Progressive Episcopalians of Pittsburgh