



## Letters

August 12, 2005

Dear Editor,

The church I pastor is in Peoria, Illinois – world headquarters of the Caterpillar Corporation. Our church is thirty percent Caterpillar – thirty percent of our families work for or depend on Caterpillar, and thirty percent of our ministry and budget comes from these families. You will not find a church more directly impacted by the divestment issue anywhere.

It would be an understatement to say the divestment issue upsets our congregation. Many see this decision as the work of the hard left in our denomination. Most folks are fairly reasonable in their reactions. But everyone finds the whole thing incredibly insulting and embarrassing. I have received a lot of troubling emails and phone calls this week.

One conversation stands out: A CAT "wife" came by my office to ask some questions about the issue. After a while she said, "Let me get this straight. The denomination is looking to pull their investment money out of Caterpillar because they want to make a point with the company about actions they find wrong and immoral."

I said, "That about sums it up."

She said, "Well I think I would like to pull my investment money out of the PC(USA) because I would like to make a point with the denomination about actions I find wrong and immoral."

I couldn't argue with the logic.

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**Send your response to:**

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