

## Possibility and Sense of the Existence of Public Opinion within the Catholic Church

José de Jesús Legorreta Zepeda<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract:

The present paper analyses the social and ideological structures which simultaneously accommodate and limit the manifestation and acknowledgement of public opinion within the Catholic Church. Consequently, the study primarily follows a sociological perspective, although it also takes into account theological contributions and discussions generated during the past five decades on the topic of freedom of opinion and expression in the Church.

**Keywords:** public opinion, freedom of expression, Church, liberalism, Church reform.

•

Iberofórum. Revista de Ciencias Sociales de la Universidad Iberoamericana. Año VIII, No. 15.Enero-Junio de 2013. José de Jesús Legorreta Zepeda. pp. 1-30. ISSN: 2007-0675.
Universidad Iberoamericana A.C., Ciudad de México. www.uia/iberoforum

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> E-mail: jesus.legorreta@uia.mx