



Focus on Religious Freedom

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The March for Life is, at the Same Time, a March for Religious Liberty

The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time: the hand of force may destroy, but cannot disjoin them." - Thomas Jefferson

In 1974 thousands of Americans marched in Washington D.C. for the cause of preserving life for the unborn and each year the March for Life's peaceful demonstration has made the clear case for the right of each human life to be protected from conception to natural death.

These Americans are protected by the religious liberty and freedom of speech asserted in the First Amendment. Their rights to follow their conscience and to speak publicly about their beliefs are the bedrock of America's liberty.

The fact that our founders first protected religious freedom and the freedom of speech, of the press, of the right to peacefully assemble and to petition for redress of grievances reflected their belief that only a moral and religious people could sustain America's extensive individual liberties.

Each generation of Americans must preserve our freedom of religion. Only an understanding of the facts of religious liberty and the benefits to our nation will enable us to recognize the attacks on that freedom and stand against them. The weekly articles from Catholics for Freedom of Religion in your bulletin or at www.cffor.org will explain America's founding principle of religious freedom, the supports for and attacks against that freedom and current issues diminishing that freedom.

"If virtue and knowledge are diffused among the people, they will never be enslav'd. This will be their great security." - Samuel Adams