



Focus on Religious Freedom

“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

September 2023: Pro Life Activists Convicted and Immediately Imprisoned

In Oct. 2020 nine pro-life activists participated in a “rescue” they believed could prevent the taking of innocent lives at an abortion clinic in Washington, D.C. This abortion clinic was shown in a 2013 undercover film taken by the pro-life group, Live Action. During that video an abortionist states that if a baby survives the abortion, and that some had, there would be no medical care provided and that the child would soon expire.

The Born-Alive Infants Protection Act was signed into law in August of 2002. It says from the point of birth forward a child who is born alive is to have the care that any child born at that gestational age would have as well as the same rights as any child.

A year and a half after the “rescue”, with predawn raids, the nine were arrested and charged under the FACE Act (Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances) plus a civil rights conspiracy charge. A FACE Act conviction calls for a maximum one-year prison term. A conspiracy conviction carries up to ten years in prison and fines up to \$350,000.

At September 2023 trials in Washington D.C. eight activists were convicted of both charges. One had pleaded guilty. The actions of the activists inside the clinic, recorded on a security video, were shown during the trial on behalf of the prosecution. According to many who saw it that video showed the only violence was from clinic workers pushing and hitting the activists with a broom stick. Nevertheless, the judge stated that this was a crime of violence and, in a highly unusual action, instructed that all defendants be immediately incarcerated even before any sentence had been decided.

Read more: bit.ly/3PkRjW8 bit.ly/3ZuZOfK bit.ly/460PPkC bit.ly/46kum5N bit.ly/3sVXpyc

1st Amendment: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.