



Focus on Religious Freedom

There is a "polite persecution" in America and the world that "takes away from man and woman their freedom as well as their right to conscientious objection." - Pope Francis

Victims of Polite Persecution in 2022

"I haven't been tortured or thrown in prison. I have my fingernails. I have a few extra gray hairs. But the thing is (polite persecution) is going beyond nondiscrimination into pushing a particular set of ideas," said Rev. Dr. Bernard Randall, bishop of the Church of England and former chaplain at a Christian K-12 school in Cambridge, in his address at the annual International Religious Freedom Summit in Washington D.C., June 28-30, 2022. ⁽¹⁾ Three years ago, Rev. Randall was fired from his chaplain position for "gross misconduct" and reported to Child Protective Services and the British Government Anti-Terrorism Prevent Program as a potential violent extremist or instigator of violent extremism after he gave a school chapel sermon in which he said that it is okay for students to believe that biological sex is unchangeable, marriage is between a man and a woman, and that gender identity language was incoherent, if they came to such conclusions.

Rev. Randall believes it is important to fight against the religious discrimination he experienced as a professing Christian. "My story sends a message to other Christians that you are not free to talk about your faith. It seems it is no longer enough to just tolerate (alternate sexual or marriage) ideology. You must accept it without question and no debate is allowed without serious consequences. Someone else will decide what is and what isn't acceptable, and suddenly you can become an outcast, possibly for the rest of your life." ⁽²⁾

Catholics For Freedom of Religion is dedicated to educating all Americans about the facts of First Amendment religious freedom - what it is, how dearly it was purchased for us and how quickly it can be lost. Through education, prayer and inspiration, each American is empowered to act, according to his conscience, to preserve religious liberty. CFFR has developed the following materials and programs to assist in this goal:

Empower Our Children: "Students of Faith": Our lesson empowers students, parents, and teachers by revealing "THE BIG SECRET" ... "Public Schools are not God-Free Zones!" Video and Guide at www.cffor.org

Educational Bulletin Items: "Focus on Religious Freedom": Emailed weekly to parishes and individuals upon request through email to info@CatholicsforFreedomofReligion.org

Prayer for our country: "Rosary for America": Praying for the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of America, to protect each state and guide our leaders in accordance with our Judeo-Christian principles and the principles of our founders. Printable version at www.cffor.org

(irfsummit.org; 1cbn.com, 6/28/22; washingtonstand.com, 7/5/22(1)(2); globalpeace.org, 6/30/22)

*"The defense of religious freedom transcends partisanship and politics, and the protection of conscience serves as a fundamental cornerstone of the flourishing of just, free societies."
The International Religious Freedom Charter, July, 2021*