



Christian Voices for Life

Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

Will Censorship of Pro-Life Speech Continue on Campuses?



Education: There are many examples of censorship of pro-life views on both high school and college campuses. One **biology** professor cut off a question about taking human life in embryonic stem cell research because “The embryo is not human.”(1) Students for Life published a map noting over 50 free speech violations during the 2018-2019 school year. (2)

At Cal State University, San Marcos, all students pay a fee toward student groups. The Students for Life Club was denied \$500 from those funds in order to host a speaker, while nearly \$300,000 of those funds had been spent for The Gender Equity and LGBTQA Pride Centers. In 2017 a lawsuit was filed, with legal support from Alliance Defending Freedom. In August of 2019 a federal judge struck down the university’s policy. An agreement was reached and the case closed. (3) **Note that it took extended legal action to bring justice.**

Some universities have restricted “free speech zones” which limit controversial displays to certain areas – often a very small fraction of the campus – and require permission to use them. These zones are now facing challenges in several states, and in May of 2022, the university system of Georgia has done away with them. (4,5) However, these zones remain in place in many institutions. There has also been destruction of pro-life displays, and violence by pro-abortion individuals, which must not be tolerated. There have been cases of what is referred to as a “hecklers’ veto” where hecklers’ disruption of a speech caused the speech to be shut down, rather than the hecklers removed to allow the speech to continue. We must teach college students that free speech in our nation means tolerating the expression of views differing from their own. Since the overturning of Roe v. Wade, violence against pro-life people and organizations have only increased.

1. <https://blog.equalrightsinstitute.com/abuse-of-academic-authority-regularly-inhibits-pro-life-speech/>

2. <https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2019/04/30/pro-life-student-group-releases-map-of-free-speech-violations-on-college-campuses/>

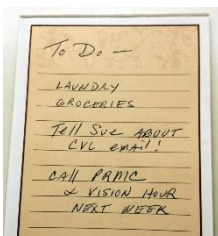
3. <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/latest-blow-against-campus-censorship-offers-huge-win-for-pro-life-movement>

4. <https://www.freedomforuminstitute.org/first-amendment-center/topics/freedom-of-speech-2/free-speech-on-public-college-campuses-overview/>

5. <https://www.the74million.org/article/university-system-ends-era-of-free-speech-zones-on-georgias-college-campuses/>



Prayer: Dear Father God, please have mercy on pro-life high school and college students who face discrimination and ridicule on their campuses. Help them to find ways to clearly express the truthful reasoning which supports their view. Please help professors and administrators who are pro-abortion to at least respect the free speech rights of those who disagree. Some individuals who hold power in universities may be overly defensive of the pro-abortion view because of their personal involvement with abortion. Help them to get past their denial, accept the truth, and find forgiveness and healing.



Action: If you know a student who is pro-life, ask them if they have had trouble expressing that view at their school. Encourage them to be persistent and strong in the face of intimidation. If their school is guilty of silencing free speech, encourage them to contact Students for Life (StudentsForLife.org) or Alliance Defending Freedom (ADFLegal.org) and consider participating in a lawsuit to correct the injustice.