



Abortion & Freedom

VIDEO	AUDIO
"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom." 2 Corinthians 3:17	Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.
Mike and Simon in cabin	Mike: Freedom is perhaps the most prized of all human values. Freedom is an essential aspect of what it means to be made in the image of God. The US Declaration of Independence recognizes the divine source of Human Freedom, or liberty, in its most famous line:
IMAGE: Declaration of Independence	VOICE: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
Mike and Simon in cabin	<p>Simon: Freedom, written inside us by our creator is happily also written into the founding document of the American Nation. It allows us to work, to marry, to raise a family, to own property, to move around as we please-to engage in leisure, to act responsibly as a mother or father, to court a potential spouse, or worship God. In other words, freedom allows us to live our lives in a wonderful and human way.</p> <p>Mike: It's important to ask the question 'what is freedom' when considering the issue of abortion. We all know that those who support abortion claim the freedom to choose. But exactly what kind of freedom are they offering? As John Paul II said to Americans in 1993 "let us pause and reason together".</p>
OPENING	OPENING
"They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption; for whatever overcomes a man, to that he is enslaved." 2 Peter 2:19	They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption; for whatever overcomes a man, to that he is enslaved.



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Mike in cabin	Mike: We all want freedom, but freedom can be used for our own selfish desires, and then it becomes slavery. Its 'freedom gone wild.' If it's valued for its own sake, and not for the pursuit of the truth, not for the pursuit of the Good, not for the pursuit of God, what is the result?
FREEDOM GONE WILD	
Simon hiking	Simon: We know what the result is. Overcome by various passions, people believe they have the right to do things like take harmful drugs, to engage in illicit sex, to be dishonest in business and personal relationships, to scorn authority and to trade mature relationships for the endless pursuit of pleasure. We can even see our government beginning to protect some of these false freedoms, and people are increasingly doing whatever they want, whenever they want, and for whatever reason they want it. This is freedom gone wild. It's freedom seen as an absolute. Instead of being the freedom to seek and worship God, it is the freedom to be one's own god.
FREEDOM AND TRUTH	



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[animation]	Simon: It's like this, you own a car and you want to drive it. Now you have the freedom to put anything you want in the tank: orange juice, mouthwash, vodka. You're free to do this, but will you become any freer by doing so? No - Your car won't run well, and you won't get to where you want to go. But if you respect the plan of the car's maker by freely choosing to put gasoline in the tank, your car runs well and you're freedom of mobility is increased. In other words, freedom has to be exercised in accordance with truth; otherwise it's not true freedom. In fact, when we exercise freedom badly we lose it. Unfortunately, not enough people understand this, and so a false idea of freedom has taken hold. This false idea of freedom has gone so far that for many it has become the freedom to murder.
ABORTION	
Get Jen again? Use old Jen footage?	[I have spent approx. 3 years of my life just about every Saturday all day long from open to close outside of this abortion clinic, and I have never seen not even one woman walk out, who looked empowered, who looked happy.]
Mike in cabin	Mike: Abortion illustrates 'freedom gone wild' better than any issue today. This can be perceived in the very arguments that are used to support it.
THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE?	



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Mike in cabin	Mike: The right to choose is a catchy slogan, abut it is bad reasoning. You have to finish the sentence. The right to choose ‘what’? What it comes down to is the right to choose what I want no matter who gets hurt. When supporters of abortion rights say the right to choose, they appeal to the great value that we all have for freedom, but they ignore the fact that our freedom to choose ends where rights of another person begin. They ignore the greater value of new human life, as well as the greater value of the mother/child relationship, so necessary to the health of individuals and society. For them the truth of what abortion is, takes a back seat to freedom, and so for them, freedom has gone wild.
A BABY OR A TUMOR?	
	Mike: Abortion supporters have to explain why the killing of a child in the womb is any different than the killing of a child outside the womb. Some say the mother has the freedom to decide whether the child is a tiny human being or more like a parasite or a tumor that can be removed and thrown away.
Simon hiking	Simon: So the child is not a child, it’s a growth in the woman’s body. The woman is not a mother, but it’s somebody who has to be rid of the growth. The woman doesn’t have responsibility for the child, the woman has the right to be free of any sort of responsibility to it.
Simon hiking	Their effectively claiming that human freedom has the power to make its own truths. If the mother wants him, he’s her son, it not he’s a parasite or tumor. But what we call something does not change what it is. We can’t just declare a fetus into a tumor anymore that we can declare a tumor into a fetus. Our freedom simply doesn’t have that kind of power over reality.



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CAN VIOLENCE SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS?	
Mike in cabin	Mike: The best arguments that people who support abortion have are those arguments that appeal to how difficult life is for so many women who find themselves pregnant and how difficult life would be for the children that they bring into the world. But even these like the other arguments don't stand, unless we are willing to permit the intentional killing of the innocent when things get difficult.
Jen???	Jen: How does killing solve a problem of suffering? How does killing solve poverty? How does killing solve an abusive situation?
Mike in cabin	Mike: If the difficulty of life is the argument, then why not allow the killing of other people because of hardships? Why not kill an infant to spare him a lifetime of poverty? Why not let his mother relieve herself of the burden of taking care of him? Why shouldn't violence against the innocent be used to solve our problems? The answer clear.
Mike in cabin	Mike: The ethical response to the hardships of life is to help people who suffer from these hardships, and to work to prevent these situations from happening in the future. Whether the problem is an unsupportive boyfriend, or poverty, or shame, or whatever it is, we need to help women instead of abandoning them to their fears to resort to abortion.
	Most woman don't have an abortion because they have a choice, they have an abortion because they feel like they have no choice. Abortion is not about freedom.



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Simon hiking	Simon: The 1973 Supreme Court Roe vs. Wade decision established abortion as a constitutional right. It mandated that abortion be allowed in each trimester, with a different degree of regulation for each one. In the third trimester abortions could be regulated as long as an exception was allowed for the health of the mother. But on the same day in a companion case, Doe vs. Bolton, the court defined health very broadly as including the physical, emotional, psychological wellbeing, as well as the mothers age and relationship to her other children. In practice, these two cases in tandem have established abortion on demand, at any point in pregnancy up until birth. An idea not found explicitly in the constitution was used as reasoning: A right to privacy. And this reasoning has since been severely criticized even by those who support abortion. The Roe vs. Wade decision also states that the court is not deciding when life begins. For the Judges, that question is undecided. But they are determining when the fetus can enjoy the protection of constitutional rights. But is it really unclear when human life begins? As it turns out, this is the key question.
Jen???	Jen: If the unborn is a human life, not the right to privacy argument nor any other argument will justify the taking of that life.
SCIENCE AND EXPERIENCE	



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Mike in cabin	<p>Mike: Modern technology and the science of embryology confirm and expand what mothers already know from experience. That human embryos and human fetuses are human lives. After all, if they aren't human, what are they? They're not tumors, parasites or part of their mothers' bodies, and they are definitely not potential human beings. It's basic biology: the principle of biogenesis:</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) All life comes from pre-existing life 2.) And each being reproduces after its own kind <p>In other words, a human man and a human woman cannot conceive anything but a human child. They cannot conceive something else that later becomes a human being.</p>
	<p>Mike: All you have to do is be a decent biologist who's not blinded by some another agenda and you realize, there's no way out: Human life begins at conception.</p>
Simon hiking	<p>Simon: From conception, it is a distinct, unified, self-integrating human being with a distinct genetic code, and the built in promise of developing through the various stages of life: From zygote, to embryo, to fetus, to infant, to child, and from child into adult. A living human being through every stage. Although in its early stages it may not look like a human being to some, it actually looks exactly the way a human being in these stages is supposed to look. No wonder that mothers and families instinctively act as if there is a true human being in the womb. They talk to the child, they sing to it, they embrace and they love the child. No one would sing to a mere clump of tissue. The fact is the nurturing relationship that lasts through out that child's whole life begins in the womb.</p>



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SEMANTICS	
Simon hiking	Simon: Some people who support abortion argue that the fetus in the womb is a human being, but not a human person. This is just semantics. How can a human being not also be a human person? What other criteria will we use to define the human person? Brain waves? Consciousness? Mature reasoning power? Sensitivity to pain? But if we want to draw an arbitrary line at one of these places we can't continue to draw it at birth where it was put by the Supreme Court. The problem with drawing these lines, is that they exclude other persons. Is it ok to kill those who are sleeping or in a coma? Can we kill infants or the mentally handicapped?
Jen??? Or Simon???	When abortion advocates say that the child in the womb is not a person, what it comes down to is them discriminating against the child's size, location, level of development and level of dependency.
Simon hiking	Simon: Or, maybe the line that separates a human being from a human person is whether her mother wants her. We've seen all this before. If you start trying to define personhood more narrowly than the human organism itself, things get really scary really fast.
We've seen this all before...	



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Mike in cabin	<p>Mike: Whenever we have excluded a segment of the human family from the rights and the dignity that they deserve, those doing the excluding are always doing so for material gain, or convenience, or fear, and hopelessness. The scourge of abortion is grounded in material gain, convenience, fear and hopelessness. It is not based on the dignity of the human person. The freedom that abortion supposedly represents, is no kind of freedom at all. In fact it is an exercise of raw power by the powerful over the powerless, who are in the way and cannot defend themselves.</p>
<p>"Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; but live as servants of God." 1 Peter 2:16</p>	<p>Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; but live as servants of God.</p>
Mike in cabin	<p>Mike: In 1993 Pope John Paul II came to the United States. As he was about to leave he said that commitment to the moral renewal of society is commitment to the victory of the culture of life over the culture of death. This was the first time that he used these terms that have now become known and used even outside of the church. The false understanding of freedom, the freedom gone wild, is the driving force behind the culture of death. What once was the freedom to seek God and to worship him, to raise a family, and to work, to speak one's opinions, the freedom to live and flourish as a human being, has become for many, under the right of privacy, the freedom to do almost whatever they want, and the freedom to radically redefine what it is to be a human being. The inalienable right to liberty witnessed to by the Declaration of Independence has been twisted, so it is pitted against what is supposed to be an inalienable right to life.</p>



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Mike in cabin	Mike: And so the notion of freedom goes so far, that if someone interferes with my convenience, or my material wellbeing or what I want to do in regard to pleasure - if someone interferes with it, I can actually kill them. And America says "yes you can."
Jen??? or Mike???	Until America ends abortion, our nation will never live up to its greatness.
"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1	For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
Mike and Simon in cabin	<p>Simon: The victory of the culture of life over the culture of death is a goal that every man and women of goodwill should be striving for. A culture that doesn't want some of its children, that kills them and turns a blind eye to their killing is a culture of death.</p> <p>Mike: This is not true freedom. True freedom makes a way for every child that comes into this world. It embraces them and teaches them that the way to happiness is living in loving communion with God and with other people. I'm Michael Voris, and this has been Moral Compass. God love you.</p>