



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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## Colleges Suppress Expression of the Pro-Life View

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**Education:** Rachel asked students in favor of embryonic stem cell research if they could use the same arguments they were using to justify intentionally taking a human life in other circumstances. Before she could elaborate, the professor cut her off, which he had never done before in the class. “That question is invalid because this is not a case of human life. The embryo is not human.” When she asked the **biology** professor why he did not consider a human embryo to be human life, he instructed her to address her questions to the students, not to him. This is just one example of how

pro-abortion professors can intimidate and silence the pro-life view in their classrooms.(1) In another case, a philosophy professor openly ridiculed the pro-life view, using only faulty pro-life arguments to represent that position. He referred to embryos as “non-thinking clumps of cells” which is certainly not a neutral way of describing very young human beings.(1) Professors who clearly support one side of a discussion and ridicule the opposing view are definitely not encouraging free speech and honest discussion.

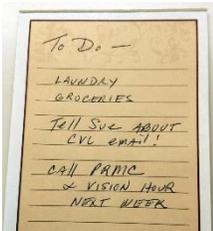
Prolife students also face challenges from the administration. Some universities have restricted “free speech zones” which limit controversial displays to certain areas – often a very small fraction of the campus – and require permission to use them. These zones are now facing challenges in several states. But destruction of pro-life displays, and violence by pro-abortion individuals must not be tolerated. We will not maintain free speech in our country if we cannot teach college students that they must be tolerant of the expression of views differing from their own. Students for Life has published a map indicating locations of violations of free speech, including 50 incidents which occurred during the current academic year.

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/>



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please have mercy on pro-life 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 by sincere repentance.



**Action:** If you know a college 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.