

There are lots of ways to brush up on your pro-life persuasion skills during quarantine, including with Josh's new "Apologist Reacts" series!



Equipping Yourself During Quarantine

by Josh Brahm

These past few months have been a particularly tough time for my family, our staff, and I am sure for many of you. As one of my favorite podcasters recently said, "I want to find myself at the end of this lockdown better than I was at the start of it." (Paraphrased quote from CGP Grey on the *Cortex* podcast, episode 100.) I hope that this will be true for myself and those we serve. Please know that you are in our prayers.

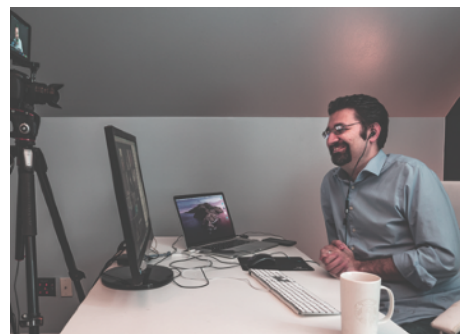
As one of the world's foremost online trainers of pro-life advocates, we have adapted our usual workflow to serve pro-life advocates in the best way we can during this time. In April, I was supposed to fly out to Oregon for their annual youth conference. We postponed the event and I worked with their staff to help them host an event online as well. I am incredibly grateful that I had the equipment and skills to handle the technical side of a remote event on that scale. Here are some other resources our team has been creating for pro-life advocates during this time:

YOUTUBE SERIES: "APOLOGIST REACTS TO DEBATE SCENES"

I'm incredibly excited about my new video series (shown above), where I react to scenes of two or more people having a dialogue or debate in movies or TV scenes. The format is far from original, but I think the performance required to make these videos fun is the kind of

thing I'm really good at, and I had a blast filming and editing the first three episodes. I'm focusing on scenes from *The West Wing* for the first several episodes. Then I'll do a series on debate scenes from Marvel films before branching out to other movies and TV series. At least two of those will be on our YouTube channel by the time these newsletters go out, so check them out at our YouTube channel and pick up on some new dialogue skills! ([YouTube.com/EqualRightsInstitute](https://www.youtube.com/EqualRightsInstitute))

OPEN ZOOM SESSIONS



Last month I set up a weekly Zoom meeting room for our donors and followers to join if they'd like to connect. This can be as informal and personal as talking about how each other are doing during this scary time. Of course, I'll also be willing to answer any questions about pro-life apologetics or our work at ERI. This is YOUR time. I'm not positive how long I'll do this, but I'm guessing at least through the first half of June.

When: Thursdays from 3-5 pm EST / Noon-2 pm PST

Instructions:

1. Download the Zoom app and click "Join."
2. Meeting ID: 943 4600 3735
3. Password: 011397

SIDEWALK COUNSELING MENTORING CALLS WITH JACOB



One of Jacob's main work tasks is mentoring the people who've purchased the *Sidewalk Counseling Masterclass*. If you have questions for Jacob or you just want some help getting to the next level, he'd love to talk to you. The only requirement is that you've watched the *Sidewalk Counseling Masterclass* first since we answer many of the most common questions in the course. Once you've done that, email him at Jacob@EqualRightsInstitute.com, and he'd love to spend some time with you.

LATEST PODCAST EPISODES

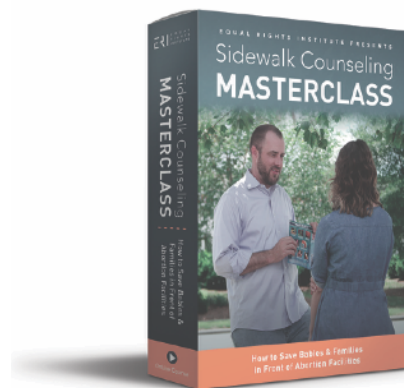


The *Equipped for Life* Podcast is back in full production. Our most recent episodes include:

- A discussion of a Stanford study that relates to persuasion;
- An interview with a cool pro-life group in Ireland;
- Our latest campus outreach test;
- Jacob answering questions about sidewalk counseling including his surprising thoughts about why sidewalk counselors shouldn't talk about adoption;
- An interview with the founder of a non-partisan politics e-newsletter!

We've also added some live speech and Q&A audio from Josh's recent speaking tour in Ireland to the *Equal Rights Institute Podcast!* You can find simple subscription links to both podcasts at EqualRightsInstitute.com/Podcast.

SIDEWALK COUNSELING MASTERCLASS



If you haven't taken our latest online course yet, I highly recommend it. One of the best things that pro-life adults can do is save lives in their town. But often pro-life advocates who have never done sidewalk counseling before are hesitant to get started because they feel like they don't know what to say or do. Many are afraid they will say the wrong thing. Additionally, there are many loving people that are already doing the work of going to the clinic but don't have access to the training they need to be more effective at reaching abortion-minded people. That is why we have created the *Sidewalk Counseling Masterclass*. You can learn more and purchase it by visiting SidewalkCounselingMasterclass.com.

We Need Your Help

It is not news that COVID-19 has had a horrible impact on the economy. The unemployment rate has skyrocketed, and predictably, that has hurt ERI's financial state. When comparing our February donations with March and April, **our income has dropped 38% and 24%** in those months. We hope many of our donors to jump back when they can, but we can't sustain at this level for long.

If you are one of those supporters who had to pause giving during this time because you've been financially affected by the shutdowns, please know that we really understand, and we're praying for you. At the same time, we want to be transparent about our needs. **Our giving is down \$16,670** in the last two months, so if you have the ability to make an extra gift to help make up for our donors who've had to temporarily drop off because of COVID-19, that would really help sustain us during this pandemic!

In the meantime, we will keep producing pro-life training materials as quickly as possible while we try to ride out this storm. Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support.

Personal Note to Josh's Friends and Supporters

While COVID-19 has primarily affected ERI financially, the second most significant impact is the kids not being able to go to school. Since Hannah babysits three days a week for a legally blind woman (making Hannah an essential worker), I have to work and homeschool at the same time on those days. That is stressful, but I'm managing, and using visual schedules has really helped the kids keep on track more independently.

A few months ago I decided to really learn the ins and outs of photography. I'm still a beginner, but developing a new skill that's both creative and more challenging than I expected has been a fantastic outlet for me, as well as a tribute to my Dad, who first got me into photography as a young kid. A few of my pictures are on the right, and if you like that kind of thing, feel free to follow me on Instagram at [@joshuabrahm](https://www.instagram.com/joshuabrahm).

