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## Our Big Projects for the Rest of This Year

by Josh Brahm

As most of you know by now, Rachel Crawford resigned, effective July 24th. We miss her and are excited to see what God has in store for her as she steps outside of pro-life work. You can read more about Rachel's most significant accomplishments (as well as her awesome replacement, Emily Albrecht!) by visiting [EqualRightsInstitute.com/Rachel](http://EqualRightsInstitute.com/Rachel). Here are the three main things we're working on as a staff for the rest of this year:

### #1: PUBLISHING REGULAR ARTICLES, VIDEOS, AND PODCASTS

Rachel was a full-time content creator, helping prepare many of our videos and podcasts, but I don't want those things to grind to a halt simply because Rachel has stepped away. These videos and podcasts are two of the primary ways to serve our audience with our latest thoughts and tips, so we're continuing to produce new content despite being understaffed. Since Rachel left, I've spent 27% of my time filming and editing podcasts and videos, while Andrew, Emily, and our writing interns have maintained the blog.

I've been delegating some of the video editing to a contractor as well as a very generous volunteer. While that has been a big help, it's also becoming clearer that we'll need to occasionally slow down our output to

accomplish our other goals, but not by too much.

### #2: FILM IMPROVED EQUAL RIGHTS ARGUMENT TRAINING



There's a cool thing that's been going on behind the scenes at the ERI office this year. We decided that we wanted to find a better way to train students in the most persuasive pro-life argument, the Equal Rights Argument. It's been a significant part of our training content since we launched, and while the argument *itself* doesn't need to change, we want a more helpful way to teach the argument. We had lots of brainstorm sessions, including multiple great calls with our friends at Justice For All, who also recently revised their method of teaching this argument. I'm excited to announce that we have finally landed on a new four-step process that our Philosophy Team created for teaching the Equal Rights Argument.

I taught this process virtually to a group in Ireland and a group in Oregon, as well as a

small focus group that I ran in Charlotte. I feel confident that the new process makes it significantly easier for students to master this argument now, so we're currently finalizing scripts. Then I'll film the new lessons in our studio and add them to the *Equipped for Life Course*.

I also intend to play the primary lesson on a free, online event we're going to be holding in November. Stay tuned to our emails and Facebook page for more details about that in the coming weeks!

### #3: GROW OUR AUDIENCE



This is part of a long-term goal, and it's something that we're actively learning more about now. We have a lot of excellent training content that YOU have helped us to create. Now we need to get it to more people. I'm better at making videos than I am at marketing our content, so we're in the process of learning techniques so we can take our existing materials and multiply the number of pro-life advocates that we're helping with it!

## REFUTING "ABORTION AS SELF-DEFENSE"



### ABORTION AS "SELF-DEFENSE": REFUTING THE NEW ABORTION ARGUMENT

There is a new pro-choice argument that has begun to gain popularity. Many pro-life advocates have not heard of it yet, but to change minds on abortion, you need to know how to identify and graciously refute it.

This is a major article and video, and it's the culmination of four-years of thinking that our Philosophy Team has done on the subject. It is the most thorough refutation of this pro-choice argument we've seen.

Learn more at [EqualRightsInstitute.com/SelfDefense](https://EqualRightsInstitute.com/SelfDefense).

## 4 TIPS FOR CHANGING MORE MINDS



It's Emily Albrecht's first article, and it's a great one too! You can become a more persuasive pro-life advocate by following the four tips in this article.

In this piece, Emily explains how she applied a lesson from Jonathan Haidt's excellent book "The Righteous Mind" to her campus conversations. Understanding how intuition shapes human reasoning will transform your dialogues about abortion.

Learn more at [EqualRightsInstitute.com/EmilyArticle](https://EqualRightsInstitute.com/EmilyArticle).

## WHY DO THEY ALWAYS ASK ABOUT RAPE?



Josh and Rachel share several observations they've recently made about what is *really* going on when pro-choice advocates bring up the topic of rape that may completely change the way you think about those discussions! They also include why Josh makes sure that he covers the topic in speeches in front of mixed audiences, as well as some thoughts for church youth leaders on the subject. You don't want to miss this one.

Watch or listen to this episode at [EqualRightsInstitute.com/Podcast51](https://EqualRightsInstitute.com/Podcast51)

## Personal Note to Emily's Friends and Supporters

Today is a very exciting day for me; this is my first appearance on Equal Rights Institute's newsletter! You are currently reading my personal section where you will find updates about events in my pro-life ministry. First, I am thrilled to announce that my debut article, "[4 Tips for Changing More Minds](#)," was published on the Equal Rights Institute Blog in September! I hope you will take a few minutes to read it and follow me on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) so that you will be the first to know about my next published work at ERI!

I am also halfway through my first semester of senior year at St. Olaf College! I am still the Co-President of Students for Life at St. Olaf, and we have had a highly successful start to our school year. We are hosting a hybrid of online and in-person meetings, and we already put up two hallway displays this semester while training new members for our first dialogue outreach event of the year in October! I have received a lot of questions from you about the future of my club, and I am happy to report that we have two new, outstanding sophomore

Executive Board members to whom I am thrilled to be passing leadership of Students for Life at St. Olaf when I graduate. I have great hope for the future of the pro-life movement at St. Olaf!

I am so overcome with gratitude for the incredible support I have received from all of you as I announced my transition into pro-life ministry. It has been such a joy to meet with so many of you and hear the stories of your care for the unborn, and I have felt so uplifted by the outpouring of prayerful and financial support. In these few short months, I am already 25% of the way to my financial support goal! This is fantastic! To everyone who has helped make this happen, thank you. You are my core team, here on the ground level of the incredible work that is to come! If you are yet to join my financial support team, I hope that you will prayerfully consider partnering with me in this life saving ministry, changing hearts and minds about abortion.



Top: Our first hallway display of the year... Introducing Students for Life at St. Olaf!

Bottom: My parents' 25th Wedding Anniversary, right before I headed back to college!