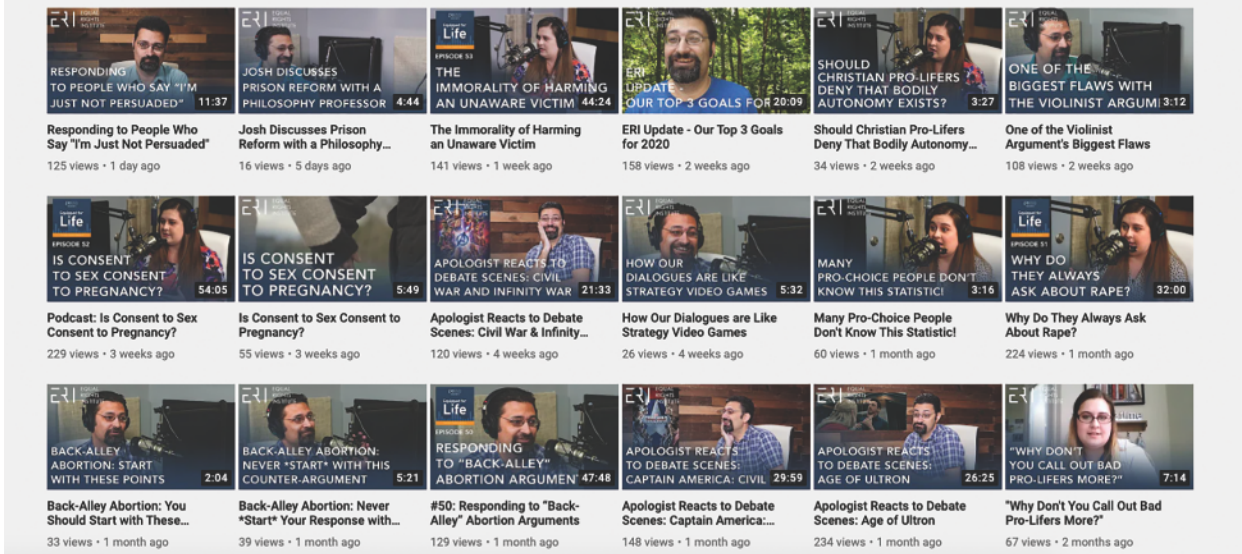


Have you missed some of our latest videos? Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel!



## 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 Josh's Friends and Supporters

The ERI staff pushed hard for me to take a two-week sabbatical, my first real break in 15-years of full-time pro-life work. My wonderful Mom took care of our kids during most of that break, so Hannah and I spent several days in Asheville hiking to various waterfalls. Three of the pictures to the right were taken during those days. I came back to work feeling very rested and ready to jump back into the important work we do! While we didn't make a big announcement about it, the few supporters who heard that I took this break were really happy to hear that, and I'm extremely grateful to the ERI board and staff who made this happen.

I've been busy producing a lot of pro-life content since I got back, as well as doing my first speaking trip since COVID-19, at Care Net's National Conference. (Don't worry, everyone wore masks the whole time and social distanced.)

The kids are doing well, although they are all looking forward to going back to school when things calm down more. In the evenings we often play Carcassonne or watch a movie together.



Left and top right: Pictures I took during my sabbatical. That waterfall was really hard to get to! And I love how those horses were backlit by the sunset!

Bottom right: Eli picking blueberries at an orchard our family visited.