



The Right to Life: America's First Freedom

As our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of American independence, it's worth remembering what the Founders believed was the very first right God gives and governments must protect. In the summer of **1776**, as the colonies stepped into the unknown, they anchored their bold declaration on a simple, revolutionary conviction: life is an unalienable right. Not granted by kings. Not bestowed by parliaments. Not negotiated by majorities. Life comes from the Creator, and therefore no human authority may rightfully take it away.

Jefferson and the drafting committee placed Life first in the famous triad — *Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness* — because without life, no other right can exist. The Founders understood that a nation committed to ordered liberty must begin by honoring the dignity of every human being.

Two hundred fifty years later, the debate over life has not faded. It has intensified. Legislatures, courts, and cultural voices continue to wrestle with questions the Founders framed clearly: if life is unalienable, then it is not the government's to redefine or discard.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty stands firmly on this founding truth. We affirm that every life — from conception to natural death — is worthy of protection, and we invite your prayers and partnership as we work to defend this first freedom in the public square.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for the right to life for all people, regardless of age or stage of life.

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