



LIFE LEGAL
DEFENSE FOUNDATION

YOUR GUIDE TO A PEACEFUL PRESENCE AT ABORTION CLINICS



1 STAND FIRM IN YOUR RIGHTS

Don't be intimidated. Public sidewalks, including those outside abortion clinics, are protected for free speech.

If confronted or threatened, contact law enforcement immediately.

If a clinic staff member or security tells you to move, ask them to call the police. If an officer tells you to move, ask to speak to their supervisor, ask what law you are violating, and request to see a copy of it.

2 RECORD INTERACTIONS

Record any hostile or questionable interactions with clinic staff, patients, or passersby. This helps provide evidence in case of wrongful civil or criminal action against you.

Do not share or publish recordings without first consulting an attorney to ensure it's legal.

3 KNOW LOCAL ORDINANCES

Familiarize yourself with local laws that regulate speech near abortion clinics, such as "bubble zone" or "buffer zone" laws.

These laws often prohibit approaching within 8 feet of abortion workers or individuals entering or leaving the clinic without their consent.

Some ordinances may also limit excessive noise (e.g., bullhorns) near clinics.

Unsure of the laws in your area? Contact Life Legal at 707-224-6675 or email us at info@lifelegal.org for clarification.

4 CONTINUE PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

You are still allowed to engage in prayer, peaceful protests, education, and holding signs.

Even in areas with buffer zone laws, you may offer literature and counsel to women seeking abortions—just ask for consent before approaching within the 8-foot zone.

5 AVOID PHYSICAL CONTACT

Do not engage in physical contact with clinic employees, escorts, or clients.

If you need to protect your property, hold onto it firmly but avoid pushing anyone.

6 REPORT ASSAULT OR THREATS

If you are assaulted or threatened by an abortion worker, volunteer, or client, call the police immediately and report the incident.

You have the right to peacefully exercise your First Amendment rights without aggression or interference.

7 BE AWARE OF ACCESS OBSTRUCTION LAWS

Blocking a clinic entrance, driveway, or patient access—such as blocking patients, cars, or doors—can lead to state or federal charges under the FACE Act.

If charged, contact Life Legal immediately. You may walk alongside patients or stand next to a door, but not block the entrance or patient.