

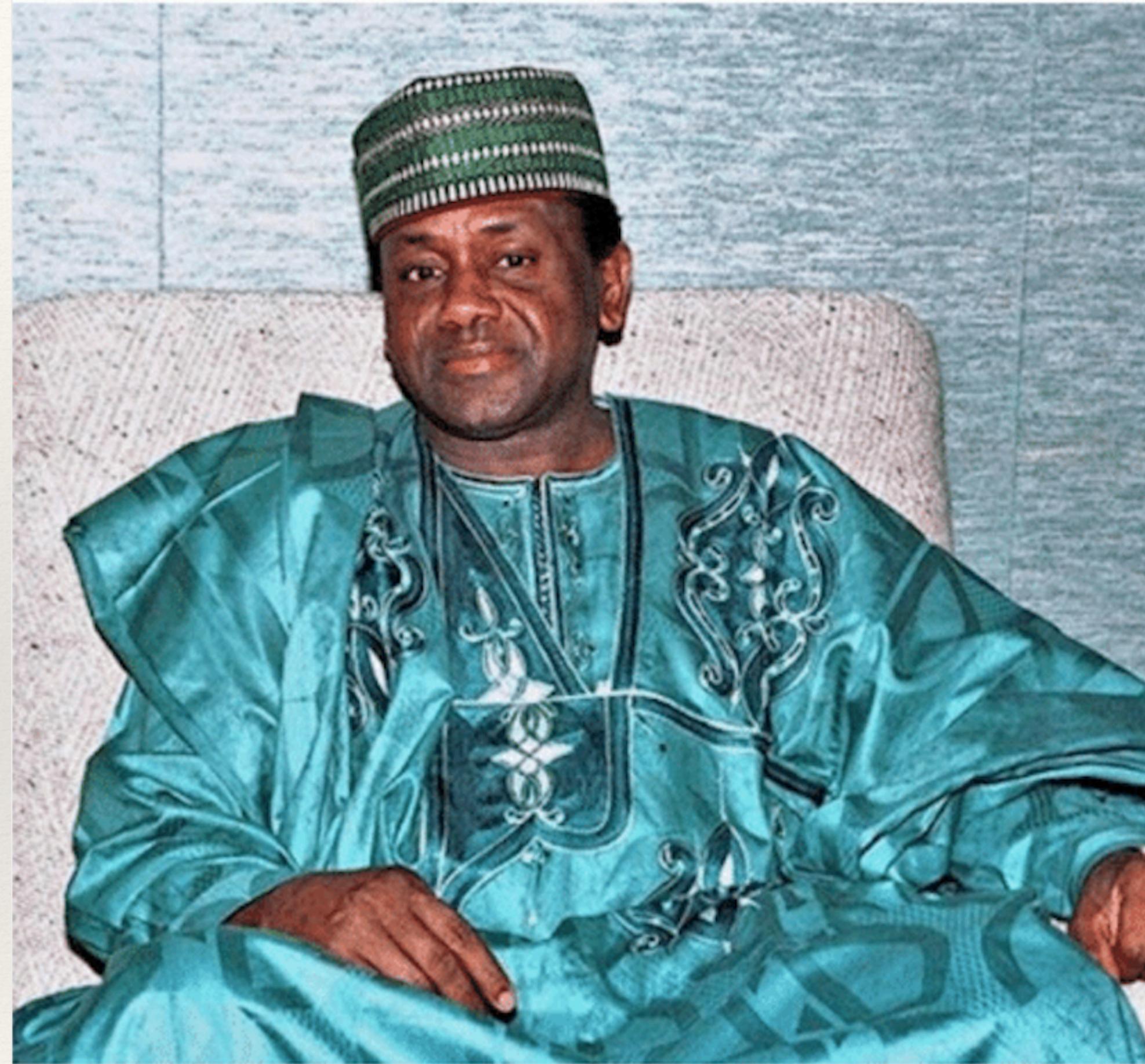


Naiveté and Impulsiveness

Naiveté

- Being wise takes intentionality and discernment.
- Proverbs 1:29–33; 8:1–5; 14:15–18; 15:2, 21.
- These passages all talk about the behavior and mindset of “the simple.”
- This phrase has a specific definition in Proverbs.
- It doesn’t mean people who choose to live a simple life, such as a farmer or a minimalist, but those who are naïve and foolish, even gullible.
- “The simple believe everything” while the prudent have discernment (14:15).

**This Nigerian Prince spent 8 years
trying to give his fortune away
through email and nobody wanted it**



He died today

Naiveté

- The simple don't have sense or prudence (8:5).
- They jump right into things without thinking.
- They “inherit folly” (14:18).
- Because they are naïve and don't think things through, folly comes naturally to them as a result.
- Because they don't think before they speak, folly “pours out” of their mouths (15:2). They even enjoy folly because they don't know any better (15:21).

Naiveté

- We often think of people who are naïve as innocent, but there comes a point when they should know better.
- For Solomon, not knowing better is not an excuse.
- Those who are simple have chosen foolishness over wisdom.
- They do know better; they have chosen not to listen.
- Wisdom has been calling them, begging them to learn prudence and sense (8:1–5), but they have turned away (1:32).



George Parker became famous for selling the Brooklyn Bridge as well as other New York City landmarks: Madison Square Garden, Statue of Liberty, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and even Grant's tomb (posing as the general's grandson).

Naiveté

- According to these proverbs, the simple are those who have not made the time and effort to become wise.
- They don't give thought to their steps (14:15) or take time to be cautious (14:16), and they reject reproof and correction (1:30).
- They're quick tempered instead of taking time to cool down and think (14:17), are complacent, and don't make any effort to make things better (1:32).

Naiveté

- Prudence and sense are things that we have to learn (8:5); they don't just come naturally.
- The truth is that it takes time and effort to become wise. It's not easy. It takes studying God's Word, listening for His voice, and seeking godly counsel within your church community.
- Becoming wise also takes learning discernment, self-control and intentionality. If you want to be wise, you can't just let life happen to you; you need to choose to follow God's wisdom.

Naiveté

- Discipleship doesn't happen by accident. Jesus said that if we want to be His disciple, we must take up our cross and follow Him (Matthew 16:24–26).
- We must turn away from the world to follow Him.
- You don't "stumble upon" the path to discipleship.
- It doesn't happen just by attending church or praying the prayer of salvation.
- It's an intentional decision to go against the flow.

Naiveté

- The “simple” aren’t following Jesus; they’re just going along with whatever feels good in the moment or whatever everyone else is doing.
- They aren’t “counting the cost” (Luke 14:25–33) and making the hard decision to trade the things of this world for the kingdom of God (Matthew 13:44–46).
- Gaining true wisdom requires making the intentional choice to follow God’s wisdom rather than the wisdom of the world (1 Corinthians 1:18–25).
- Going with the flow or following the crowd will only lead to folly.

Naiveté

- The simple are easily enticed by the temptations of the world.
- Proverbs 7:5–10, 21–23 and 9:3–6, 13–18.
- These two proverbs focus on the enticement of folly versus wisdom.
- Folly often seems enticing.
- Folly uses “smooth talk” and “seductive speech” (7:5, 21).
- It is “wily” or “cunning” or “crafty” and dressed to entice (7:10).

Naiveté

- Jesus spoke about the days of Noah and the days before His Second Coming.
- People were just eating and drinking and living their lives; they had no idea what was coming (Matthew 24:37–39).
- The way to keep ourselves from being trapped by sin is to listen to God's voice, follow His ways, and to always keep our eyes open looking for Satan's traps. Peter said to “be sober-minded, be watchful” (1 Peter 5:8).
- The world is a spiritual battlefield; we have to look out for traps and landmines (Ephesians 6:10–18).

Naiveté

- Proverbs 9 tells us that both wisdom and folly cry out to the simple with the same phrase, “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here” (9:4, 16).
- There is a stark contrast between the kind of women they are.
- Wisdom’s house is strong and offers a great feast she has worked hard to make herself (9:1–2).
- Folly offers stolen water and bread eaten in secret (9:17).
- She says it’s sweet and pleasant, but it really leads to death (9:18).

Naiveté

- Impulsiveness leads to folly.
- Proverbs 14:29; 18:13; 19:2; 21:5; 28:20; 29:20.
- You might ask: What does impulsiveness have to do with naiveté:
- Remember what Proverbs said about the “simple” – they don’t take the time to think things through. They just let life happen to them instead of being intentional about their choices and learning discernment.
- Impulsiveness goes hand in hand with that description.

Naiveté

Six examples of acting hastily or impulsively:

- A hasty temper, reacting in anger (14:29; 29:11)
- A hasty answer, without really listening to the question (18:13)
- Walking or moving hastily so you get lost easily (19:2)
- Hastily working rather than being diligent (21:5)
- Hastening to become rich; get-rich-quick schemes (28:20)
- Being hasty with your words, not thinking through how to say things (29:20)

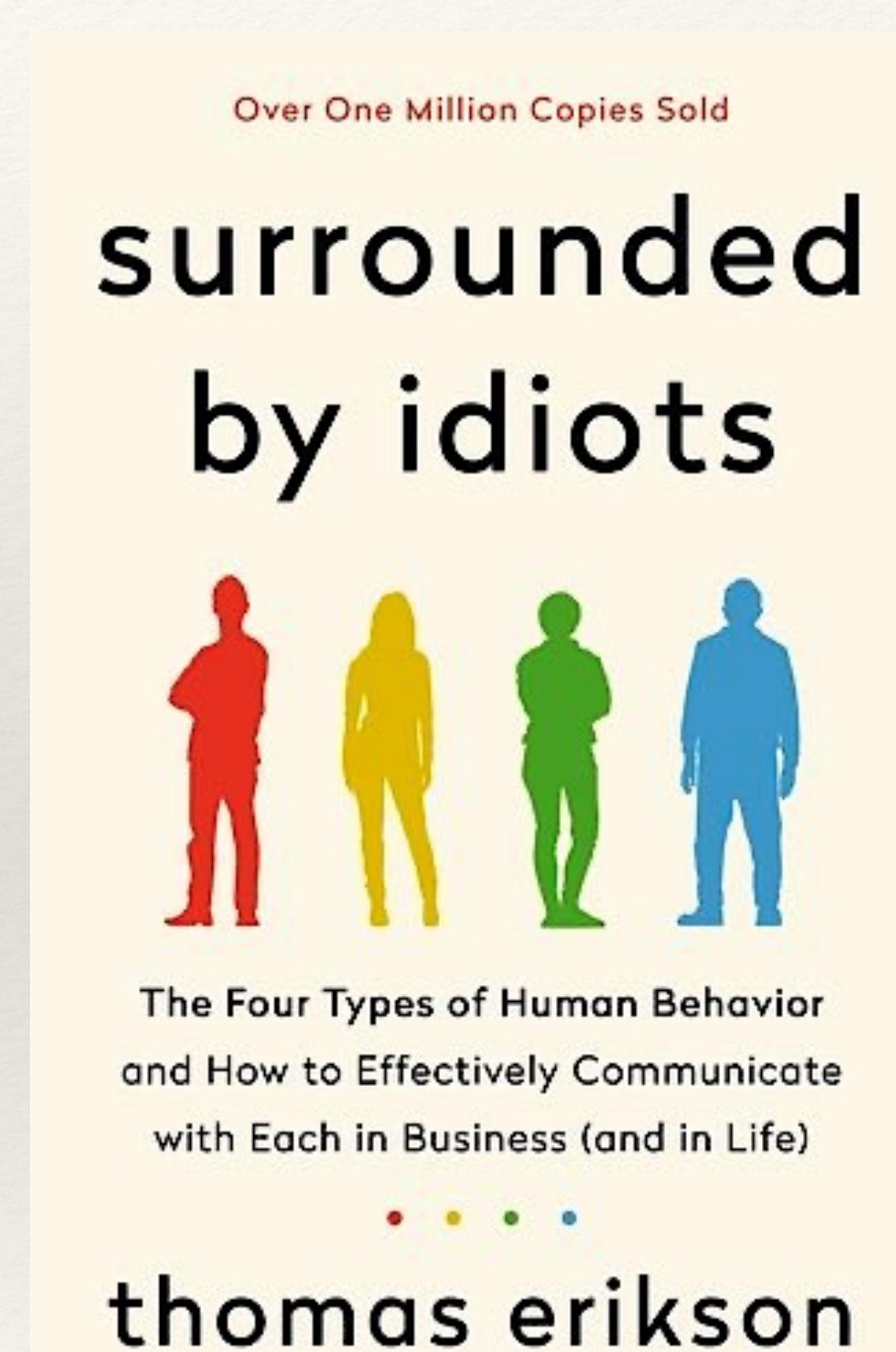
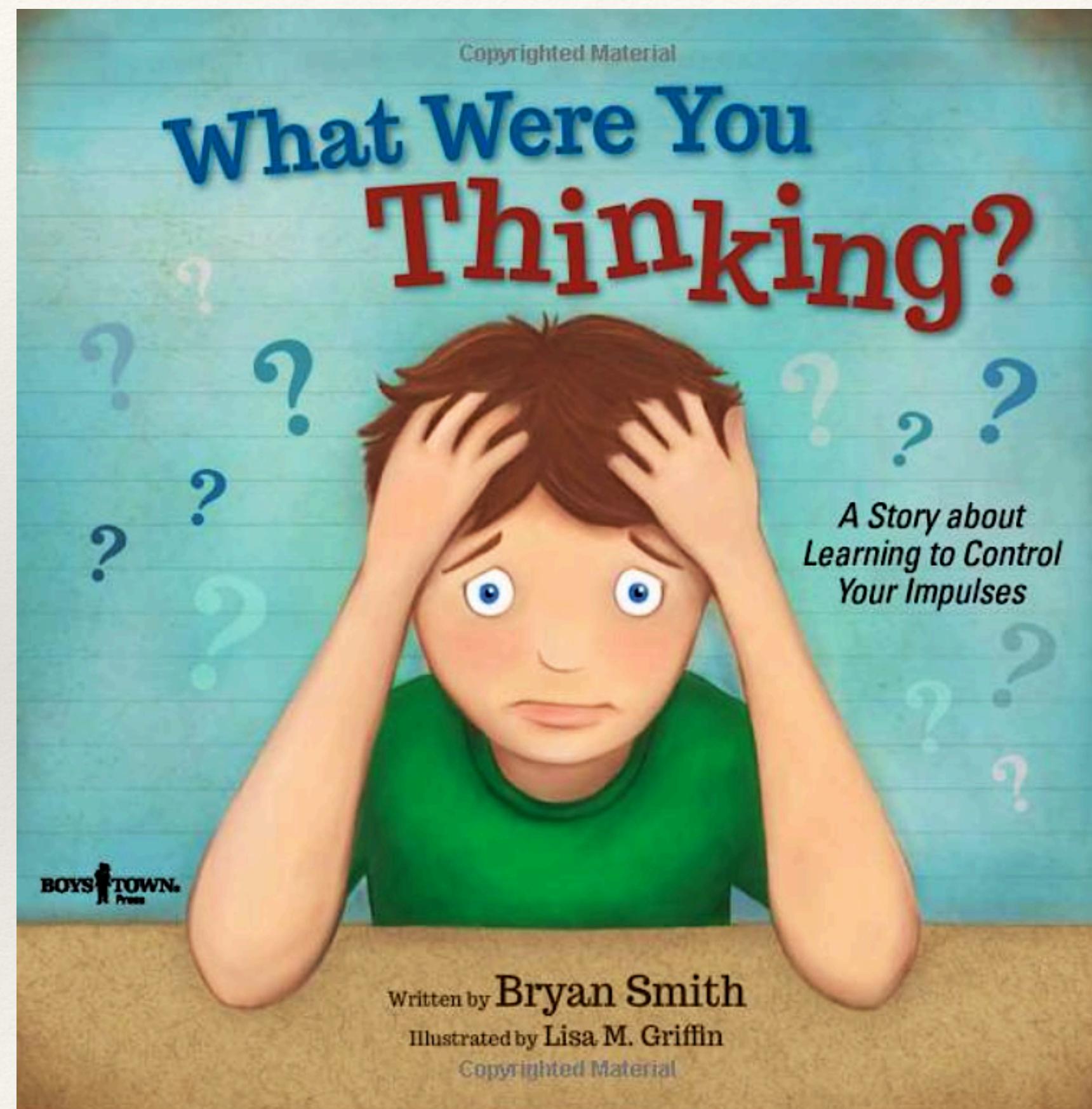
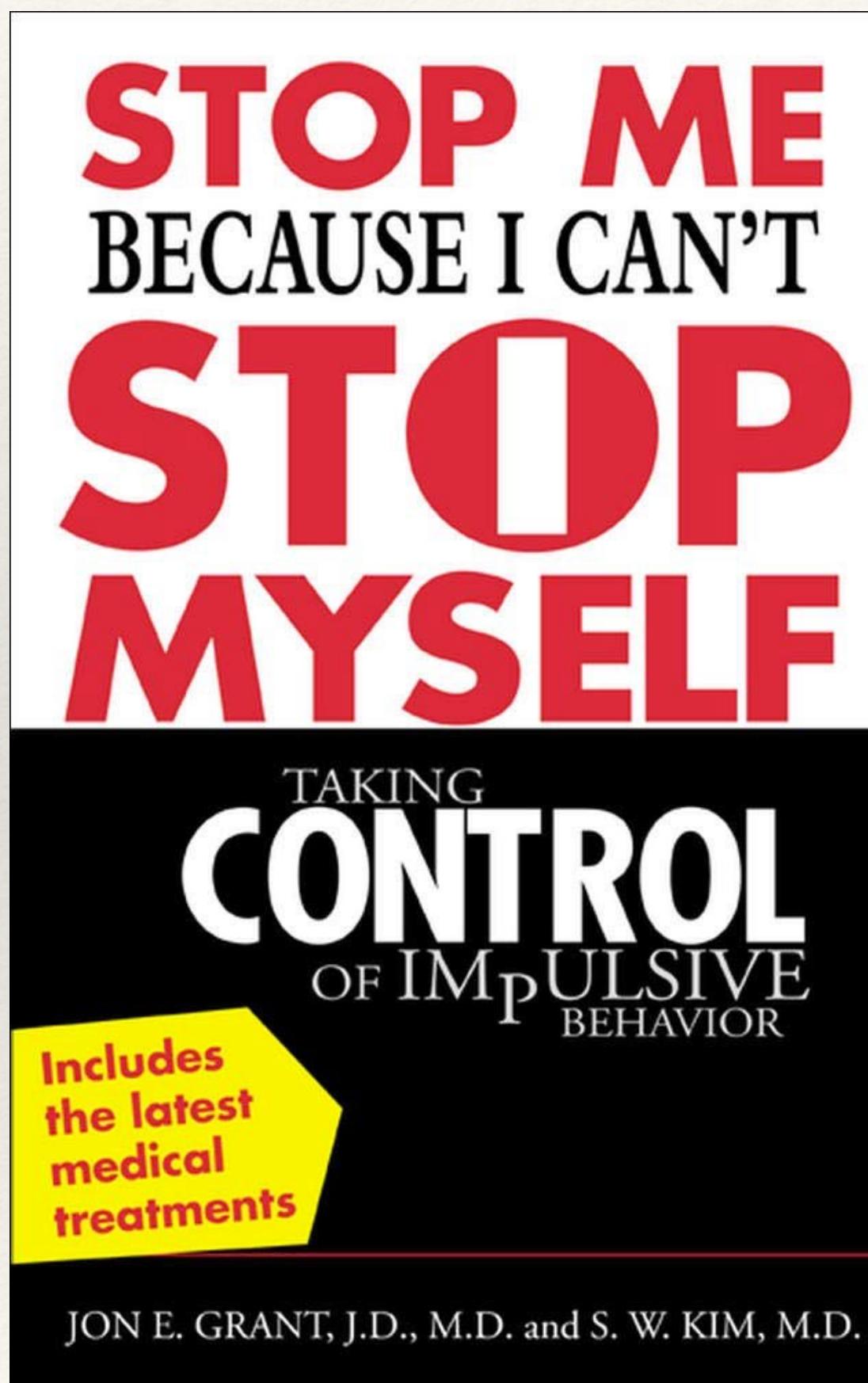
Naiveté

- Impulsiveness is acting or reacting without any thought to the consequences.
- Scripture tells us that wisdom is related to the fear of the Lord (1:7).
- Young people who know God's Word have more wisdom and insight than their elders who don't (Psalm 119:99). Plenty of older people are quick to anger, hasty with their words, or gullible about get-rich-quick schemes.
- It's not about age, it's about spiritual maturity (Jeremiah 1:7; 1 Timothy 4:12). It's about having the discernment to know what God would want you to do and the self-control to do it.

Naiveté

- When we take time to think through our decisions instead of acting hastily based on our feelings in the moment, we avoid making a mess of things.
- We think through a healthy way to work through conflict instead of exploding in anger, which only makes more conflict.
- We work diligently for our money instead of losing everything in get-rich-quick schemes.
- We think through how to say things to people so our words don't hurt others, even by accident.

Resources



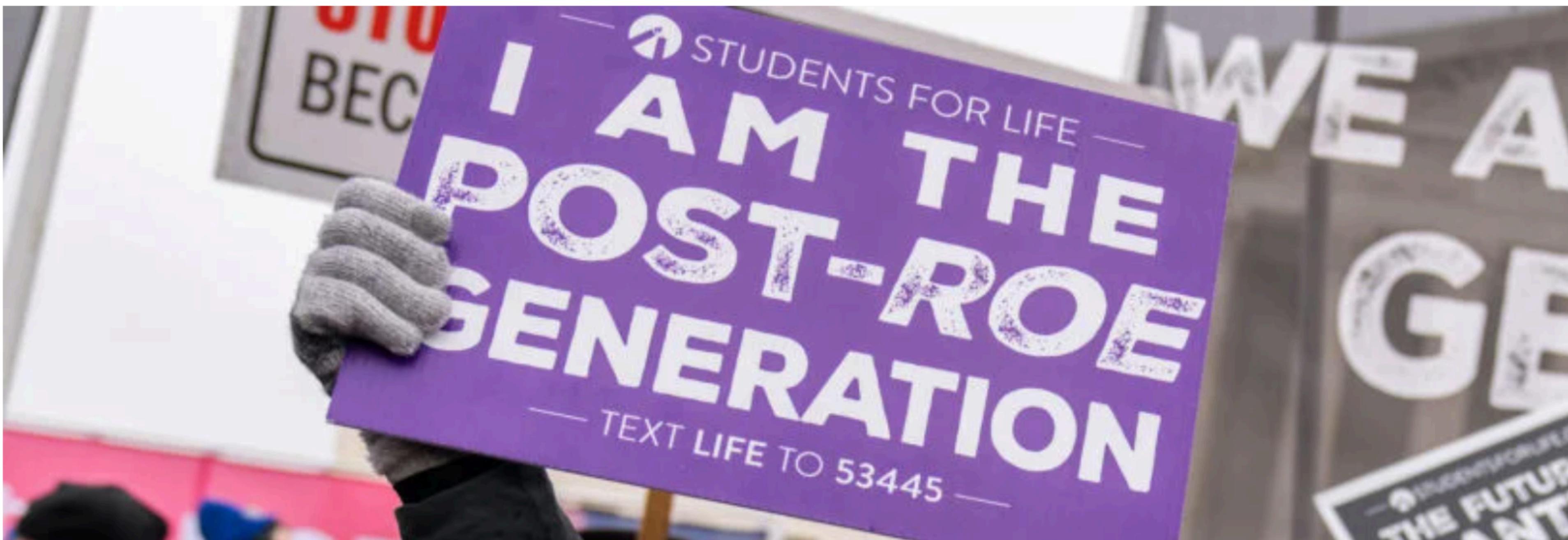


What will America look like if *Roe v. Wade* is struck down by the Supreme Court?

SOCIETY / COMMENTARY

5 Pro-Life Strategies for Post-Roe America

John Stemberger / [@JohnStemberger](#) / May 16, 2022



Post Roe America

- First, to care for women and children. A significant change will be the increase in abortion-minded women who will not have easy access to abortion in many states.
- The pro-life community must be “prepared to serve them by helping them decide to parent their baby or place the child for adoption.”
- Second, focus on law and public policy. Abortion will no longer be considered a federal “constitutional right” and will be returned to the states. The state legislatures will now be the battleground for pro-life initiatives.

Post Roe America

- Third, focus on elections. Candidates and elected leaders for state office will no longer have excuses for inaction on abortion since Roe will no longer be “existing law.”
- Fourth, will be a focus on education. Most pro-life organizations focus their time on education. This will be an important priority “to educate the public, and especially the church”
- A fifth priority will be direct action. This would include the ongoing ministry of pregnancy resource centers along with other pro-life ministries. It could also include undercover projects to expose lies, fraud, and abuse.

Post Roe America

Pro-choice militants are targeting 'pregnancy crisis centers' across US

Experts say that no matter how righteous, extremist protests are risky: they may turn people against the cause



Pro-Abortion Terrorists Firebomb Oregon Pregnancy Center



Over 40 attacks on churches and pregnancy centers as Supreme Court ruling looms



Post Roe America

- Jane's Revenge - “From here forward, any anti-choice group who closes their doors, and stops operating will no longer be a target. But until you do, it’s open season, and we know where your operations are. The infrastructure of the enslavers will not survive. We will never stop, back down, slow down, or retreat.”
- Shut Down DC - plans to “blockade the streets around the Supreme Court” on Monday, according to its website as part of a protest that aims to “shut down the Supreme Court” as it prepares to hand down a rulings that could overturn *Roe. v. Wade*.

Post Roe America

- President Biden plans to ignore the Hyde Amendment (bars federal funding of abortions in most federal programs).
- Federal agencies could provide vouchers for travel for individuals seeking access to abortion.
- Office of Personnel Management may allow federal employees to receive paid time off and reimbursement for access to abortion.
- Justice Department will likely fight any attempt by states to criminalize travel for the purposes of obtaining an abortion.

Post Roe America

- One proposal says President Biden will invite abortion doctors to work at federal facilities (such as military bases) if a state bans abortion at any stage.
- State prosecutors lack jurisdiction in federal enclaves, so judges will likely rule that state laws do not apply there.
- If abortion doctors face challenges to their state medical licenses, the Biden Justice Department can step in to decline to pursue charges.
- Executive orders filed by President Biden could be overturned in 2025 if another president is elected in 2024.

Pray and Support Pregnancy Centers

