

Minneapolis

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I am Debra Anderson speaking on behalf of ACT for America. We used to hold many public rallies, but the emergence of Antifa in America and the lack of proper policing has caused severe deterioration of freedom of peaceful assembly.

Last June rallies hosted by ACT for America across the country were met by counter-protestors dressed in black masks and hoods and some armed with pepper spray, homemade shields and water bottles. This also has the effect of radicalizing any assembly so only those willing to engage in physical battles will participate.

The safety of participants in a proposed ACT for America rally for the Constitution could not be guaranteed, so ACT for America decided to give up holding the planned public assemblies. This, in itself, constitutes a direct loss of fundamental freedom.

The remedy urgently needed is effective policing, where threats and violence from so-called counter-demonstrators are effectively prevented. This will require use of physical force, but experience from Poland and Spain prove this to be effective.

Therefore, ACT for America – Minneapolis recommends:

- That police and other authorities clearly differentiate between perpetrators and victims of violence
- That police effectively protect any peaceful assembly against intimidation, threats and attacks, using any force that may be necessary
- That violent groups attacking Freedom of Peaceful Assembly be investigated and prosecuted under the law

Thank you!

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