

Heather Rice-Minus
Sr. Vice President, Advocacy & Church Mobilization

Heather Rice-Minus serves as senior vice president of advocacy and church mobilization at Prison Fellowship, the nation's largest Christian nonprofit serving prisoners, former prisoners, and their families. She is a powerful, knowledgeable voice articulating the case for restorative criminal justice solutions and how churches play a critical role in meeting the needs of those impacted by crime and incarceration.

Rice-Minus provides strategic leadership to several teams at Prison Fellowship, including grassroots and policy staff, to advance campaigns on pivotal criminal justice issues. She spearheads Prison Fellowship's efforts to build new church resources and deepen church partnerships through programs like Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree. Additionally, she directs Prison Fellowship's outreach to and partnerships with foundations.

A valued shaper of the criminal justice reform debate because of her wide-ranging policy expertise, Rice-Minus has contributed to Christianity Today, Slate, CBN News, the Marshall Project, PBS' Religion & Ethics Newsweekly, and WORLD Magazine, among others. She is the co-author of *Outrageous Justice*, a multimedia Bible study curriculum and companion book produced by Prison Fellowship. She maintains a vested interest in justice reform as someone who has both been a victim of crime and walked alongside a family member during his incarceration.

A native of Virginia, Rice-Minus resides in Washington, D.C., with her husband and daughter. They welcomed another child as foster parents in 2020. Prior to her tenure at Prison Fellowship, she managed advocacy efforts on behalf of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. She is a graduate of Colorado State University and George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School. She is a member of the Virginia State Bar and a Colson Fellow.

Topics of Expertise:

- Christian and church trends on criminal justice and incarceration.
- Federal criminal justice trends and legislation.
- Sentencing and alternatives to incarceration.
- Conditions of confinement, including solitary confinement and the use of restraints on pregnant prisoners.
- Religious liberty in prison.
- Collateral consequences of conviction.

Highlights:

- Member of the American Enterprise Institute's Faith & Public Life Ideas Council
- Member of the Faith and Law Advisory Board
- Colson Fellow, Chuck Colson Center for Christian Worldview
- Past policy and legal work for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute and Kids In Need of Defense

Education:

- Bachelor of Arts double major in Social Work and Liberal Arts, cum laude, Colorado State University
- Juris Doctorate, George Mason University, Antonin Scalia Law School

SHORT BIO

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