

Speaker 1: [inaudible 00:00:01].

Speaker 2: We said it's May 9th right?

Bill Walton: It's May 9th.

Speaker 4: It's May 9th. All right [crosstalk 00:00:05]. May 9.

Bill Walton: Yeah. Be with Johnny.

Speaker 2: Just one second please. Make sure it looks good. Okay. Ready to go?

Bill Walton: I am ready.

Speaker 2: Here we go where can we get some [inaudible 00:00:22].

Bill Walton: Over the course of the past year, I've hosted several shows exploring China, its long history, its economic success and growth in the last 40 years, and its big ambitions for the 21st century. It's a vast subject, something Americans need to know much more about, and one where I feel that I have barely scratched the surface.

Bill Walton: But one thing has become very clear to me. China is no champion of human rights as we conceive of them in the West. The most recent Congressional Executive Commission on China reports that while the Chinese economy has grown dramatically, the Chinese Communist Party has become even more deeply committed to preserving its monopoly on power through state sponsored repression, surveillance, and indoctrination.

Bill Walton: So to learn more about human rights in China, I've asked two people, no three people with firsthand experience to join me on today's show.

Bill Walton: Reggie Little Littlejohn is the founder and president of Women's Rights Without Frontiers, a graduate of Yale Law School and an experienced litigation attorney. She an acclaimed international expert on China's one child policy, who organization has been called the leading voice in the battle to expose and oppose forced abortion and the sex selective abortion of females in China. Welcome Reggie.

Reggie Little: Thank you so much.

Bill Walton: Cheng Guangcheng is a Chinese civil rights lawyer, and activist who has been a persistent voice for freedom, human dignity, and the rule of law in his native country. Working in rural communities in China where he was known as the barefoot lawyer Chen advocated for the rights of disabled people and Organized

Class Action Litigation against the government's violent enforcement of it's one child policy.

Bill Walton: Blind since his childhood Chin is self taught in the law, his human rights activism resulted his imprisonment by the Chinese government for four years, beginning in 2006 after his release, he remained under house arrest until his escape from confinement in 2012, whereupon he came to the United States where he is now a distinguished fellow at Catholic University's Center for Human Rights. Welcome Chen.

Guangcheng: Thank you. I'm glad to be here at [inaudible 00:02:50].

Bill Walton: Delighted to have you here. And helping out and assisting and as a fourth voice or third voice in the show is Huchen Zhang, through senior editor of the China branch for the Voice of America, who will be helping interpret for Guangcheng, and we'll also have some points of view that we want to hear from you, so welcome.

Huchen Zhang: Thank you. It's an honor.

Bill Walton: Looking forward to the conversation. Reggie, how'd you get involved in this issue?

Reggie Little: Well, it all kind of happened because I was a litigation attorney in San Francisco in the 90s, and I represented a Chinese refugee, her case for political asylum in the United States. And she was persecuted as a Christian and forcibly sterilized. And what I mean by that is that-

Bill Walton: When was this?

Reggie Little: This was in the mid '90s when I represented her. So this is a while back. So what happened to her is that she, I guess violated the one child policy at the time. She had two children, so she was literally picked up and dragged from her home, held down to table, she was sliced open, her tubes were tied, all of this without anesthesia. And so she had permanent disability because of that.

Reggie Little: I just remember sitting behind my desk and in San Francisco thinking, here I am living the American dream and there are women on the other side of the world who are getting forcibly sterilized, forcibly aborted up to the ninth month of pregnancy, and so I dedicated my life.

Bill Walton: Briefly, the one child policy, Guangcheng, the one child policy, what that?

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:04:44].

- Huchen Zhang: The one child policy in China has always be enforced through violence as early as 2005, the Communist Party committees passed indications, past orders, which says forget about law. Let's just do the one child policy.
- Bill Walton: And it was enforced, it was created due because of population control.
- Reggie Little: Right. Under the Mao era, Chairman Mao encouraged women to have babies, about six babies per woman. So when Deng Xiaoping came into power, he said, oh my gosh, you've got this population explosion our hand and just started the one child policy. It started in about 19-
- Bill Walton: He came in and '76 so that would have been late 70s?
- Reggie Little: Well it was '79 or '80, depending on one when you want to count it. But it has been enforced with forced abortion, forced sterilization and infanticide since the beginning.
- Bill Walton: And now that proved to be a problem because of the growing imbalance between boys and girls and this brings us to your issue, Reggie, because boys are perceived as more valuable than girls.
- Reggie Little: Right. In China, ironically, the Chinese Communist Party does not really take care of his elderly at all. So what the elderly have in China is sons to help them, to live in their old age. And if you have only one kid, people wanted that one child to be a boy, because they felt that they had a choice of either committing gendercide against girls or facing poverty in their old age.
- Reggie Little: At its height, the gender imbalance was 121 boys born for every 100 girls born. And that's led to a situation where there's an estimated 37 million more men living in China than women. And that is leading to human trafficking and sexual slavery and all kinds of other unintended consequences.
- Bill Walton: And Guangcheng, this was your issue from the beginning in rural China. You saw this, you were appalled and you took the steps to call attention to it and an end it. Particularly the forced abortions and the, what do you call it, the gendercide?
- Reggie Little: Yeah, gendercide.
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:07:30].
- Huchen Zhang: The Family Planning Law of the Chinese Communist Party, clearly says that they can use force against women, against their family members and that they can use forced abortion, which is clearly a violation of the Chinese country's constitution. But this is what has been going on all of these years. That's why we are fighting this.

- Bill Walton: And even though China I guess announced a two child policy, the two child policy really hasn't changed much. I guess my question is you all got involved in this 20 years ago, is it still as pervasive today as it was then?
- Reggie Little: In terms of the two child policy as Guangcheng said, before they would kill every kid after one, now they kill every kid after two. It doesn't stop forced abortion and it doesn't stop the forced abortion of unmarried women.
- Reggie Little: I would say that it is less pervasive now than it was 20 years ago. And part of that is ... One of the reasons that the Chinese Communist Party gave to reduce it from a one child policy to a two child policy was international pressure and criticism. And Guangcheng and I have been the ones who've been pressuring the government more than anybody else to end these atrocities.
- Bill Walton: So there've been some success because of the sacrifice you made? Four years in jail and detention.
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:09:45].
- Huchen Zhang: There has been some progress, but things have now changed fundamentally. The whole system, the whole family planning system is still intact.
- Reggie Little: That's right.
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:10:10].
- Huchen Zhang: A few years ago now, Communist Party used to send groups to rural areas to grab pregnant women. If they couldn't find them to arrest their family members, even their neighbors. These people would be in jail for a few days, even for a few months. Things like this have improved a little bit.
- Bill Walton: But cutting through this, it doesn't seem like there's a legal system that prevents this from happening. It seems, we've got to Yale law school right here, it seems to me like this terrible things happening and you've got no course of ... No way to respond.
- Reggie Little: Something that people in America need to understand is that when our US Supreme Court promulgates a law, the whole nation has to obey it. That's not the case in China. China is much more decentralized than the United States. So that the Chinese government, even Beijing can say we're going to do this, and the provinces still have a lot of autonomy.
- Reggie Little: And so on the provincial level, on the municipal level, so according to Congressional Executive Commission on China, there are many laws that say you need to forcibly abort women who do not have permission to have babies. And that remains up to this day.

- Reggie Little: And if a woman tries to file a lawsuit saying I was illegally forcibly aborted, the courts will not take those suits. They will not hear the case. And a lot of times the lawyer who rules the case will be detained.
- Bill Walton: Well the question for an American and American that knew this issue, and I would put myself very much in that category is, it seems like the Communist Party control over virtually every aspect of what happens in China is near total. Is that an overstatement? Is that accurate?
- Reggie Little: I would say this, demographically it makes no sense whatsoever for China to continue with the one child policy, the two child policy, a three child policy any course of population control, because they need more people, right? They have a rapidly aging population. They have a steep decline in their workforce, and they need more people. So why are they keeping this course population control. It's for the reason that you stay? I believe it is social control, masquerading as population control. Because the one child policy or the two child policy, whatever system that they have, whatever number they have touches everyone.
- Reggie Little: You look at different human rights violations. You look at lawyers that are being detained or religious persecution, or the persecution of ethnic minorities. All of these are slices of Chinese society. But the one child policy touches every room, every family in China, and it's a way to control the entire population through intimidation.
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:14:34].
- Huchen Zhang: In reality is not an overstatement to say the Chinese Communist Party controls everything, every aspect of social life in China. Sometimes they couldn't do that because of the backwardness of their science and technology. But it is a fact that if the Chinese Communist Party wishes they could order the police department, the courts to refrain from getting involved in violations of human rights, especially in regard to family planning matters.
- Huchen Zhang: If they tell the courts, the police to stand aside, they're not stopping these violations of human rights.
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:15:30].
- Huchen Zhang: In 1992, the Chinese Communist Party issued orders through it's propaganda department telling the media not to report any violations in the course of enforcing family planning laws. So in 1995 Guangcheng and some friends went to a media reporter who told him sorry, we can't do anything. We can't publish anything on family planning matters.
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:16:53].

Huchen Zhang: In fact, the Chinese Communist Party has kidnapped the Chinese government and the Chinese people. This is not a normal state of governance. What is understood in the West in regard to government is not the same in China.

Bill Walton: The system of government, but also think the ... I want to get into this notion of what we define human rights as. I think there's a very different conception of human rights here in the United States than the Chinese Communist Party claims as a human right in China. I read something about the four freedoms or something where one of them for example as your right to obey the Communist Party. And you're right to agree that everything that President Xi says is accurate. So you have a right to obey, but those are not what we would think of in the West as human rights, Reggie.

Reggie Little: Well in the West, like in the United States, the United States was founded by people who believe in God. And they said that we find these things self evident that people have unalienable rights. They're unalienable because they come from God, and that no government has the right to abrogate these rights. So violate these rights.

Reggie Little: Now in contrast, the Chinese Communist Party is officially atheistic, and they believe that ... Basically they put themselves in some ways in the place of God. They believe that they're the one who defines human rights. And if they decide to give somebody a right, then they have a right. And if they decide to take the right away, then they don't have the right, because they're the ones who decide what rights people have.

Bill Walton: So the authority not from God, from the state.

Reggie Little: Exactly. And that makes everybody sort of an appendage of the state.

Bill Walton: Huchen, what's your view on this? You're a close observer of this through Voice of America, how would you characterize this [crosstalk 00:18:55]-

Reggie Little: Well, the concept of human rights interpreted by the Chinese government, is totally different from what we think and what were used to in the west. They stress the most important aspect of human rights is the right to survive. If the Chinese people survive, then they have human rights. It's ridiculous. They do not believe you have the right to think freely, to speak freely. They think if you think differently, if you voice dissent, you're an enemy of the Chinese Communist Party. As bad as that. It's a crime to say different things other than the Chinese Communist Party, to post comments on the Internet. So basically they put a tape on your mouth.

Bill Walton: Well there is something like 500,000 Internet police based in and around Beijing?

- Reggie Little: Maybe more. Yeah, around Beijing, but over the whole country who knows. Millions. And they all get paid 50 cents.
- Bill Walton: There was a phrase for those. 50 centers, for their comments on ... I've read a few YouTube comments from 50 centers, so welcome to the show.
- Huchen Zhang: Hope they get a raise.
- Reggie Little: Right. The two cents yeah.
- Bill Walton: They may get a dollar through this one. You're an extraordinarily courageous man to step up and take on these issues when you're in your 20s, and you paid the price for it. How many other people are there like you in China if these abuses are so pervasive. Is there an undercurrent of resistance in the country?
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:21:29].
- Huchen Zhang: The resistance has always been there. And with the development of social media and the Internet, people in China are now understanding, are now knowing more and more about the international society, about human rights and democracy. Therefore the resistance is becoming bigger and more vigorous. That's why the Chinese Communist Party is spending enormous amount of money maintaining social stability. And these days they don't dare even to let the outside world know how much money have they spend on maintaining social stability.
- Reggie Little: You had asked if there's other people like Guangcheng in China, and the answer is no. I mean he is one of a kind. I would not disagree with anything that they just said in terms of the resistance is building because, there are more and more people knowing it through the Internet.
- Reggie Little: But I will say that finding somebody who will stand up to the Chinese government from Chinese soil is very rare. And he went to jail for four years for doing it. We haven't even talked about how he was under house arrest, how he and his wife were tortured, their ribs were broken. All kinds of horrific things happen to them. And then once he escaped his family was persecuted, tortured horribly. This is what happens to people who dare to expose the atrocities of what's going on in China from Chinese soil.
- Reggie Little: There's one other person that I know of and I don't know what his name is. But someone whose wife was forcibly aborted late term, felt ... He and his wife were so totally shattered by this experience, they decided that they didn't care whether they would die. And so he went and started documenting the forced abortions, forced sterilization or other horrible things that were happening around his area, and got them out to the United States. Then I got a hold of them. That was the basis of my first testimony in the US Congress.

Reggie Little: But that's the point people have to get to. Because anyone who accuses the Chinese government of a human rights violation from Chinese soil will be heavily persecuted and their families and neighbors. And they have to get to the point where they just feel like they don't care whether they live or whether they die, they're just going to tell the truth.

Bill Walton: Well, Guangcheng has made the point also that a lot of the people have been forced out of the country. I think the view is if you're going to be a dissident, you're not going to stay in China. So the people would not necessarily be in prison in China, but they've been exiled.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:24:27].

Huchen Zhang: Actually, there have been only a few people who could leave China. Most of the human rights defenders in China still suffer a lot. The Chinese Communist Party spares no ways. Spares no methods to persecute all these human rights defenders. And it is really very, very, very, very hard for these people to withstand all the suffering, both emotionally and physically.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:25:41].

Huchen Zhang: Guangcheng says, this is what I went through in China. They treated me with a lot of violence, very harshly, but I was determined not to succumb to those pressures. And they threw me into prison in the of law, so I fought them with what they call their law. And finally, they did not reason with me. They didn't talk about law with me. They just gathered some hooligans in the prison to beat me up. And I suspect several of my ribs were broken when they beat me.

Bill Walton: Why did they let you live?

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:27:15].

Huchen Zhang: I can't say they didn't try that. They tried various ways to torture me. Let me give you an example. I suffer from stomach troubles and I vomited quite a bit. So they sent a doctor to see me and he prescribed medicine. And it so happens that I started medicine as well and I knew if I took his medicine there will be holes in my stomach. In other words, I would die.

Huchen Zhang: Basically the reason that I didn't die reason was because of the attention the whole international society was given to me and people liked me in China. If I died in prison, it would cause an uproar in the international society.

Bill Walton: Well, we've touched on the infanticide or the gendercide as a real war on women. But what about the status of women generally in China?

Reggie Little: I think that there's a lot of domestic violence in China. And another thing that people don't even think about in terms of the one child policy, the hidden victims are widows. So we're dealing with gendercide in the beginning of life, and then widows at the end of life. Because of the one child policy, the population has gone down and now the elderly population has zoomed up and the suicide rate among elderly has zoomed up 500% in the last 20 years in connection with the one child policy.

Reggie Little: China has the highest female suicide rate of any country in the world. And in the Chinese countryside, we have three times the number of women as men killing themselves. So ...

Bill Walton: And it seems like this whole ... One of the aspects of this is a real dismantling of traditional Chinese culture.

Reggie Little: That's right.

Bill Walton: I mean, the civil society, the family, taking care of the elders. I mean, the Communist Party has really destroyed the fabric of the traditional society.

Reggie Little: Yes. Because in traditional society, a farming couple, like in the rural areas would have a lot of children and they would have a lot of children. And then when the original couple got old, the extended family would help them in their old age, and they venerated the elderly.

Reggie Little: And now with the one child policy, you'll get a situation where you have a couple, each of them is an only child, they have to support four parents, eight grandparents themselves and their one child or their two children. And they just can't do it financially. So the elderly are just being abandoned and they are killing themselves.

Bill Walton: So the net effect of this is that, I mean, you think about the extreme of the states, say take 1984. You want to isolate the individual and the individual have no other support. No family, no extended family, no civil society institutions, no religion. It's just you and the state. And that seems like where this is going and has gone. Guangcheng?

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:31:33].

Huchen Zhang: The most severe damage communism has done to China especially the one child policy has done China, is to lose the respect for life, for human life. In old China, people believe people's lives matter. It is as important as the heaven itself. But this concept is gradually fading. This is the worst damage that communism has done to the Chinese culture and Chinese society.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:33:06].

- Huchen Zhang: In old China, people believed in religion. They believed there is God up there watching people, watching what you do. But these days because of the rule of the Chinese Communist, people do not believe in God anymore. They don't think God is omnipresent. You can do bad things and still get away with it. You don't care about your next life. You only care about the present, about the benefits of what you are doing to yourself. That's the most fundamental change in Chinese culture after the rule of the Chinese Communist ...
- Bill Walton: This is extremely sobering, because I think as Americans, we thought that in the '70s, '80s, '90s, we opened up the doors to trade and bring people in to do business in China, trade with China. Let the Chinese come here and have Confucius centers and do things like that we would, we'd be creating a western liberal democracy. And it seems like instead of going towards that, it's gone just the opposite direction.
- Reggie Little: Well yeah. Xi Jinping is possibly the most repressive ruler since Mao-
- Bill Walton: Xi is the current president?
- Reggie Little: The current president-
- Bill Walton: And just made himself president for life while [crosstalk 00:34:50]-
- Reggie Little: He abolished term limits basically. I mean, president Trump joked that Xi Jinping is like king, okay. But it's not funny because if you're president for life, how's that different from being king? I mean, he basically has absolute power and he's gotten himself in a situation that he will have it for the rest of his life.
- Bill Walton: But you say he's ... Okay, so he's grabbed the power, but he's made it ... If anything is worse than what it would come before.
- Reggie Little: Yes. Huchen would you like to address that?
- Bill Walton: Yeah. Huchen, would you weigh in?
- Huchen Zhang: Yeah. Xi Jinping basically has grabbed power for the rest of his life, which is very, very dangerous. He has no check and balances on him, and the worst of all, he has a whole bunch of lieutenants around him who tell the Chinese people, he is the greatest leader in the Chinese history. Even greater than Mao Zedong, even greater than Deng Xiaoping, and all the Chinese people are urged to study Xi Jinping's thoughts, his speeches, his quotations. And there's real danger that China will plunge into a second cultural revolution.
- Reggie Little: Absolutely.

- Huchen Zhang: People overlook this. They say, well the Chinese nation suffered a lot through the cultural revolution. This cannot happen again. [crosstalk 00:36:21]-
- Bill Walton: Cultural revolution [crosstalk 00:36:21]-
- Huchen Zhang: [crosstalk] people is a real reality. It's very possible another cultural revolution will come, and Chinese nation will endure even harsher difficulties, greater sufferings than during 1966 and 1976.
- Bill Walton: Reggie?
- Reggie Little: Well, I was going to just add to what Huchen was saying about the people are being encouraged or urged to study, Xi Jinping thought. Well because of cell phones and computers, they're being monitored about whether they are studying this thought. And if they are looking at the wrong things, it can affect ... They have these social credit scores-
- Bill Walton: Yes. Let's talk about social credit.
- Reggie Little: The social credit scores, which if you have a high score, you'll be able to do things like travel, borrow money, not be detained. If you have a low social credit score, you can be restricted in terms of your travel. You might lose your job, you will not be able to borrow money.
- Bill Walton: How is it monitored and what are they monitoring?
- Reggie Little: One of the things I was just mentioning to begin with that they were monitoring is if you go on the websites where you have Xi Jinping thought and you read his thoughts and you read his speeches, your social credit score will go up.
- Bill Walton: So they're watching you on the Internet they're watching what pages you're looking at-
- Huchen Zhang: It's very scary. They know what you are watching and what you are saying, literally. So I have friends telling me at night they open their cell phone and go to certain App and leave it open. And next morning they're working and you tell them you did well last night. You studied for three hours. They know what you are doing.
- Bill Walton: You said something I find interesting. The Chinese, I think of the Chinese as being very, very, very bright and clever in many ways. And it seems to me like ... You've got a pervasive Communist Party, 27 million surveillance cameras, social credit. It seems to me though the people are going to begin to game the system. I mean how much control can they really exert? And, Reggie, this is ...

Reggie Little: Well, Huchen is just talking about a way to game the system, which is to leave your App open for all night and then you come to work the next morning. They say, hey, good job. You were up reading Xi Jinping thought all night. But that's not really very effective. It's like you can game the system in a very small way, but you can't game it in such a way that you go off the grid and you're able to just sort of live your life and think your own thoughts.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:39:23].

Huchen Zhang: Guangcheng says, one thing that horrifies him is that the Chinese Communist regime is utilizing technology and science that they get from the West to control his own people. He says the Chinese government signed a contract to use nine manmade feather satellites from the West through a company in Hong Kong to control the Chinese people. Especially they use the technology of facial recognition and the movement recognition.

Huchen Zhang: If any undesirable person goes to Beijing, no matter what kind of clothes he wears, he will be recognized.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:41:08].

Huchen Zhang: Since the 1990s, the United States government and some other western governments believed that if the Chinese economy developed is democracy would grow as well. But actually what they have been doing is to help the Chinese Communists to become bigger and stronger and in a better position to control the Chinese people.

Reggie Little: Right. We thought that we were opening the door to democracy by getting the most favorite nation status ... Although I have to say, that was to me one of the most appalling things is that ... All the way up into the Clinton administration, whether it was a Republican or a Democrat in office, most favorite nation or our trade relationships with China was predicated upon their human rights record. And under the Clinton administration, that became [crosstalk 00:42:34]. Most favored nation from the human rights in China. And so now we have very little bargaining power with them-

Bill Walton: For years, talking about human rights was off the table.

Reggie Little: Yeah, right. And so we're dealing with the results of that now. But the whole idea of maybe bringing them in, helping them economically, helping them open up to be more capitalist society, hoping then that that would translate into greater human rights has actually backfired. And what it's done is it's enabled, it is fueled and funded an increasingly totalitarian repressive regime.

Huchen Zhang: That's very very true.

Bill Walton: Yeah. Go ahead.
Littlejohn Chen 5-9-19 (Completed 05/10/19)
Transcript by [Rev.com](#)

Huchen Zhang: The Chinese Communists believe basically western people and their governments are naïve. They're easy to be manipulated, and they're easy to be conceived. Conceited.

Bill Walton: You've been reading my Yahoo chat board, not the YouTube chat board [crosstalk 00:43:35]-

Huchen Zhang: So, I would say [crosstalk 00:43:38]-

Bill Walton: That's the comment.

Huchen Zhang: ... Wake up and open up our eyes. You cannot tolerate evil. You cannot treat evil with kindness.

Reggie Little: I have a question for Huchen and Guangcheng which is, what would you say about the US China trade deals? Is it right to be hard on them? I mean ... And what is the history of China in terms of actually being faithful to their promises? I mean, is it the case that they will make a treaty with the country, the idea of being, oh, well, this country is naïve and we'll make a treaty with them, get the benefit of the treaty knowing that down the line, they're going to actually break their side of the deal.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:44:40].

Huchen Zhang: From the point of view of human rights, most of the Chinese people would support the United States to sanction Chinese government, and especially the Chinese companies. If they do not have the amount of money that they have now, they cannot control the Chinese people indefinitely.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:45:19].

Huchen Zhang: Since the 1990s, the Chinese companies have been stressing the huge market in China, and the Chinese government has been flaunting their orders saying we can buy big things from you, but from the ongoing Twitter war between the US and China, we can tell that the US market is more important than the market in China.

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:46:29].

Huchen Zhang: As the Chinese Communist Party gets stronger over the past some years, past few years, they are doing other bad things in China to it's people including dismantling churches-

Reggie Little: That's right.

- Huchen Zhang: ... And disbanding family churches or some people say underground churches. At the same time they have extended their arms to this country. They're spending big money to control the media. And also universities, research institutions do not allow them to say bad things in China.
- Huchen Zhang: A few years ago I talked about Chinese infiltration and control in this country, and I received a lot of criticism. A lot of them come from US scholars. But now people believe this is indeed what's been happening.
- Bill Walton: So the control extends not just within China but throughout the world. And-
- Reggie Little: Oh absolutely.
- Bill Walton: ... It's pervasive and ... We have in the PR fight, I guess we have Confucius institutes and [crosstalk 00:48:24]-
- Reggie Little: But the Confucius institutes are propaganda arms of the Chinese government where they're trying ... They give different schools or universities these Confucius institutes, and the university says, okay, this is great. They're all self funded. We can now offer Chinese. But what they're doing also is offering propaganda. Is that correct?
- Huchen Zhang: That's absolutely true.
- Guangcheng: Yeah, sure.
- Reggie Little: Okay. And another problem is that the scholars, the Chinese scholars or the Americans who want to do scholarship in China, a lot of the Chinese departments in universities are partially funded or heavily funded by the Chinese government that can yank your funding if you criticize them and they can certainly yank access. Like if a scholar ... Scholars can criticize China on a number of bases. For example, with respect to the one child policy. You can criticize China on a demographic basis. You could say this is bad for China.
- Reggie Little: Look at the Asian population. Look at the way that the workforce is flowing. You cannot say you are forcibly aborting people. If you do that, if you step over that line, then a scholar runs the risk of not being allowed back into China.
- Reggie Little: So they're silencing from the west, the voices of criticism to China, and even freedom of scholarship. Academic freedom is compromised.
- Bill Walton: Didn't they recently, I to guess they've closed about a 100 Protestant Christian churches, but didn't they also reach an agreement with the Holy See, the Catholic Church that China would now be appointing the bishops, and The Holy See gets veto rights, but that doesn't sound like ...

Reggie Little: Well, yes. As a Catholic, I'm very, very concerned about this. China and the Vatican came to an agreement, the Catholic said that they wanted to unify the underground church with the official church. But what's been happening is no one has disclosed what's in that agreement, and the Chinese government has been abusing that secrecy by going around to Catholic churches and saying, the Pope says that you need to be shut down, or destroying Catholic shrines.

Reggie Little: And the Catholics have undergone tremendous persecution since that agreement, and they can't defend themselves because no one knows what's actually in the agreement.

Bill Walton: Well, how many Christians are there in China? Is it 10 million-

Huchen Zhang: I've seen a figure that says they're about 200 million Christians in China. We don't know the exact number-

Bill Walton: Well that's significant. That's 15%.

Huchen Zhang: That includes people [crosstalk 00:51:08]-

Bill Walton: Population is about a billion three so your-

Reggie Little: Yes.

Huchen Zhang: 1.4-

Bill Walton: Yeah. 1.4.

Huchen Zhang: And I've seen a scholar that says China will become the biggest Christian country in about 20 years.

Bill Walton: So Christianity is growing in China.

Huchen Zhang: It's growing despite all the persecution and crackdowns.

Reggie Little: Or maybe because of the persecution. It's said a lot of the martyrs is the seed of the church. So the Chinese government has knocked down thousands of crosses across China and it's just ... There was an incident where they were bulldozing a church and a pastor, his wife and others were trying to stop the bulldozer, and she actually got bulldozed and she was killed by the bulldozer. So she died trying to stop her church from being knocked down.

Huchen Zhang: There will be martyrs. There are true believers. There are some other people who I do not believe they are quite sincere when they say they're Christians, but we do believe there are a lot of sincere believers in China.

- Reggie Little: Absolutely. Because anybody who survived the persecution of China's is a refined, like gold.
- Bill Walton: So there's so much to get into here, particularly the Americans really don't understand or know much about. But in the interest of sort of wrapping this show up before we get onto our next show, but as I'm sure there will be, where do you see this going? I mean, is the Chinese Communist Party vulnerable in any sense? Five years, 10 years, 15 years, where are we in the trajectory?
- Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:52:54].
- Huchen Zhang: I can surely say that the future of Chian is democratization. How soon and how it will happen depends on how the western countries perceive China and understand China. There are a lot of people in China who do not believe the Chinese government anymore. And the Chinese Communist Party has always controlled the country and its people through two things. One is lies, the other one is violence. Now their lies don't work as well as in the past. So they're resorting more and the more to violence. That means people's resistance will become more and the more fierce.
- Huchen Zhang: The Chinese Communist Party is throwing money everywhere throughout the world. If the western governments should have a clear understanding of what the Chinese Communist Party is doing, and adopt very good policies towards China.
- Bill Walton: That's so well said and I think with that we'll end this conversation. Reggie Littlejohn, Guangcheng and Huchen Zhang. Reggie?
- Reggie Little: I just want to say there is one little note of hope here. 'Cause the whole thing with China [crosstalk 00:55:38]-
- Bill Walton: That's unlike a note of hope.
- Reggie Little: Yes, that's true. But we're inside of China actually saving baby girls and widows. We're the only organization that has a network on the ground inside of China that is able to save these baby girls from gendercide, and these widows from suicide.
- Bill Walton: I have three plugs. One is for you and your organization. Talk about that and where can we find you?
- Reggie Little: Oh, okay. Thank you. My organization is Women's Rights Without Frontiers, and we are an advocacy organization ... I spent years advocating for Guangcheng's release. So I was a leader of the international movement of that. So that was part of our advocacy.

- Reggie Little: And we also are the main ones who were exposing the truth that China was continuing to forcibly abort women when they were denying it. And then we also have boots on the ground inside of China. We're the only organization in the world that I'm aware of that is actually able to get ... We're inside of China saving baby girls from sex elective abortion, and saving abandoned widows from destitution and possible suicide. So that's what we do.
- Bill Walton: You're 501(c)(3).
- Reggie Little: We're 501(c)(3). Nonprofit organization.
- Bill Walton: And we can contribute to you on your website.
- Reggie Little: You can go to Women's Rights Without Frontiers and just click save a girl or save a widow and you can contribute to one of those ... Campaigns is the only way that you can actually go to ... Your money will go to the door of a family, of a baby girl or of a widow and actually help them very directly.
- Bill Walton: Terrific. And then we have a book, The Barefoot Lawyer that the Guangcheng has written. It's a wonderful book. Describes your journey through China, and your imprisonment and your escape and the work you've done since then, and gets into a lot more depth and emotional detail than that we were able to cover on this show. But it's wonderful and I highly, highly recommend it. It's on Amazon. I only Kendall version, recommended it.
- Bill Walton: Huchen Zhang, thank you so much for joining Voice of America. What we can say about Voice of American and what it's doing in China?
- Huchen Zhang: Well there's a lot of controversy about what Voice of America is doing in China but that's a long story. Basically we try to reach the Chinese people with news of what's happening in China and in the United States. And Voice of America has been broadcasting to China for 75 years and the more, and I hope this tradition will go on.
- Bill Walton: Great. Well thank you and thanks for joining me. And this has been a tremendously interesting and hopeful discussion we've had about China and its future. So thanks for joining.
- Speaker 2: Excellent. Good. Thank you.
- Reggie Little: Thank you.
- Guangcheng: Thank you.

Reggie Little: Can somebody get a picture of us here. 'Cause you know what this reminds me of? The first time when Guangcheng appeared on Voice of America. You interviewed him and [crosstalk] together. The three of us together.

Guangcheng: Yeah, yeah.

Reggie Little: That was amazing. That was like one of the highlights of my entire time as the human rights activist. So I want to get a picture of us with you and or yeah.

Bill Walton: We want to get a picture of the set too. Why don't we do it here this way.

Speaker 2: Let's see ... [crosstalk 00:59:18]-

Guangcheng: [Foreign language 00:59:22].

Bill Walton: Why don't you try this also? Why do we have both of you stand [crosstalk 00:59:30]-

Reggie Little: Okay. Can I get a picture on my camera. [crosstalk] Just the three of us sitting like this here because that's going to be like a mirror of the Voice of America interview. Do you have [crosstalk] how you want this on too?

Guangcheng: Yeah. I remember that. At that time I'm in Beijing-

Speaker 9: [crosstalk] look at me. [crosstalk 00:59:47]-

Speaker 10: Hang on as second. Okay.

Speaker 9: People in action. [crosstalk 00:59:59].

Reggie Little: I'm just trying to get my phone going here. I turned it off.

Bill Walton: Wow.

Reggie Little: Yeah, what do you think?

Huchen Zhang: Thank you for talking about China. The more people talk about Chian the better it will become for the Chinese people.

Bill Walton: I felt like we've covered this fairly comprehensively. I fell like for anybody who wants an overview of what's been happening, I think we got right at it.

Bill Walton: And the thing that I haven't been able to get because I've had mainly American experts on getting a feel for the Chinese people and the difference-

Speaker 9: Does it just automatically [inaudible 01:00:51]. Okay. Smile one more time. Okay.

Bill Walton: Okay. And the optimistic note at the end that most of the Chinese people don't agree with what the Chinese government's doing is encouraging. Because it just is. We got a lot of fights there.

Huchen Zhang: Yeah.

Bill Walton: So thank you.

Guangcheng: Thank you.

Bill Walton: Thank you, thank you, thank you. This is great.

Guangcheng: Yeah. After [inaudible] public giving me our link, okay?

Bill Walton: We will. We're going to ... We've had a happy calling. We've been backed up with shows we wanted to do. Last week, Tuesday, just two days ago, we got a Forbes 400 member sitting in your chair, manages \$100 billion of money. Very controversial. Very contrarian man and he has a lot of ideas I think that you would like.

Bill Walton: Ken Fisher, he writes for Forbes, and we've got a big backlog of shows that we've been producing. So Kenny will edit this. We'll do it so all of the show is being shot in four cameras. So he'll take each of the shots from the four cameras, pick the best one. We're not going to edit anything from those. I don't see any need to.

Bill Walton: And then we promote this via social media, Facebook and Twitter. And we'll probably push the show out next week or the following week. But I'll get you guys like sooner.

Reggie Little: Great. And we can push it out ourselves.

Bill Walton: Oh yeah. That's the idea. Everybody's got a network. So what do you think Reggie? You enjoyed that?

Reggie Little: Absolutely. This whole thing with the Voice of America is actually really important.

Bill Walton: It's a big problem [crosstalk 01:02:49]-

Reggie Little: It's a big problem because the people who are currently at Voice of America are subverting US interest internationally. There are subverting them. And president Trump just seems to not really be paying attention to this.

Reggie Little: Hillary Clinton. I understand if she had been elected. Two days after elections and she was going to go write [inaudible] Voice of America, it's like, how are we going to use this great tool to promote our agenda. And the Obama holdovers are still at your Voice in America promoting the Obama administration's agenda. A very powerful international broadcaster.

Bill Walton: Yeah. Well that's the problem Trump has. Is that 98% of the government is resisting him-

Reggie Little: Right, exactly. It's amazing what he's been able to do.

Bill Walton: And it's true. V of A is true in the EPA is true in the Justice Department and labor, especially labor. They're going to out wait him.

Huchen Zhang: Yeah, we'll see if he gets his second term. If he does it, things might become a little bit smoother.

Bill Walton: I think he's going to get a second term.

Reggie Little: I do too. And it's true in that way.

Bill Walton: I think he's going to get a second term.

Huchen Zhang: He will have more time to fight the Chinese Communists. [crosstalk] we're going to pray for all those-

Bill Walton: O\at a personal note for me with this show, I tend to find things that I think I ought to be more engaged in. And I did a show on habitats and species a couple of weeks ago. I got very interested in that as a problem we've got to address and the-

Guangcheng: The Communist Party's embassy will call you soon.

Huchen Zhang: He says the Chinese Communist embassy will call you soon.

Reggie Little: And say what?

Guangcheng: We'll pay you 50 cents if you-

Huchen Zhang: [crosstalk] talk about China.

Speaker 9: You can get a raise.

Guangcheng: Can we make plans to have lunch?

Bill Walton: I bet they will won't they?

Guangcheng: I will invite you to Beijing.

Bill Walton: I'm not going to Beijing.

Reggie Little: [inaudible 01:05:01]. Some of what they do [crosstalk] in Beijing. Tell them what they do in Beijing. When when people accept an invitation like that, what happens to them? Tell them.

Huchen Zhang: They will video tape your hotel room. They will send beauties into your hotel room, try to get in bed with you and to video you-

Reggie Little: And then they'll video tape it. And then when you come back they'll use that as like extortion. As like, you better do what we want because otherwise we're going to broadcast this or whatever.

Bill Walton: Is there you still down here?

Speaker 9: Absolutely [crosstalk 01:05:30]-

Reggie Little: She's here. Yeah. He's saying I'll go with you as long as [crosstalk 01:05:33].

Bill Walton: Well we were planning to go to Beijing anyway. [crosstalk] that will really not funny if you go. I recognize there's a certain amount of risk in doing things like this, but I just think that's just part of what you have to do.

Reggie Little: That's right.

Guangcheng: That's the little price you pay for speaking the truth.

Bill Walton: I believe you've got to speak up. Say what you believe what's right and what's wrong.

Guangcheng: Yeah.

Speaker 9: So, how-

Reggie Little: I agree.

Speaker 9: We do have-

Bill Walton: And you guys are living in ... I'm living in the living room [crosstalk 01:06:10]-

Speaker 9: [crosstalk] we that identification and how should we identify him? How would he liked to be identified? So like is president, is Reggie president of the Women's Rights Without Frontiers.

Reggie Little: I'm the founder and president.

Bill Walton: So [crosstalk] what do I think?

Huchen Zhang: Human Rights Activist or human rights defender.

Bill Walton: Screwed up what? We handle it just fine.

Speaker 9: Human Rights Activist and human Rights defender?

Bill Walton: No we were fine. He was giving me [crosstalk] we were good.

Huchen Zhang: He hopes you can say he's works for the Human Rights Research Center at Catholic university-

Guangcheng: Catholic university and the Witherspoon Institute?

Speaker 9: Catholic University. Okay.

Reggie Little: And Witherspoon Institute.

Guangcheng: Yeah. Witherspoon Institute.

Speaker 9: Like Reese Witherspoon?

Reggie Little: Yeah, it's the same word, but it's more like Robbie George.

Guangcheng: Yeah. They did a good job.

Reggie Little: You know Robbie George?

Bill Walton: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Guangcheng: Yeah. So you should mention that.

Speaker 9: Okay, great. Thank you.

Bill Walton: Well thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Guangcheng: Thank you.

Bill Walton: This is great. Let's see what happens next. And I think the idea of having you back on is a good one. In the life is long category there are many stories to tell. As things develop, then there's other aspects of this that you think need to be out there, let's, let's make that happen.

This transcript was exported on Dec 12, 2019 - view latest version [here](#).

Reggie Little: Okay, we'd love to.

Speaker 11: You let them know what people [crosstalk 01:07:49]. What the Chinese people say to you.

Bill Walton: Well, if they call me, sure, I'll let you all know.

Reggie Little: You should. If they call you, need to get [inaudible 01:07:58]. Just say no. I mean, no... They called me once. It was very interesting. I got a call from London, and there was a member of the Chinese Communist Party, is like "We would like you to stop talking about forced abortion in China." And I said, "Well, if you stop doing it, maybe I'll stop talking about it." And she's like-