

Timecoded index of speaker and topics in **Video: "Climate Heroes on Trial"**  
recorded 14 January 2018 at First Presbyterian Church, San Anselmo CA  
<https://vimeo.com/252440389>

M = **Michael Foster** (valve turner, North Dakota)

E = **Emily Johnston** (valve turner, Minnesota)

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00:03 - Intro by Peter Anderson  
02:50 - 7-minute Valve Turner video plays  
10:20 - Intro by Peter B. Collins, moderator  
13:08 - M: joy of acting "on the right side of history"  
16:54 - E: why direct action is crucial in addition to legal routes  
21:21 - E: the timing of the action as an "emergency"  
22:59 - M: there is no politician or plan to reverse CO2 emissions  
24:23 - E: "It's our job to change what is politically possible"  
24:42 - M: on making his personal choice to risk arrest or just keep planting trees  
29:46 - E: personal story of learning the history of civil disobedience  
31:38 - E: direct action is "withdrawing consent from catastrophe"  
33:53 - M: personal story from mental health counselor to "Climate Change for Families"  
39:09 - E: why this action & group was right for necessity defense  
41:20 - M: working for change inside the system too; e.g., kids lawsuit in WA  
41:40 - M: on hypocrisy of Gov. Jay Inslee appealing the kid's case win:  
"Makes you want to turn off a pipeline, doesn't it?!"  
43:51 - E: the Keystone XL protest as a precursor to her and others actions  
45:08 - E: next steps, opportunities for joining local actions  
46:40 - M: importance of planting trees; but which species will survive?  
48:12 - M: It's an emergency  
48:44 - M: timeline for CO2 reduction and personally how to cut back  
49:32 - M: responses to hypocrisy charge on using fuel to drive to protest  
50:01 - M: "We have to recognize our own addiction, and we have to intervene"  
54:29 - M: on the petition from 84 members of Congress that mentioned the VTs  
55:02 - E : Minnesota granted use of the necessity defense and what that means  
57:33 - M: affirms the importance of the necessity defense in Minnesota trial  
  
58:15 - SHIFT TO AUDIENCE QUESTIONS (VT responses below)  
1:03:38 E: the importance of quiet and solitude — 'not doing'  
1:05:50 M: conveys Emily's story of need for quiet and her being a poet  
1:07:35 E: economic loss of dealing with this problem now v. delaying action  
1:09:56 M: what this moment in history calls from each of us (Carl Sagan)  
1:11:51 E: economic inequality means that personal action cannot be the focal solution  
1:14:31 M: reflects on the range of views re balance of personal & systemic action  
1:18:30 E: why it is right for elders to be the ones stepping forward to act  
1:21:54 M: encourages people to find one another locally and now for climate action  
1:23:15 E: how to respond to the "Isn't it too late?" challenge  
1:28:12 M: asks audience to raise hands if willing to do direct action

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Emily: "We felt it was really important in the U.S. context to not only shut off *all* of the tar sands crude pipelines coming into the U.S. but also to do it as openly as possible, so that we could then come out and talk to congregations or groups like this and say why we had done it and to stand up in court and say why we had done it. My only regret in this action is that we didn't do it ten years earlier." (timecode 19:04)