

# CCBR: Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform

## *Making Abortion Unthinkable*

June 2006

***“I changed my mind in a 180-degree direction.”***

Dear Friends,

The first quarter of 2006 was such a busy and impacting time for us at CCBR that there is a backlog of fruits to share with you!

Two months ago, from April 7 to 9, I travelled to Camrose, AB, where I gave a sermon at Solid Rock Free Lutheran Church. I also spoke at the Canadian Luther Bible Institute (CLBI), to the Grade 7 students at Our Lady of Mount Pleasant Catholic school, at Emmaus Road (an interdenominational youth gathering), and at a public community presentation.



▲ Pro-life obstetrician/gynecologist Dr. Harvey Ward spoke at my public presentation to the Camrose community. He also sang moving songs after our talks there as well as following my sermon at the Solid Rock Free Lutheran Church.

▼ I speak to 100 youth and young adults at Emmaus Road.



situations.” Her change of heart was encouraging. She “became convinced that **no reasons are [valid] for allowing abortion.**”

The above introductory quote was written in a survey from a 17-year-old who attended the Emmaus-Road presentation. He further wrote the following:

**“I really sat on the fence for years, and tonight she [Stephanie] changed my mind. ...** We just learned about the process of a new life being formed in Biology 30 so this really tied in nicely for understanding. I believe that there are many ways to get around abortion (adoption, etc.) and I now believe that abortion is 100% the devil’s work and must be done away with to free our country and lives from sin.”

This student’s comments about the abortion video were particularly powerful: “GRAPHIC. I forced myself to watch, because God spoke to my heart, and couldn’t let me walk away from what I needed to see.”

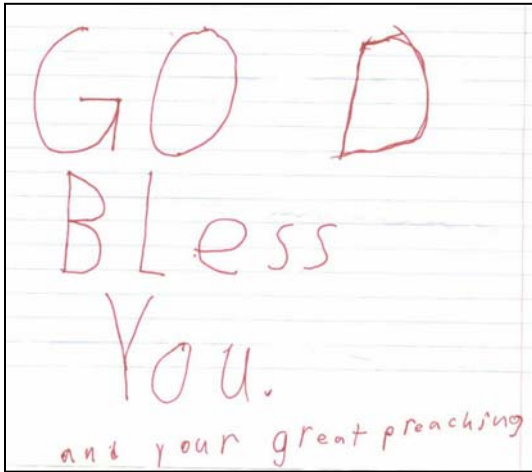
A 19-year-old Christian university student, also at that talk, wrote that before the presentation she thought “that abortion is wrong, though I wasn’t so convicted in that abortion is not a ‘case-to-case’ decision.” She went on to say that, “**The presentation strengthened my stand against abortion and that it is wrong in every situation.**” She said the graphic visuals were “disturbing, but seeing them really hits the pro-life message home for me.”

A 21-year-old Christian woman wrote that she was “opposed generally [to abortion]—but not certain on all

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A 12-year-old Christian girl wrote that prior to the presentation she was not sure what to think about abortion. Following it she wrote, **“Yes. I am totally against it in every way.”**



▲ Following my sermon at Solid Rock Free Lutheran Church, a boy (who couldn't have been more than 9) made me smile by handing me a folded piece of paper with this message: "God bless you and your great preaching."

A 15-year-old boy wrote that he "didn't care" about abortion prior to the talk. His view also changed: **“Yes, I hate it now.”**

When I spoke at the CLBI, a 21-year-old student wrote, "I had a strong opinion against abortion but have been convicted of my passive activism. **I want to become more active in the preservation of life.**" He said that the graphic movie was "very hard to watch but it did convict me and will stay with me for a very long time!!!"

Jojo was also busy this past spring with speaking and showing the reality of abortion. In April he returned to B.C. where he spoke to the Catholic Women's League at St. Stephen's Church and presented at Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Word International Church, and Lord's Peace Chapel, all in the Lower Mainland.

An 18-year-old Christian at Cedar Grove Baptist Church wrote that prior to the presentation he was "unsure [of his position on abortion]. I have never thought about it." When asked if his view changed he wrote, **“Yes, after seeing those pictures.”**

A 23-year-old Christian wrote he was "neutral and unsure about yes or no [on whether abortion is right or wrong]." When asked if his view changed following the talk he wrote, "Yes. I see truth and I truly feel that I can see a prospective view that Christ would have. **I am truly PRO-LIFE AFTER THIS VIDEO.**"

While Jojo and I travel, Brendan keeps things running smoothly behind the scenes. The number and variety of tasks he handles is impressive. In particular, I've asked him to put his "eagle" editorial eye to reviewing numerous documents—more about those in an upcoming newsletter, so please stay tuned.

To God be the glory,

*Stephanie*

Stephanie Gray

► Jojo (left) speaks to youth at Cedar Grove Baptist Church.



P.S. I am scheduled to speak for two Sundays at the Vancouver Chinese Alliance Church in B.C. on August 6 and 13. I am excited about my visit "home"! I will be in the Lower Mainland for that week; therefore, if you would consider hosting a coffee-party fundraiser for CCBR please call our office at 604-419-0227. Our Vancouver-area number is redirected to us in Calgary, so it's a local call for you.

*Note: Quotations may have been edited for grammar, syntax, punctuation, spelling, and/or length.*

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