



January 2010

MAKING ABORTION UNTHINKABLE

www.unmaskingchoice.ca

CCBR

Dear Friends,

Happy new year! And those of us at CCBR have good reasons to be happy: Powerful testimonies continue to pour in from our presentations, which show that abortion is being made unthinkable. We hope you too are encouraged by this month's news, and we hope you'll continue to partner with us. We can only continue to be on the frontlines with the help of your financial backing! Thank you!

Inoculating the Young. In November, I spoke to the grade seven students at St. Francis Xavier in Vancouver. By reaching this age group we are exposing them to the flaws of the pro-abortion mindset before they are faced with circumstances where abortion could be considered. This strengthens them in resisting the lies they'll inevitably encounter in the years to come:

A 12-year-old male wrote that before the presentation his view on abortion was "I didn't know." He gave that comment along with a score of 5 (where 0 means "support all abortion" and 10 means "against all abortion"). Afterwards he shifted to 10 and wrote: "**Killing unborn babies is wrong.** Unborn babies are human beings, not a mindless thing."



▲ Michelle (left) and Mary (right) are part of the pro-life club at Columbia University (New York) that invited me (centre) to speak on November 16. I gave CCBR's "Echoes of the Holocaust," talk which examines the parallels between abortion and historical atrocities.

► Last Fall, pro-life students at McMaster University (Hamilton) invited Jojo (third from right) to present "Echoes of the Holocaust."



Another student wrote about her views prior to the talk: "As a female, I try to feel what it would be like to have pressure and pregnancy. I felt that it is easy to do abortion and hard to not. I think the baby could badly affect the life of the mother and itself." After: "**Now I understand what it means to protect a precious life.** It is harmful for the baby, and abortion is rather selfish." **She shifted from 5 to 7.**

Big Breakthrough. On that same speaking tour I spoke in a grade 12 class at a public high school (we are rarely given that opportunity!). The teacher wrote, "The presentation is respectful of those who have different opinions and **extends forgiveness and grace towards those who have had the procedure, while establishing, by appeals to logic and reason,** the reality of what abortion is. Stephanie Gray is very personable, engaging, and she relates well with the students, handling their toughest questions with great skill."

When asked what she remembered most, a 17-year-old female wrote, "The video with the aborted fetuses... **Those images are stuck in my head.**"

A 16-year-old female **shifted from 5 to 8.** Her view before was this: "I haven't really thought about it too much, so I didn't have a view on abortion. I also realized that it's a tough choice to make because it's so controversial, so I didn't want to think about it" Afterwards her view was this: "The question about life is that they're definitely humans

inside the womb and they are living, breathing beings. **Just because it's uncomfortable to be pregnant, why should we make a law for it to be terminated?**"

Ontario High School Tours. Jojo and I recently spoke at several Ontario high schools. Here is encouraging feedback:

Before the presentation: "I did not care." After the presentation: "It was sad even thinking about killing a child, even if they weren't born yet." –age and gender unknown, **shift from 1 to 10** (St. Joan of Arc CSS)

Before: "I didn't think it was that bad because if you have the baby you're not going to be able to take care of it and the baby won't grow up to be a regular person." After: "**I'm against all abortion** because it isn't right to the baby. No matter what, everybody deserves to live..." –14-year-old male, shift from 7 to 9 (St. Joan of Arc CSS)

Before: "**I was having mixed feelings on how abortion is** and I didn't really know exactly what it was about." After: "More against abortion because **I dislike how babies unborn or born are being treated.**" Did it motivate you to want to stop abortion? "Yes, it did FULLY! I would completely want to do something to help out in STOPPING abortion." –age and gender unknown, shift from 5 to 8 & 9 (Robert F. Hall CSS)

Before: "I always thought it shouldn't be done but then again it depends on the situation of the person." After: "After the presentation **I felt horrible to see what the process of abortion was.** I think it shouldn't be done." –15-year-old female, shift from 5 to 10 (Robert F. Hall CSS)

"**The abortion video is etched in my mind.** If I could do everything in my power to enforce people to not have abortion, I would." –17-year-old male (Brebeuf College School)

"**If my partner were ever to be pregnant, I would never abort it!**" –17-year-old male (Brebeuf College School)

Before: "I'm quite neutral towards this topic. When I hear the word abortion, I don't tend to think much about it." After: "After the presentation, the images of [abortion] were quite effective. **They changed my mind about abortions.**" –15-year-old male, shift from 5 to 6 or 7 (Brebeuf College School)

Before: "I think women should have their choice if they want the abortion or not." After: "After the presentation, **my views have changed** and I think abortion is really wrong." –15-year-old male, shift from 5 to 8 (Brebeuf College)

As I write this, besides having more scheduled talks coming up, we're preparing for an exciting GAP tour in Florida in

February! Our Canadian office is partnering with CBR Midwest to display GAP at four campuses over two weeks. We're leading a team of top notch pro-lifers, many of whom are university students, from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, South Africa, England (and of course the US!) to experience GAP in an uncensored environment and minister to college students. It's our hope and expectation that this will bear much fruit in Canada, with our Canadian contingent returning pumped up to implement GAP in their communities, and to even consider full-time work with us.

I look forward to reporting how it goes, but in the meantime, below I introduce you to two of our over 30 attendees!

Stephanie

Stephanie Gray, on behalf of the CCBR Team

GAP Mission Trip 2010

GAP Missionary: Lauren

School: University of Victoria

In her words: "I feel very strongly opposed to abortion and feel very **called to this trip.** I feel this is an amazing **opportunity to speak for those who do not have a voice,** to put my faith to action spreading awareness of this injustice... I am appalled that so many people turn a 'blind eye' to something so monumentally destructive. I look forward to speaking with the young people of Florida about their beliefs and feelings considering this injustice. I also look forward to working alongside and building friendships with like-minded youth from around North America."



GAP Missionary: Peter

School: University of Calgary

In his words: "My generation of young adults is one that has emerged amidst a culture that is largely permissive of abortion and denies the personhood of the unborn. **From my own experience in dialoguing on campus, it is apparent that most students have never been exposed to the sound scientific and philosophical evidence that life begins at conception, let alone are aware of the hurt that abortion inflicts.** It is my firm belief that one's right to life, regardless of circumstance or who one's parents are, is the most basic of human rights. Accordingly, **I look forward to this opportunity to dialogue and help build and promote a culture of life** among students across Florida, working with other pro-life volunteers and organizations that I have the deepest of respect for."



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