



May 2009

## MAKING ABORTION UNTHINKABLE

[www.unmaskingchoice.ca](http://www.unmaskingchoice.ca)

Dear Friends,

Writing this newsletter is bittersweet. That's because 40 years ago, on May 14, 1969, Canada legalized abortion. We've lost an estimated three million Canadians since then.

But this month also marks the eighth anniversary of CCBR's conception. Jojo and I founded CCBR in May 2001 because we knew we have much to do to stop the atrocity. Our six staff members, all of whom are under the age of 40, are survivors of a generation that has been killed by abortion and we are standing up to say no more.

As a result, people are hearing—and seeing—the truth. In fact, just look at what we've accomplished in **the past eight years** (keeping in mind that behind each of these projects are testimonies of changed minds):

- Giving over **500 presentations** to over **44,000 people** at **high schools, universities, churches, and conferences.**
- Facilitating the display of **GAP signs** at the **University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, Thompson Rivers University, University of Calgary, University of Alberta, University of Manitoba, Carleton University, and University of Toronto.**
- Partnering with the Salvation Army's "War College" to participate in peaceful, graphic **abortion protests** at busy Vancouver intersections.
- Launching and running the "Reproductive 'Choice' Campaign," **reaching a city of 1 million.**
- Generating free "advertising" and **reaching millions through media coverage.**

**Just in the past 12 months alone, we have given 104 presentations to over 14,000 people across Canada, the US, and even in England!** Our Genocide Awareness Project has been displayed twice at the University of Calgary. Our truck has been driving on Calgary roads 60 times, reaching every quadrant of the city.

For our most recent news, this past month, three high schools in Calgary welcomed back our message: I spoke at Master's Academy and Calgary Christian School each for the fourth time and at Trinity Christian School for the second time. Here are some comments from the talks:

### Calgary Christian School

- Before the presentation: "Don't really agree with it, but don't know much" (given along with a score of 5 where 0 means "support all abortion" and 10 means "against all abortion"). After the presentation: "**Learned a lot. I support pro-life**" (given along with a score of 8). –13-year-old female
- "**It motivated me to get more involved** in church protests, and to explain my views to others." –15-year-old male
- "I think that the pictures really made me realize, and strengthened my belief against abortion, because I could see that the aborted babies were human. I could see tiny bones in their fingers! –15-year-old female



▲ I speak at Master's Academy in Calgary on May 12.†

### Trinity Christian School

- "[The graphic video] was hard to watch, but it hit home the reality of the grotesque process... [The presentation] **made me want to help young mothers who are seriously considering abortion**, and to explain the consequences." – 15-year-old female
- Before the presentation: "I didn't know it was that bad; I thought it was a reasonable way of helping a mistake or

problem” (given along with a score of 4). After the presentation: “Now I’ve learned about the life and how precious every child is. **The pictures were a graphic wake-up call**” (given along with a score of 10). –15-year-old female

The pictures are indeed a wake-up call. Consider this e-mail a 20-year-old sent to our US affiliate:

“I found out I was pregnant at nine weeks ... **The thought of abortion came across my mind** because I felt like I wouldn’t be able to support my baby. I thought long and hard, looking at different things on the internet and **when I saw that video I was like ‘Oh, hell no.’** ... My life is now fulfilled with a beautiful little girl who has her own little footprints in my heart.”



▲ On May 1, Jojo spoke to youth at Westbourne Baptist Church in Calgary. An 18-year-old female wrote that before the presentation this was her view: “I wouldn’t personally do it but I don’t like telling people what they can or cannot do.” As for her opinion afterwards, she wrote, “It shouldn’t be done.”#

Not only do women choose not to have abortions when they *see* abortion, but other women choose to *deal* with their abortions when they are confronted by the realities of their pasts. Here is a case in point: **We were recently told about a woman who’d had an abortion years prior and who sought post-abortion counseling after seeing our truck driving past her.** We’re reaching more women like this because our newest intern, Chandler, is now getting our truck on the road several days each week.

Although some people have argued that abortion images hurt post-abortive women, the reality is that they provide an impetus for women to seek counseling, helping bring healing to them. After all, **an unhealed post-abortive woman is likely to have subsequent abortions and/or encourage other women to do the same (In 2004, almost 40% of abortions in Alberta were repeat abortions).** I recently learned about a young woman who aborted, encouraged to do so by two women in her lives—both of whom had had their own abortions. Their actions allude to the notion that when we’ve done wrong, we think we’ll feel better about our misdeed when others do it as well. “After all,” someone may rationalize, “If *she* does it too then how bad could it have been?”

This is why it is vital that those wounded by abortion be healed sooner rather than later—the lives of other unborn children as well as their own well-being hang in the balance. Even post-abortive women have told us about the importance of pictures. A 31-year-old woman told CBR, “**If I had seen this website, abortionNO.org, before the dreadful day of Feb.7, 2006, I would have never done it...** Please inform all women ...because this will scar you forever and deeply.”

That woman also wrote that she must show people the truth. We are able to help her in that noble effort because of people like you who give financially.

As you can expect, our growth in manpower and activity also means budgetary growth. **We currently need to raise an extra \$9,000/month for our operating expenses.** If you haven’t signed on as a monthly donor yet, would you please consider doing so now? Or, would you consider increasing your current giving? **If 4 people gave \$500/month, 10 people gave \$200/month, 30 people gave \$100/month and 50 people gave \$40/month, we’d reach that goal.** Please call us to start, or increase, your giving. And for those of you who recently have already done so—thank you!

With your help, we’ll continue to impact this generation, including students like this 14-year-old male from Trinity Christian who said these were his views before the presentation: “I thought people shouldn’t do it, but if the circumstances were bad enough that that justified it. Not really a big thing” (rating of 6). After the presentation, however, he wrote: “**It’s wrong. Absolutely. If it’s a bad situation, go for adoption. The babies are alive!**” (increased to rating of 9). As more people like him change their minds on abortion, we know we won’t have to wait another 40 years before we protect unborn Canadians.

Thank you for giving of your money so that we may give of our time,

*Stephanie*

Stephanie Gray, on behalf of the CCBR team

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



▲ Blast from the past: Jojo (far left) with volunteer Joe and me at an international pro-life conference in 2002.†