



September-October 2010

MAKING ABORTION UNTHINKABLE

www.unmaskingchoice.ca

Dear Friends,

On October 4, I was at Carleton University in Ottawa video recording the arrest of 5 of my courageous friends. Ruth, James, Nich, Craig, and Zuza—students that I helped train—were attempting to peacefully set up the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) so that students going to that campus could be exposed to the truth of abortion. But the university refused to allow them to publicly share their views.



▲ Ruth Lobo, one of our former summer interns and a student at Carleton University, is handcuffed by Ottawa police.

In fact, the university called in the Ottawa police and by 10am, these tuition-paying students were handcuffed and loaded into police vans and driven away as if they were common criminals. Video footage of this appalling act of censorship, intolerance, and bullying can be viewed here: www.youtube.com/canadiancbr.

As you watch this video, two important truths stand out: The first is that our culture doesn't want to talk about abortion; secondly, when pro-lifers challenge this unwillingness, they will be persecuted. But what's also become clear is that when pro-lifers are persecuted for speaking truth, they re-open the abortion debate and challenge Canadians to think about what is happening to the pre-born.

For example, as I write this—five days after the event—there have been over 26,000 views of the video. The students have received words of support from as far away as El Salvador, Ireland and Spain.



▲ L-R: Zuza, Nich, James, and Craig stand handcuffed as police prepare to put them in police vans.

Debate about free speech is also raging—as is debate about abortion. There have been over 790 comments on our Youtube page alone, and countless remarks on Facebook. The media coverage—print, radio, and tv—has been extensive, including a feature article in the *National Post*.

Where does CCBR fit in all of this? **Because of your support, I was able to be on the front lines with them**, obtaining the visual evidence of this injustice in order to compel the public to respond—and they have.

Following the students' release, I was able to **help them strategize a response, help edit the video, speak to media, and circulate writings articulating why this approach is so necessary.** Because you support us financially to do this work full-time, I and CCBR's team have been available to help them 24-7 (literally—we've had some very late nights and early mornings!), counseling them on the phone, e-mail, and in-person.

► L-R: Romeo Maione and I debate at the University of Ottawa on October 5.



Due to our intensive training, these students learned what exactly is at stake. **For these students know that the babies cannot walk on campus themselves and make their plight known.** They know that pre-born children have no ability to voice their dissent. **And so, in order to save lives, they were willing to display what the babies cannot: the evidence of the babies' humanity, and the evidence of abortion's destruction.** They were willing to be these children's hands, feet, faces, and voices.

And thanks to your support, many others are learning to be that voice. Besides the "chaos" that was Carleton University, CCBR staff are impacting lives all around the world. For example, just days before the arrest, I spoke at the **National Evangelization Team (NET) training camp in Ottawa.** Here is some feedback:

- "The presentation was so incredible! **I can't get over how much we learned and how much truth was in it.** It was all so logical and made so much sense! Thank you!"
- "I am so happy to have this presentation. **It stirs up a holy discontent within my heart, and an even greater respect for life.**"
- "Great talk! It helped to understand why the graphic/disturbing images and videos are used—**before I thought it was harsh for people to see, but now I can see the need for them!** Thanks!"

Following that, I travelled to Toronto to **speak at the National Campus Life Network (NCLN) symposium,**

training university students from across the country to persuasively articulate the pro-life view.

Two days after that, I debated abortion against Romeo Maione, an international debate champion, before 200 students at the University of Ottawa. One of the organizers shared this encouraging report:

"I received a text from my buddy who brought a pro-choice friend to the debate: 'So, some pretty awesome news! That girl I brought to the debate... Yeah, she has changed her stance! Praise God!'"

The week prior, on September 27 and 28, the bold students we've trained at the University of Calgary exhibited GAP on campus with the help of Jojo, Carlos, and Chandler.

And our reach has stretched farther than Canada. **Amidst all this, our new "Choice" Chain Director, Francisco** (pictured on right outside the Apartheid museum), **has been in South Africa helping set up CCBR's new office there.** In just 3 weeks he's been meeting with various pro-life leaders, attended a youth conference, spoken at a church in Soweto, and protested outside an abortion clinic.



As I write this, I'm getting ready to fly to Europe where I'll be speaking at a Youth With a Mission (YWAM) conference in Latvia! **And soon Jojo will be flying to Ottawa and BC where he will present "Echoes of the Holocaust" at UVIC and at Carleton University.**

As you consider all I've reported, one other truth becomes clear: Saving babies comes with a cost—the cost of personal sacrifice. Each of us must ask, **"Are we as determined to save babies as abortion advocates are to kill them?"** What will we pay to save babies? Our time? Our popularity? Our jobs? Our comfort? Our money? Our lives? These Carleton students and others have challenged all of us to ask: How much are we prepared to risk for the sake of others?

I know many of you already take a risk for us—so thank you. We couldn't engage in this "war" of ideas without you backing us. But we can only continue to use our *weapons of mass instruction* as you continue to donate to this life-saving work. **Our growth in activity means a growth in expenses and we need your support now more than ever.**

Stephanie Stephanie Gray, on behalf of the CCBR team