

CCBR: Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform

Making Abortion Unthinkable

May 2007

“I can’t fathom what I would have done if I had gone through with it.”

Dear Friends,

We’d like you to meet Isaiah (at right). In our September 2006 newsletter, I wrote the following about his mother:

Jojo [Ruba, my colleague] spoke at a church at which he had given a pro-life talk fifteen years ago as a teenager. The week before his latest presentation, a woman in the church made a public confession that she had been sexually promiscuous and was pregnant as a result. She recalled Jojo’s talk years earlier and how he had mentioned that some Christians have abortions. It wasn’t until she was faced with an unplanned pregnancy that she realized how strong the ‘pull’ for an abortion is. Not only that, her boyfriend and his mother wanted her to abort.



She didn’t watch the graphic abortion film ‘Choice Blues’ that Jojo showed during his sermon, but she took a DVD copy home to watch privately. Although she had already decided not to abort, the video strengthened her decision and compelled her to make her boyfriend promise not to talk about abortion as an option. Please pray for this woman and her family.

Isaiah was born on April 12 weighing in at a healthy 8lbs, 11oz! After his birth, his mom e-mailed this to Jojo:

I can’t THANK YOU ENOUGH...for your support! I keep going back to that day when you were here, and how I even thought ‘THAT THOUGHT’ ...and I can’t fathom what I would have done if I had gone through with it. I look at him now... and he’s PERFECT. I’m so HAPPY seeing his face, his hands, his feet. I can’t understand God’s plan for us, for this child. But I’m very grateful for this life.

I read your newsletter all the time, very eager actually to hear about the stories and the lives you’ve touched, I know that you still have lots to accomplish and I couldn’t be happier to hear how much you have grown.

We praise God that Jojo was there for “such a time as this,” and we thank Him that this courageous mother and her boyfriend chose life for their child. Furthermore, we thank God for the gift of *sight*, for our ability to behold graphic imagery that deepens understanding, solidifies consciences, and steels resolve to *not* abort in a way words simply cannot.

Our gratitude for this gift is continually prompted and renewed by the responses which we receive from those who attend our presentations. We recently received surveys from students at Christian schools in Calgary who in March and April attended CCBR presentations, which included seeing the graphic film “This is Abortion.” The following comments are from students in a grade 9 health class at Calgary Christian School:

- *“The part of the presentation that I remember most was the movie. **The movie had the most impact on me.**” –15-year-old female*
- *“You made me firmer in my decision to be pro-life. **It was awful seeing how they cut up the babies and after that, I’m positive, I’ll never have an abortion.**” –14-year-old female*

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- What do you remember most about the presentation? *“The video. I knew that when they had an abortion they killed the child but I don’t think that really took effect on me until I actually saw the babies who died.”* –15-year-old female
- Position on abortion before the presentation: *“I didn’t really care. I was told it was bad.”* Did your position change due to the presentation? *“Yeah! I see now how gross and hurtful abortion is. I will never do it.”* –14-year-old female
- Position on abortion before the presentation: *“Against abortion.”* Did your position change due to the presentation? *“Yes, a little bit. I always thought it was okay if you’ve been raped but now I think differently.”* –14-year-old female

And here are some comments from grade 11 and 12 psychology students at Master’s Academy:

- Position on abortion before the presentation: *“Anti-abortion except in the case of rape.”* Did your position change due to the presentation? *“Yes. I have decided to rid myself of the contradiction of being only half way committed to this opinion.”* –16-year-old male
- *“I was against it, but I used to try and put myself in girls’ situations that are pregnant and I thought maybe there were certain situations that were acceptable. However, now, although I won’t judge people who have abortions, I am against it completely.”* –17-year-old female
- Position on abortion before the presentation: *“I never really thought about it, but probably against it.”* Did your position change due to the presentation? *“Well now I’m definitely against abortion.”* Further comments: *“If anyone I know ever wants to have an abortion, I will try and talk them out of it. The video/pictures were good to actually show what abortion does. Was an awesome presentation!”* –16-year-old female

These kinds of responses will no longer be surprising to long-time supporters of our work, but we trust that they continue to be greatly encouraging. We certainly never tire of sharing them with you! But despite being told in Matthew 7:20 that “you will know them by their fruits,” we continue to face criticism from some pro-lifers who disagree with our strategy.

Just as Robert McCracken noted that “Beethoven composed his deepest music after becoming totally deaf,” our times of trial have created opportunities to deepen our prayer lives and to further flesh out our philosophy. We encourage you, then, to take time to visit our regularly updated website unmaskingchoice.ca. The section “Why CCBR’s Approach,” in particular, will better equip you to defend CCBR’s strategy to combat abortion. Just as pro-lifers in general must understand the pro-life view in order to defend it well against pro-aborts, pro-lifers who support our work must also keenly understand the philosophy of our strategy if they are to defend it against our well-meaning but misguided brethren who oppose us.

On a related note, May always brings CCBR’s anniversary—we were conceived six years ago this month! But each May we also mark with sadness the legalization of abortion in Canada—*thirty-eight* years ago. And the simple, sad reality is that none of this will change until our country’s long-standing walls of complacency and denial are replaced by a proper outrage and disgust towards the killing of babies. These barriers are so entrenched that they will only begin to crumble once people see—not hear about, not read about, but *see*—abortion for the brutal violence that it is. Let us renew *today* our resolve to utterly collapse these walls.

Stephanie

Stephanie Gray

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

Because CCBR’s website also provides a defense for the pro-life perspective itself, we want to advertise it more broadly so that it can better complement our public outreach efforts. We have ordered bumper stickers that simply give our website address. **Please order your free sticker today by e-mailing us at orders@unmaskingchoice.ca.**

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