

Changing Hearts Is Still Job One

Impact Report

JUSTICE FOR ALL

Nov. 2021

Training thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions...

As I write this, the Supreme Court is expected to issue an emergency ruling soon on the Texas law (SB8) that has successfully curtailed many abortions in the state. It will also hear oral arguments on December 1 on the Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks (*Dobbs*). There is some reason for optimism, especially on *Dobbs*, but the view we've gotten from the field is that our most important challenge remains a constant: many people, inside communities of Christians and outside, simply don't have a strong love for unborn children and their mothers. It's that love that drives the JFA team to work to protect both from abortion.

So changing hearts remains Job One. In this Impact Report, we share reflections from participants who found that love and the tools to express it through our training program. We also share pictures of conversations created at recent outreach events. To read some of the amazing stories of changed hearts from the past few months, see the links in the online version of this letter: www.jfaweb.org/nov-2021.

Sm - Steve Wagner, Executive Director

...one person at a time

I am coming to realize just how important it is to reach out to people who are thinking of having an abortion. I used to think that I could not make much of a difference, so why even try? But I have come to realize that saving even one life is worth going out and talking to these women, even though it is outside of my comfort zone. – Abby

God's really been teaching me how to love correctly lately. I get very passionate about abortion, so something God's been teaching me today is how to take that passion he's given me and give it back to him so he can use it through me. I've been doing it without a lot of love and I've felt convicted of that. – Lydia

You have met a concern I didn't know how to express: it bothered me when Christians just made intellectual arguments and neglected the life of the mother and all the other difficult aspects of this situation. I have never had a framework or seen an example of this being done in love before. I feel like I have the resources now to take a stand against something that is wrong while demonstrating love and showing care. I LOVE the scripts and additional resources. You made this hands on and practical/tangible. I was so thankful for this training! I feel equipped and encouraged and even excited! – Allison



Tarleton State University in Stephenville, TX (Sept. 27-28): During our first-ever outreach event at this campus, we felt great support from the community. One local had been praying for years for more campus engagement on abortion.



Tarleton State (Sept. 27-28): Mary (green), Kristina (hat), and Faith (brochure), the club president, seek to change hearts.



Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, CO (Oct. 4-5): In our first outreach at CCU, we took two polls simultaneously: "Should Abortion Remain Legal?" (Yes=12, No=106) and "Should Christians Focus on Abortion More or Less?" (More=49, Less=7).



Thank you for making my voice usable. – Rachel

This opened my eyes to the abortion dialogue. It was always a topic of conversation [to which] I would just say “Amen, that’s wrong.” Now I have the tools to actually do something. Your emphasis [on] the “relational” helps me shift this from a debate to an opportunity to love and share the gospel of Jesus Christ. – Eli

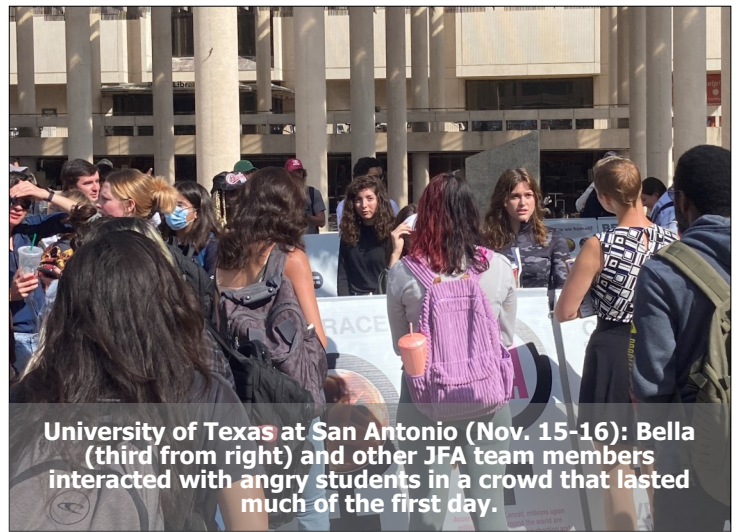
Very well articulated. I have been through [similar] seminars, and this did a great job at solidifying this topic into my brain and rekindling the fire in my heart towards this subject. – Garrett

This was super helpful, and not just philosophically, but ... practically. This has been such a great reminder that it’s not only about the unborn, but also about the person standing in front of us, and that we’re called as Christians to love both. – Annie

I used to look at the topic of abortion as a big rock that I could not move. Now I learned that I can now slowly chip away at it. – Mariah



University of Oklahoma in Norman (Oct. 25-26): Students from Christian Heritage Academy joined us both days to create conversations with OU students.



University of Texas at San Antonio (Nov. 15-16): Bella (third from right) and other JFA team members interacted with angry students in a crowd that lasted much of the first day.



Texas State University in San Marcos (Nov. 17): After attending JFA’s Love3 online interactive workshop in August, Cole (blue shirt, center) joined the JFA team for outreach in Texas. Here, he listens while Paul Kulas (in hat) interacts with students.

See www.jfaweb.org/love3 for upcoming Love3 workshops.



California State University at Fullerton (Nov. 9-10): After conducting a seminar at Biola University, our team used surveys to create conversations with students at a nearby college.

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