

Impact Report Collection

Selections from 2012 & 2013

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Crash-Course Training Helps Save a Life

JUSTICE FOR ALL
Impact
Report
May 1, 2012

Training thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions...

In this report, Catherine Wurts shares a moving story of one recent outreach that made a big impact in the lives of one pro-life advocate at Wichita State University, one of her friends, and one unborn child. As you read, you'll see how JFA's heart for training leads our staff and volunteers to train pro-life advocates right in the middle of outreach events. Thank you for partnering with JFA, in both finances and prayers. God worked through your gifts to help Amanda make abortion unthinkable for her friend. Thank you!

David W. Lee, Executive Director

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...one person at a time.
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Amanda (kneeling) weighs in on human rights.

She made a beeline for our table, knelt down, and drew her line directly below the conception photo, signifying her view that human rights begin at that point (photo, left). Later that day, she helped save a child from abortion.

This is how it happened.

After Amanda stopped to give her opinion during a Justice For All outreach at Wichita State University (WSU), I asked her why she drew her line at conception and whether or not she ever gets into conversa-

tions with people who disagree with her.

Amanda said that as a Christian she knew abortion was wrong but

wished she knew how to make a strong case for the pro-life position to her nonreligious friends.

She was eager to learn, so over the course of the next 20 minutes, I gave her a crash-course version of the Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue seminar. The

conversation was very animated, and Amanda was a quick learner.

As we talked, Amanda became pensive and shared that earlier that week her friend at work, "Kim," had told her she was planning to get an abortion. Amanda realized the situation was urgent because Kim is only 19, has already had one abortion, is raising two small children, and has an unstable relationship with her boyfriend.

Amanda believes that God brought JFA to her campus as an answer to her prayer.



Catherine (right) prays with Amanda.

Kim is not a Christian, so Amanda didn't think it would help to use the Bible to talk her out of abortion. During the two days prior to the outreach at WSU, Amanda had been praying for God to somehow give her the words she would need to boldly reach out to Kim with love. Amanda said she believed God had brought JFA to her campus that day as an answer to her prayer.

I then gave Amanda a copy of the JFA Exhibit Brochure and showed her how to give Kim a twominute summary. We also discussed Choices Medical Clinic, which provides local resources for

women who are considering abortion. I helped Amanda brainstorm how to broach the topic with Kim naturally. We prayed together, hugged, and traded contact information before Amanda had to leave for work.

That afternoon, Amanda gave Kim a ride to work, stopping for coffee along the way. She told Kim that some people had come to her campus to talk about abortion and that she thought Kim ought to look at the information they were handing out. "[JFA's brochure] made me realize that getting an abortion would be worse for my baby than the bad situation I'm in with my boyfriend."

– Kim

Amanda prayed silently and handed Kim the JFA Exhibit Brochure, saying, "I know you've had an abortion before, so some of these pictures will be difficult for you to see. But I think it's important that you look at all of the information in here while you're deciding what to do. And I want you to know I'm here for you."

The very next day, Kim called Amanda to say that looking through the brochure had caused her to think about everything in a new way. Amanda asked what she meant, and Kim said, "It made me realize that getting an abortion would be worse for my baby than the bad situation I'm in with my boyfriend." Kim said she had decided against having an abortion!

Kim has since visited Choices Medical Clinic for a free sonogram, counseling, and other care. She and her two children have moved in with her mom. She also has a new, better-paying job, and her baby is due to be born this August.

Please pray for Kim and her children, and please pray for Amanda as she continues to reach out to her friend with truth and love. Amanda says she wants to go through our entire training program and to be more active with JFA in the near future.

-Catherine Wurts, for the JFA Team

Note: There's more to this story. See <u>www.jfaweb.org/Impact/Crash_Course_Extras</u>.

Do you want to learn to help people like Kim?

Go to: www.jfaweb.org/2_Minutes

Then call (316) 683-6426 for a "crash course" from a JFA Mentor!



From Mum to Mom

From the time of Justice For All's modest beginnings, our work has focused in part on
supporting women and men considering abortion so that they can see clearly that loving their unborn children is a viable option. That support comes in many different forms, as you'll see in this report from John Michener. In it he shares the story of two young parents
we met in Colorado—parents considering whether or not to continue parentingand
whether or not to tell anyone. Thank you for helping us help these parents!
David W. Lee, Executive Director

Mum was the word. She was too scared to tell even her mom.

It was a sunny afternoon in April on the first day of our outreach at Metro State in Denver, Colorado. A petite, dark-eyed, raven-haired, Hispanic girl stood staring at the Justice For All Exhibit. "Gloria" had recently learned that she was eight weeks pregnant. She shared that she was trying to decide what to do and felt that God had been sending her signs not to abort. She said that she never walked through the area where the exhibit was stationed. Gloria thought our 18-foot-tall exhibit was definitely the biggest sign that God would send her way.

She had not yet told her parents and was afraid to do so. My good friend and fellow missionary, Bubba, put one hand on her shoulder and one hand on mine. In a holy triangle, he prayed one of the most touching prayers I have ever heard, asking for God's grace and courage to be upon Gloria. The next day Gloria sought me out and introduced her boyfriend "Josh." They had stayed up all night excitedly talking about their future. After encouraging them further and exchanging contact information, they left to go visit Alternatives Pregnancy Center to get free help and support.

On Cinco de Mayo I sent Gloria an email to see how she was doing, and I asked if she had talked to her Mom. She wrote back:

Some days I'm more worried than others, and this stresses me out almost daily... I can't stop thinking about the pregnancy and how it is going to change my



Gloria & Josh at Metro State Denver, CO (April 2011)

life... I haven't told my mom yet. I really don't know when or how I'm going to tell her. I'm very worried she'll be disappointed and upset...but frankly this is something that I can't keep postponing... Josh and I are doing great. He is very supportive (just as he always has been), and I am very thankful for him...

Anyways, thank you for writing to me; it's nice to...know that there is somebody there willing to listen, or in this case read my thoughts, so thank you.

God did not mean for people to handle the pressure of major life events, like having a baby, alone. They need support. At this point, Josh was Gloria's only support. I advised her to talk to her mom soon.

How did we know Gloria was in need? How did we know she was struggling with fear and indecision? As Christians we cannot wait in our church buildings and homes for people in need to stumble across our paths or announce to the world that they are trying to make a life-and-death decision. At a minimum,

we must be willing to ask questions and start a conversation. At Justice For All, that is our mission. We will teach you the questions to ask. We will model for you how to start a conversation. Then, we will go with you to find the next Gloria who needs you to be an ambassador for Christ (II Cor. 5:20).

Just after Independence Day I was sorting some pictures from the spring when I came across one of Gloria and Josh. I sent it to them immediately and asked Gloria if she had talked to her mom. She responded:

Oh wow...thank you so much for that picture! It's great! I can't wait to show Josh...it just showcases one of the many steps we have taken throughout my pregnancy...

Concerning my mom, you're not going to believe me, but I actually still haven't told her. My absolute deadline is next week because I'm having a 21-week ultrasound... I would like for my mom to be there for that...

She finally talked to her mom. Just after Thanksgiving I sat by the fireplace basking in the radiance of our freshly adorned Christmas tree when I heard the familiar *ping!* from my



Gloria & Josh's son, William, at five weeks

computer. I only thought I was feeling the Christmas spirit before, but then I read Gloria's email:

I am happy to announce that...our son was born on Monday...weighing in at almost nine pounds! ... He is beautiful and healthy and vivacious. Josh and I are very proud and very much in love with our son... My mom has also been an incredible support and was by my side every step of the way...

I wanted to let you know that...you and your team made a huge contribution to the quality of *my* life: *You indirectly helped birth my son*, and...this one life you did touch is breathing today because of the selflessness, love, and devotion your team has for the beauty of *LIFE*.

Your efforts are never in vain.

The people surrounding Gloria with encouragement may have made her choice easier. Beginning with Josh and the immediate pro-life community, then expanding to her mom and whole family, they were all there for her, encouraging her, throwing baby showers, and loving her baby. Still, she had struggled with what to do, and she had even waited through over half the pregnancy to tell her mom. Imagine how hard it must be to have no support, and on top of that, to have your peers and culture tell you that you have a fundamental "right" to kill your child.

Once we as Christians have been brave enough to ask a question and have a conversation, we can't stop there. After all, who is my neighbor? It is not enough to simply speak up for the unborn. We must surround women with strong support, emotionally and in practical ways. Fathers, families, churches, and resource centers must be more than passively poised for action—they must proactively find, encourage, and equip women to recognize the lies of our culture and to embrace the truth, knowing that they will be doing the right thing and knowing that they will be supported.

Gloria now looks back with clarity and confidence that she did the right thing. She wants other moms to know that they can get to the other side, too. They don't have to remain mum; they can go to mom, or to other sources of support to help them do the right thing. Here is Gloria's note from New Year's:

Happy New year! I hope 2012 brings you infinite joy, success, love, and many good, deep belly laughs.

My son is five weeks old today and beautiful and healthy as ever. I wanted to thank you for sharing our story. If William's life could save others, and provide hope and inspiration to other young moms who are confused and scared just like I was, then by all means, share our story with whomever you think may benefit from hearing about William...

Mission Trips—Catalysts for Change

	Training thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions
Impact Report JUSTICE FOR ALL	Thank you for supporting our ministry with your finances and prayers. With your support, we are able to offer mission trips like this one that are transforming people's lives. Thank you! - David W. Lee, Executive Director
Sept. 1, 2012	
	one person at a time.

Stuart stood under the oak trees at the University of North Texas (UNT) and waited for his next divine appointment.

A young lady approached the Justice For All Exhibit, and like a stone statue, she stared at it. It was not raining, but a drop of moisture ran down this statue's face. Then the statue cracked and became human.

Reacting to this sign, Stuart gently began a conversation. He learned that she had chosen to have an abortion earlier in the year. He asked if she would like to talk about it with someone who had made a similar decision. He then brought her to Lori Navrodtzke and Angela Weatherly, two JFA volunteer missionaries.



Stuart Boyes reaching out at the University of North Texas

Lori and Angela sat with the young woman on a bench under the trees for over two hours. Besides providing her with immediate lay counseling, they were able to connect her with local professional counseling options and a local post-abortion women's Bible study.

Stuart later reflected, "This experience has not only motivated me to be more confident in being able to talk to anyone about Christian values, but has given me the tools to be more effective in doing so."

Stuart's learning experience was aided by the combination of Seat Work with Feet Work. He was able to



Susan Boyes on the mission field, participating in JFA outreach

the combination of *Seat Work* with *Feet Work*. He was able to immediately put the skills and principles he learned into practice. His learning was not just theoretical; it was practical.

In addition to the combination of Seat Work with Feet Work, people learn even better in an environment that forces them to immerse themselves in using the skills they are trying to master. That is why many Christian families prioritize a family mission trip.

Many Christians feel that it takes a trip out of the country to accomplish these goals, and they believe they cannot go because of the expense. But there are other ways that families on a tight budget can experience Christian leadership and discipleship training, as evidenced by the Boyes family. Stuart and Susan Boyes, along with three of their six children, traveled from Oklahoma City to Denton, Texas, for a three-day Justice For All mission trip. On the first day of the trip, the Boyes family attended a seminar, where they studied and practiced how to defend their pro-life beliefs. Then over the next two days, the family went to the mission field, in this case the campus of UNT, to engage students in heartchanging dialogue about abortion. This process included *Seat Work* followed by *Feet Work*, and they experienced both in a super-charged learning environment.

Stuart explained, "I think the [trip]...provided better learning opportunities because of the fact that we were immersed in learning for three full days... Being away from everything else, I was able to focus on our immediate task without distractions from work, other ministry, and other things that constantly fight for my time and attention."

Stuart's seventeen-year-old daughter Jennifer said, "JFA has taught me so much! I have learned skills I can use in any conversation, like asking questions, listening, and finding common ground."

Stuart concluded, "Thank you so much to the JFA organization and the leaders and mentors, who are so great at training and leading by example, for giving my family and me the opportunity to minister to the students at UNT. This has truly been one the greatest experiences of my life."

JFA mission trips powerfully transform participants by combining *Seat Work* with *Feet Work* and by immersing participants in a focused, intensive learning environment—the mission trip experience. The best part is, from defending life to sharing the gospel, you will not need a passport or shots on a JFA mission trip!

JFA's cost to provide this November's mission trip is \$200 per participant. Please consider funding one or more scholarships, so that more families can attend this three-day, leadership and discipleship training program.

Give at <u>www.jfaweb.org/donate</u> and designate the gift "November Mission Trip," or mail your gift to our home office in Wichita, Kansas.

> -John Michener Regional Manager Oklahoma - North Texas



Susan Boyes and daughters Tricia and Jennifer on the JFA mission trip to UNT

Consider joining a JFA mission trip this November like the one the Boyes family took. Visit <u>www.jfaweb.org/camp</u> for details, and teach your family the most important lessons they can learn.



The Formula for Saving a Life is SW + FW = RW

	Training thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions
Impact	
Report	"I thought of the countless children who would die that day, and I stood my ground."
JUSTICE	These are the fearless words of a high school senior whose initiative and confidence were cemented by JFA training. In this Impact Report, you'll learn more about this amazing ambassador for Christ and the life she helped to save.
FOR ALL	Thank you for supporting our ministry with your finances and prayers. God is working through your gifts to help people like Conny make abortion unthinkable for their friends. Thank you!
Nov. 2012	- David Lee, Executive Directo
	one person at a tim



Seat Work: Conny role-plays during the JFA interactive seminar.

We describe the JFA training program in terms of Seat Work, Feet Work, and Repeat Work. The duty of JFA mentors is to guide their student volunteers through an interactive seminar and then shepherd them as they practice their skills at an outreach where they talk to people in real time, many of whom really disagree! The expected outcome? Students will experience making a difference, and they will want to continue using their skills to change hearts and save lives. In other words:

Seat Work (SW) + Feet Work (FW) = Repeat Work (RW)

From start to finish, Conny's story exemplifies this simple equation. See for yourself. This is her story, in her words:

Last year I participated in the Justice For All training program. I had several conversations during the outreach day, but one in particular changed my world.

"Amy" was writing on the Free Speech Board when I asked her how she felt about abortion. She responded that it did not matter how she felt and that we should all die for putting girls at her school through the trauma of acciment in the second to hote me without

of seeing pictures of abortion. Amy seemed to hate me without even having talked to me first.

I was distraught by this. I hated that my actions were causing pain, but I thought of the countless children who would die that day, and I stood my ground. Little did I know that Amy's friend "Lisa" had been raped repeatedly by the same assailant, resulting in five pregnancies. "She had no idea what to do, so I took her to a pregnancy center."

Each time that Lisa had become pregnant, she had gotten an abortion. Her rapist was eventually found, and he is now in prison. He will never leave jail.

"Then, to my amazement, she attributed her daughter's life to me!"

It was Amy, the girl standing right in front of me, who had gone with Lisa each time to Planned Parenthood. Amy had been Lisa's "Rock of Gibraltar."

I ended up consoling Amy for the better part of an hour. Then, she started asking questions about the things that Planned Parenthood had told her and Lisa. For example, someone there had told them that babies don't have heart beats until ten weeks. She related other misrepresentations that I couldn't believe.

By the end of our conversation, she no longer hated me, and she asked for my contact information. I felt such love for her. As she left, I promised I would continue to talk to her.

Over the next month we talked—not about abortion, but about life. We became good friends. I was there for her when she had bad days, and we bonded. I learned about her schooling, her faith, her friends, and finally, I learned about her boyfriend.

Her boyfriend... He was not the ripest apple on the tree, but she insisted she loved him, and they were sexually active. Eventually, he cheated on her and hurt her deeply. She came to me to talk about it, and we hung out together.

The day Amy found out that her boyfriend had cheated on her was significant in another way: **she also learned that she was pregnant**. She had no idea what to do, so I took her to a pregnancy center.

She decided she would have the baby and let her be adopted. I was overwhelmed with joy. It was probably the best day of my life. We laughed and cried together. Then, to my amazement, she attributed her daughter's life to me!

Amy has since had the baby and given her my middle name! The baby has been adopted by a wonderful Christian family who love her extremely.

Why do I tell this story? I hope to inspire others to action. A wonderful child of God was brought into this world by an hour-long conversation! To have had this experience is the most encouraging and wonderful gift I have ever received. -Conny Fiedler

Such a simple equation. What a dramatic sum! Conny graduated last spring from Pius X High School, a private Christian school in Lincoln, Nebraska. Conny and her classmates first participated in the JFA training program in 2011. I was privileged to mentor Conny this year during her school's second year of offering the Justice For All training program to its students.

Thanks for helping us mentor and shepherd students like Conny through Seat Work and Feet Work and into their own opportunities for Repeat Work.

> -John Michener for the JEA Team



Feet Work: Conny at a University of Nebraska outreach

Do you want to help train more students like Conny? Go to: <u>www.jfaweb.org/donate</u>



Miriam's Seminar Ends Up in the Abortion Clinic

Training thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions...

Impact Report

JUSTICE

FOR ALL

January 2013

A friend pulled Miriam out of bed one Saturday morning to take her to a pro-life training seminar JFA missionary Jon Wagner had arranged when he was a student at Azusa Pacific University. It was the first in a series of small steps that ultimately led to a big decision — right inside an abortion clinic.

A - David Lee, Executive Director

Time Magazine proclaimed on January 14, 2013, that "40 Years Ago, Abortion-Rights Activists Won an Epic Victory with *Roe v. Wade*. They've Been Losing Ever Since." If *Time* is correct, we think the efforts of pro-life advocates like Miriam are the most exciting illustration of progress. It's small steps like hers, along with the small steps of each of us, that can change our culture. In this *Impact Report*, Miriam shares her story.



...one person at a time.

I'm writing to share with you a story of how your influence as an organization is like a pebble in a pond, whose ripples keep spreading and spreading.

In 2005, I was fortunate enough to attend JFA's *Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue* seminar. It ignited a passion which led me to attend your April 2005 trip to Texas. I've since been to four more seminars and three more campus outreaches. Needless to say, JFA's ministry has etched itself on my heart.



A couple years ago, when it was my turn to bring the devotion to my family's weekly dinner night, I decided to present a mini version of the JFA seminar, using my JFA training materials. I passed out the JFA Exhibit brochure, and I even facilitated my parents and siblings and their significant others to roleplay "pro-choice person" and "pro-life person." It went very well, and that was that. I hadn't thought about that night for a long time, until it was brought back into my mind in a very big way.

When I gave that mini training, my sister was dating a nice guy named "Damien," so he was there for the training. Later on, he and my sister went their separate ways and Damien began dating another girl,

Damien sat alone in the waiting room. Suddenly all the things he had learned that night at the mini JFA training came flooding back to his mind. "Mindy." Recently, my sister came back into contact with Damien, and he shared an incredible story with her.

A few months after he began dating Mindy, they found out she was pregnant. Being young students with only part-time jobs, they decided on abortion. They made the appointment and went into the clinic. When Mindy left to have the procedure done, Damien sat alone in the waiting room. He said that suddenly all the things he had learned that night at the mini JFA training came flooding back to his mind.

He became very frantic and forced his way to the room where Mindy was. He begged and pleaded with her not to go through with the abortion. In those few seconds, he blurted out everything he remembered from the training and told her he'd do whatever it took to make it work. She said she'd think about it; then the clinic personnel forced him to leave. Damien sat in his car and cried for two hours while he assumed his girlfriend was aborting their child.

Later that day, she called him and told him that she thought about what he had said, and she had decided not to go through with the abortion. Today, his beautiful little girl, "Sophia," is the joy of his life, and he told my sister that he can't imagine life without sweet Sophia.

Miriam's story is a series of small steps — steps which may not have seemed to her to change hearts or save lives. When she had the natural opportunity to share what she had learned with her family, she took it. She was doing what JFA trainers regularly teach in our seminar: focus on being a faithful ambassador for Christ and leave the results to him.

Once in a while God gives us a glimpse of the work he's doing through that faithfulness, and in Miriam's case we all have the joy of seeing how her small steps had a big impact in the lives of Damien, Mindy, and Sophia.

As supporters of JFA, you also take steps to make sure our team can keep working full-time to save children from abortion. Sometimes your steps are so small you feel they are insignificant, but God is pleased to use those small steps to make a big impact. Thank you. - Miriam Bernard



Miriam talks to a University of Texas student during her first JFA mission trip.

The close of Miriam's letter is as much a note to you, our faithful supporters, as it is to our staff:

THANK YOU for the impact you have made on me, and for giving me the tools to share the truth about abortion in love and common sense with people like Damien. One can never know when those morsels of truth will surface and affect major decision-making. Because of JFA, Sophia is alive and loving her daddy today.

> - Stephen Wagner Director of Training

To help us continue training volunteers like Miriam,

go to: www.jfaweb.org/donate

The Power of One

	Training thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions
Impact Report JUSTICE FOR ALL	Our team is comprised of more than just our full-time staff. We are frequently joined in the field by dedicated volunteers, some of whom have experiences and special gifts that help us in our work. Angela Weatherly is one of these volunteers, and in this report she shares her story. Thank you for helping us provide opportunities for hope and healing while we attempt to
April 2013	make abortion unthinkable.

I was in the restroom at a Justice For All outreach when staff member John Michener texted me saying, "Where are you? I need you." I texted him back, "Give me a minute. I'll be right there." I came out to meet a young lady who was obviously tortured by guilt. She had been only fifteen years old when her mother forced her to have an abortion against her will. During our intimate conversation, I encouraged her to consider Christ's forgiveness and seek counseling. We ended our time together in a warm embrace. I still pray for her healing.

Why did JFA turn to me to minister to this girl? I began volunteering with JFA more than two years ago, but the story begins many years before that.

I was the first child that my biological mother decided not to raise. So I was adopted at birth by two wonderful people. I was their one and only child, and I was given everything a child could want by my doting parents. For six years everything was perfect. Then, just before my seventh birthday, I lost my father, my grandfather, and my great-grandmother, leaving me the only child of a single mother in a time before single parents were common.

I was a good girl all the way through high school. I didn't miss school or cause trouble. I didn't smoke or drink. I didn't even dance, much less party. I was on the honor roll and graduated among the top of my class. I was the good one.

My mom and I were in church every time the doors were open. I became a Christian as a young girl during Vacation Bible School. I was in the choir, and I served as a youth leader, teaching other young ladies the importance of abstinence. Later, I became a Sunday school teacher, the church secretary, and the church treasurer.

During high school my body started doing weird things, and doctors put me on birth control pills to help regulate my cycles. But they also said, "By the way, when you're on this stuff, the likelihood of you getting pregnant is less than one percent." Hmmm...the power of one suggestion.



...one person at a time.

Angela at a Justice For All outreach event

Before I turned twenty-five, I decided to rebel. I had done the church thing and been the good girl. I wanted to have some fun, so I did. The power of one decision.

One day I was not feeling well, so I went to the doctor. Imagine my shock and horror when the nurse told me that I was pregnant. My worst nightmare had begun...and so did the voice. The voice in my head said, "But you're the good one! How can you be pregnant? Are you going to disappoint everyone?" Then the nurse asked a question. "Would you like to be referred to an *abortion clinic*...or an OB/GYN? Which number do you want?" Again, the power of one suggestion.

In that moment, my life changed forever as I made the decision to end my pregnancy. What they told me was that it was only a clump of cells, that it could not survive outside my body. It was up to me to choose when to become a mother. The procedure was quick and easy, and it would take care of my problem.

What I told myself was that I was the only one. No one at church would ever do so heinous a thing, so they would never know that I had—this abortion would be my one secret. I could not disappoint my mother, my mother's friends, or our church. They just couldn't know. I was the good one.

What no one told me was that the guilt would be immediate, the emptiness overwhelming, and that the sound of the vacuum would haunt me forever. I can still feel the cold table and the ice-cold clamps. I can still feel the pressure inside as my one and only child was being removed. I still remember the sparse recovery room where there was no sound—none. Three other women were disbursed about the room. We did not make eye contact or speak. The silence was deafening. Our bodies, our minds, and our spirits knew that we had ended our babies' lives.



Pain, confusion, isolation, and even thoughts of suicide became my constant companions for years. Why, you may be asking, would I bear my soul to you? Why share something so embarrassing, something that I will regret for the rest of my life? Because I want you to know the power that just one individual, one suggestion, and one choice can have to change the future.

All I needed was one person to tell me no, one person to tell me the truth about how I would feel for the next twenty-five years. That's why I bear my soul to you; because I want to be that one person to you. Hear me. I understand the power of the secret. I have dedicated my life to spreading the truth about abortion, to spreading the truth that there is grace and mercy beyond the secret.

So that is how I came to be in the bathroom that day. That is why I travel on mission trips with JFA. On another trip in Boulder, Colorado I met several young ladies who had experienced abortion when they were teenagers. I wish I could explain the pain I saw buried inside each of them. That pain in their lives, and in mine, motivates me to be the voice that tells them, "I know how it feels. Let me talk to you. Let me show you healing."

Last year we were at the University of North Texas, and once again I was in the restroom. The Holy Spirit thinks it's funny to schedule my divine appointments while I'm indisposed. Again, John texted me: "Are you ready?" I introduced myself

Hear Angela tell her story at

www.jfaweb.org/Media

(click on Audio)

In addition, pray for these JFA volunteers who have received forgiveness for abortion and who help us share the message of reconciliation. Some of their stories are linked below:

Brenda Kilhoffer: <u>www.jfaweb.org/Reflections/Brenda.pdf</u> Lori Navrodtzke: <u>www.jfaweb.org/Reflections/Lori.pdf</u> Yvonne Morris: <u>www.withthycounsel.com/yvonne.php</u> Judy Caracheo: <u>www.jfaweb.org/Reflections/Judy.pdf</u> Anne: www.jfaweb.org/Reflections/Anne.pdf to a young lady who had just had an abortion two months before I met her. I sat and held her, and we cried. Her experience was so similar to mine. She had thought she was the only one. We got her connected with local counseling so she could begin the healing process. I was also part of a team that visited a woman who was contemplating abortion. I'm happy to report that that little baby is out and about these days.

The power of one. On one side Satan offers you one little suggestion, one little choice, one little secret you can choose that will solve your one little problem. Of course the problem isn't so little, and neither is the choice or the secret.

On the other side, God offers hope and healing. He offers mercy and grace. Will you help me share the message of reconciliation? You can cover for me while I'm in the bathroom.

> by Angela Weatherly ed. John Michener

Your unique story and gifts are needed during JFA outreach. Let JFA train you for the pro-life mission field!



Taking Paul to Heart



We can't end abortion by sending just a few JFA staff members to dialogue lovingly and persuasively with pro-choice people. Even taking trained volunteers with us will not be enough. In order to see a major change in our culture, we must entrust what we have learned to extraordinary volunteers who will go on to train others as well.

The words of the Apostle Paul to Timothy, his young disciple, have shaped how we have trained pro-life ambassadors at JFA over the years: "What you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2).

This summer's internship program brought six of these faithful people together so we could put Paul's principle into practice. Here is what some of our interns and training staff had to say about the experience.

> The summer internship was literally lifechanging. I think differently, I talk differently, and, by the grace of God, I believe I'm more effective in training people and more effective in conversations at outreaches. -CK Wisner

> We spent the summer teaching, training, doing outreach, actively seeking to serve the Lord, to serve women, and to serve unborn babies inside the womb... I remember how those in our groups were responding to the information. I will never forget the way that certain individuals looked at me with curious and inviting eyes that reflected hearts willing to learn, to grow, and ultimately to love. I realized







in a very tangible way what a great gift and great responsibility it is to teach and equip hearts and minds with the truth about abortion. *-Sarah Dufresne*



2013 summer interns from top left: Hannah Williamson, Gabi Vehrs, Katie Worley, CK Wisner, Sarah Dufresne, Holly Meath

The interns exceeded my expectations all summer... They were so good when they got up to teach during our seminars that I almost fell off my chair a couple of times. I'm looking forward to seeing what God will do through them in the future. *-Tim Brahm, Staff Trainer*

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In another letter Paul exhorts Timothy to teach the truth, and then says, "Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example..." (1 Tim. 4:12). Intern Katie Worley expressed how she is taking this advice to heart:

The...workshops were one of the greatest learning and growing experiences I've had so far at JFA. With my new improved skills, I'm excited to return to school and better train the members of my club... My favorite part [is] showing young people that just because they're young doesn't mean they can't make a difference in the fight to end abortion. -Katie Worley

Thank you for supporting our mission and for enabling our team to take Paul's advice to heart. With your help we can continue to invest in these young disciples who are training others to be gracious, persuasive ambassadors for life.

- Catherine Wurts

To help us continue training faithful pro-life ambassadors who will in turn disciple others, go to: www.jfaweb.org/donate



JFA's Three Essential Skills Are the Life of the Party



Last weekend I had a pretty incredible experience. It was Labor Day weekend, a Sunday night, and I happened to be in Wichita visiting a friend who was hosting a party. Nothing seemed to be abnormal or different than most group functions I've attended. Of course, there was an understanding that many of this friend's friends didn't really share the same beliefs I held.

The timing was interesting because a week beforehand I had participated in my second JFA seminar and outreach at Wichita State University. Many of the people at the party were WSU students.

Later in the evening, the subject of the JFA outreach was brought up. After saying I participated in that event, one of the guys there said, "Yeah, well, we were making fun of that all day it was there. It was stupid." I replied, "Why was it stupid? We were asking questions and promoting dialogue with pro-choice students." After asking more questions, it was clear he didn't have a reason for belittling the outreach, and he admitted it.



This conversation, not surprisingly, sparked a debate about abortion. While the room seemed to erupt in aggressive talking points and pseudo-listening, a person named Cole and I had a one-on-one conversation about abortion. Cole believed abortion was a woman's right during the first two trimesters of pregnancy. We found common ground that third-trimester abortions were immoral and that it makes sense to consider the unborn to be

Cole came to the conclusion that abortion should be made illegal, even in cases of rape.

human persons when the pregnancy is far enough along that premature babies can survive.

I later found out that Cole considered personhood to be based on a sort of self-awareness—"the ability to know I exist independently." As I proposed to him the Equal Rights Argument and how his explanation of rights based on self-awareness excluded newborns and

third-trimester children, though, he knew it couldn't work. The conversation went on for three hours as he tried to propose new functional abilities that might bestow human rights. I then asked him, "What is the one trait that every person in this room has in common?" We came to the conclusion that it was our human nature. As we

talked even more, Cole came to the conclusion that abortion should be made illegal, even in cases of rape.

Not only was my conversation with Cole refreshing, but the other people at the party also gave me some hope. As one girl came back from a late-night McDonalds run, she sighed, "Oh, another judgmental pro-lifer." Another person spoke up: "Oh no, this guy is different. He's listening and is making an intelligent, logical case."

Now back to the friend I was visiting in Wichita. She attended the *Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue* seminar a week beforehand, and she was silently overhearing the conversation the whole time. The next day we talked about the conversation, and she said, "I finally understood how that training can be put into a real conversation and that it really does work."

"Just one year ago, I would not have been able to have productive conversations like these."

This is why I support Justice For All. It's small moments like these that give me assurance we can win the culture for Life. Just one year ago, I would not have been able to have productive conversations like these. This is the purpose of the training. Rather than just holding a brochure or pointing students toward an exhibit, the purpose is to use the skills we've learned as an ambassador for our Lord, and to do that on a daily basis. I can't thank this staff enough for equipping me to love those with whom I speak. Thank you, and God bless.

- Anthony Trent

After reading this story, I asked Anthony whether he would have spoken up at the party before his JFA training. "I definitely would have entered into the conversation," he said, "but it would have been much more like a debate. I would have been a really bad ambassador... I would have just taken his comments, blown them up, and intellectually humiliated him." Fresh from two

rounds of Seat Work and Feet Work with JFA, though, Anthony went into the party living out JFA's Three Essential Skills: asking questions with an open heart, listening to understand, and finding common ground when possible.

When the outreach event was mocked, Anthony didn't respond in kind. He asked a clarifying question. Instead of reveling in a oneagainst-many showdown featuring him at the center, Anthony opted for a one-on-one format in which he could listen.

When Anthony learned that Cole was pro-choice, he could have simply listed off his best pro-life arguments, whether Cole was interested or not. Instead, Anthony started with common ground: adults deserve an equal right to life. Then he labored with Cole for three hours over *Cole's explanations* of those equal rights. When it



became clear to Cole that his explanations were flawed, Anthony was ready—ready to give him a hand up with the more satisfying explanation that we deserve equal rights because we have the same human nature. It was then a very small step for Cole to embrace the unborn as humans who share that nature. If you want to learn how to approach a conversation from the Equal Rights perspective like Anthony did, join us for an upcoming JFA training event (<u>www.jfaweb.org/Register</u>). Until then, enjoy stories from JFA missionaries in a newsletter collection entitled "The Equal Rights Argument" (<u>www.jfaweb.org/Equal-Rights</u>).

Since the party Anthony has continued to put his JFA training into practice. He's created other Repeat Work conversations in his everyday life, and he's joined the JFA team for six additional days of outreach, including one he arranged on his own campus (see photo above). For more discussion with Anthony about the value of practicing the Three Essential Skills, see my interview with him at www.jfaweb.org/Impact/Anthony-Interview.

What could have been a disaster became a delight for Anthony, for Cole, and for the others at the party. Thank you for helping us train pro-life advocates like Anthony to change hearts and minds in their everyday lives.

- Stephen Wagner, Director of Training

To help us continue training leaders like Anthony,



go to: www.jfaweb.org/donate

See all of the JFA Impact Reports: <u>www.jfaweb.org/Impact</u>



Justice For All trains thousands to make abortion unthinkable for millions, one person at a time.

To help: <u>www.jfaweb.org</u> 800-281-6426 <u>jfa@jfaweb.org</u>