



Summer Interns

Update from Jacob Burow - August 2012



This summer we have had five interns with us learning to teach and lead in JFA seminars and outreach events, and they have been such a blessing to me! It is exciting to see them growing as pro-life leaders and developing even more passion to teach others how to have dialogue.

At JFA, we focus on mentorship at every level. I was glad to serve as a mentor to our interns as they learned in the office and on-the-job over the last several weeks. For some of the interns, this was their first JFA training experience.

Remembering the interns' first day of outreach, one conversation stands out to me as particularly instructive for them. I was taking pictures of our volunteers when an older gentleman walked purposefully up to one of our signs and began studying it. I looked around and saw that all the interns were busy with other conversations, so I walked up and asked what he thought.

Gerald is a retired philosophy professor who used to teach at Wichita State University. He was looking for a rational exchange of sharp and clear ideas. This stands in contrast to the story I related in my June [newsletter](#), in which Anthony from California was really hurting from abortion. What he needed most in our conversation was a sensitive, relational approach. But that approach was not what Gerald needed.

Gerald believed that infanticide is okay. We talked about abortion and infanticide for only a

short time before the conversation turned to even deeper questions. The question of whether or not killing innocent humans is wrong can only be answered if one first accepts the proposition that there is an objective right and wrong. That proposition, in turn, hinges on the origin and authority of that right and wrong. Does it come from God or some other higher power who reveals to us what is right and wrong?

Gerald understood the interconnectedness of these questions. We discussed the origins of the universe, and I asked him what he thought about the historical Jesus. I was then able to present a good case for Jesus actually rising from the dead.

Why was this conversation important? For two reasons, I think. First, Gerald indicated that he had not encountered a person of faith who held well-reasoned positions. He told me three

times in the conversation that he was really enjoying talking to someone who had good arguments for his faith.

The second reason I think this conversation was important is because I was able to model for our interns the value of having broad knowledge beyond the abortion issue. All of the interns were able to hear parts of this conversation and see first-hand how discussing the abortion issue leads to other fundamental topics. As ambassadors for Christ we should be prepared to engage these.

Katie, our youngest intern, took this idea to



Gerald, the retired philosophy professor at Wichita State University

heart when she dove right into a book that I recommended to her: *The Case For The Resurrection of Jesus Christ* by Gary Habermas. As it turned out, Katie was reading this book on her flight down to Louisiana for the last training event of her internship. Sitting next to her on the plane was a twelve-year-old girl named Cyan who was being raised in the Wiccan religion. Cyan was very interested to hear about Jesus, his resurrection, and his teaching that he was the only way to God. I love how God works so mysteriously! Pray for Cyan, and praise God for this divine appointment!

These types of opportunities to mentor and pass on knowledge are some of what I have loved about the interns being with us this summer. Our interactions have exemplified JFA's mission—the essence of which is training pro-life ambassadors who will then train others.

This is the first time JFA has held a summer internship class focused on developing the participants as speakers and mentors in our training program. This summer has been a great success, and we are excited to do it again next year! To read more about our interns' adventures, check out their blog at www.trainonejfa.blogspot.com

Thank you all for your support which makes this work possible! And thank you for your many prayers as our team prepares for all of our fall events.

Jacob Burow

2012 Summer Interns pictured at top right: Katie Worley, Cody Reed, Sarah Dufresne, Andrew Carlson, and Joanna Wagner. Other pictures are from training and outreach events in Wichita as well as Louisiana where we partnered with Louisiana Right to Life to train 60 high school and college students.

