"I kept telling myself it wasn't a baby."

"Sarah," who I met at Colorado State University (CSU), initially told me that the unborn was a mere "sea monkey inside of me." By the end of our conversation, after telling me that she had had an abortion recently, she revealed that she actually knew the truth about abortion and it was destroying her.

When we started talking, Sarah was all smiles. She was eager for me to ask her questions about the morality of abortion.

Jeremy: Do you think the unborn is a human life?

Sarah: No. It's just a group of cells. Why are you focusing on something that is not even living? You are focusing just on a cell, not even human beings. It's a creature, a seamonkey inside of me. It is technically living, like a tree or a plant is living.

It is common to hear such frivolous dehumanization of the unborn from pro-choice advocates. It is often hard to differentiate whether they actually believe these misunderstandings, or whether they use this inaccurate characterization simply to justify their pro-choice position. I was about to find out that Sarah knew much more about the humanity of the



My conversation with Sarah

unborn than she was letting on.

It took awhile to get past the façade she was putting up. She continued to talk about abortion as if it is no big deal.

Sarah: I had an 11-week abortion a few months ago. I decided that my life and my career are worth more than this (pointing to a picture of the unborn).

Jeremy: I'm sorry that you went through that experience. How are you doing?

Sarah: What does it matter? I made my decision, so it doesn't really matter.



JFA staff and a few of the volunteers that helped at CSU

The longer we talked, the more her true feelings started to show. Over the course of our conversation, it became obvious that when she was going through with her abortion, she 100% recognized the humanity of the unborn. That truth was causing her many problems today.

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Jeremy: Was it a difficult decision for you to have an abortion?

Sarah: I knew this was inside of me (pointing at the picture of the unborn). I knew an 11-week old child was inside of me. I had to make the choice to terminate. I'm seeing a psychiatrist and psychologist, and I'm on medications because of

the abortion. I kept telling myself it wasn't a baby. I kept telling myself it wasn't a child. I had to make the choice whether or not to have this child. It is a child. Yes it is. I agree with that. And it was inside of me. It was my kid. I wanted a kid so badly, and I still do. I just can't have a kid right now.

She was looking me in the eyes and crying as she was telling me this. Just minutes before, she had still been trying to fool herself into believing that the unborn was nothing significant. Even when she was going through her abortion, after she had already realized the truth, I could tell that she had wanted so badly to pretend that she didn't know. She had thought that perhaps then she could continue her life without this severe depression.

I introduced her to a volunteer, Nancy, who is also post-abortive. Nancy told her how confronting the reality of abortion was the only way she had been able to move beyond the problems it had caused in her life. She left Sarah with that message, that she will never be free from guilt and shame until she faces the uncomfortable reality she already knows, and turns to Christ for forgiveness. Nancy then told her about local support for post-abortive women available near CSU.

It was heartbreaking to hear Sarah's story and see how broken she was. It reminded me that we do not only aim to save unborn lives, but we aim to prevent women from ending up in Sarah's shoes. Conversations about abortion are a big part of the process of facing the reality of abortion. Some will come to grips with that reality before an unexpected pregnancy, and then abortion will no longer be an option they consider. Some will come to grips with that reality after an abortion, and it will help them heal. Regardless of when, they will find that they can't escape that truth, as Sarah is now discovering. As much as she is still calling the unborn nothing more than a "sea monkey" when asked, her heart has been telling her something else entirely. Thank you for supporting my work. You are helping me to reach other "Sarahs" where they are, preventing them from making the same devastating decision.