

2014

What You Helped Me Accomplish this Year

JOANNA WAGNER'S YEAR-IN-REVIEW UPDATE



DECEMBER 2014



Dear Friend,

After a lengthy conversation in the freezing cold with “Carl” and “Ben,” they looked at me and said,

Carl: *You’ve definitely presented the best pro-life case I’ve ever heard. I actually really enjoyed talking with you.*

Ben: *Yeah! And you know what else I liked about this conversation? You never once told us we were wrong ... but, [hesitating] ... we kind of figured out we were wrong, anyway.*

I love the opportunities I often get to help people see for themselves the flaws in their thinking. This takes patience and a commitment to JFA’s Three Essential Skills: asking questions with an open heart, listening to understand, and finding common ground whenever possible. This approach really seemed to help Carl and Ben begin to open their eyes to the inhumanity of abortion.



At Ft. Hays State Univ. in **November**, a student named Gage (left) and I talked with another student who recently left his Christian faith and embraced atheism. We had the opportunity to relate to some of his doubts, but also to share hope that there are intellectually sound answers to his questions. Later, we prayed for him.

I am so proud of every one of you. What a great, honorable service you provide. I understand how you may at times think that you are not having the impact you would desire. I started in the pro-life movement in 1973 and I have never seen as many minds and hearts changed as I have while working with you.

A friend of JFA’s who participated in **February** and **March** outreach events recently wrote three of my fellow staff members and me this very encouraging note.

This story represents just one of the many highlights from my work with Justice For All this year. I hope the rest of the 2014 highlights in this letter (see the reverse) will give you hope that it is possible to balance truth and love in conversations about abortion. If you are encouraged by this report, please consider giving a year-end gift to support my work with JFA in 2015.

Peace and joy,

Joanna

I’d love to meet up with you, your church, or your small group to share personally about my work.

California friends: I’ll be visiting Dec. 22 – Jan. 6!

Email me: joanna.wagner@jfaweb.org



One of the most important parts of my job is mentoring volunteers and interns, such as Casey (right), so that they gain confidence and skill in creating heart-changing conversations in their spheres of influence. Here, I help Casey conduct a survey and start a conversation with a University of Central Oklahoma student in June.

Please consider giving a special year-end gift to help me start strong in 2015.



During this rainy outreach in April, I talked with this student who grew up abroad. I often get the opportunity to talk to international students. Some have never seen images of abortion and are quickly inspired to share the truth about abortion. Others, like this young man who has seen horrible injustice first-hand, have lost hope that there is value or purpose in life. I am grateful for these opportunities to look them in the eyes and say, "You matter."

2014 in Numbers

Joanna's Events

22 Seminars

35 Outreach days

15 Presentations/ Workshops

JFA Totals

33 Seminars

48 Outreach days

326 New outreach volunteers

100 past volunteers gave another 450 hours to outreach, having over 700 more conversations. *(These three numbers are estimates.)*



On July 4th, my colleague Jordan and I spoke with these two young men at the Freedom Festival in Yukon, Oklahoma. One of them held the increasingly prevalent view that a woman has such a strong right to her body that she should be able to kill the unborn – even if it is a valuable human being – because it needs her body to survive. After wrestling with examples we shared with him from an article by JFA's Philosophy Team (www.jfaweb.org/DFG), he ended up admitting that he could no longer hold that view!



In a future newsletter, I'll tell you about this conversation I had in September at the Univ. of Kansas with a team of high school cross country runners. (I'm behind the yellow sign.) They could think as fast as they could run, so it was a fun challenge to "keep them on their toes."