



JUSTICE FOR ALL

Training Thousands to
Make Abortion Unthinkable for Millions,
One Person at a Time

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Oklahoma & North Texas

Newsletter

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True Grit

During the month of July, I was able to visit the Copperas Cove church of Christ. It is one of my foundational [supporting congregations](#), and I enjoyed being able to give a personal report on my work and preach for my hometown friends.

One of the elders in Cove is my long-time friend and mentor Tom Allen. I wish everyone could get to know Tom and his wife Elaine. Together they have ministered to the saved and the lost for over four decades.

Besides being a true counselor, scholar, and theologian, Tom is also a man's man. He loves fishing, football, and fried catfish. Staying in the Allen's home reminded me that Tom is a huge fan of the Western genre, and John Wayne in particular. In fact, the big screen television in his hidden man-cave is dedicated to watching Texas Longhorn football and "The Duke."



Speaking of The Duke, in 1969 John Wayne starred in *True Grit*, one of his most famous films, and the role for which he won an Oscar for Best Actor, but the real hero is a fourteen-year-old girl who sets out on a arduous journey for justice.

The movie is rated "G" for General Audiences. In the opening scene of the film, we see gambling, drunkenness, and murder. In the second scene, we see an entire county gather in the town square to watch three guilty prisoners hanged by the neck until dead. Children are skipping and playing, and some are being pushed in swings as everyone

watches the executions. There was a time in this country when we did not hide justice or injustice.

As we were setting up our dialogue tools on a campus this spring, two educators approached our team. They inquired if there was a way we could move or turn the large exhibit. They were afraid that their high school students who were visiting the campus might see the graphic images of abortion and get upset. Really? We used to let children witness public hangings, but our modern high school students cannot handle pictures of a surgical procedure? We used to execute civil justice in the public square, but a modern teenage girl cannot handle viewing the results of what are supposedly her civil rights? We once openly displayed the death of the guilty, but now we hide the death of the innocent.

I did not mention to the educators that we were surrounded by high school students helping us erect the exhibit. I was afraid the irony might overcome their delicate dispositions.

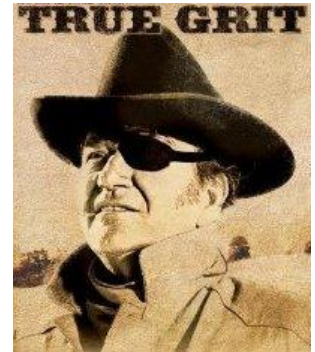
If we forever shelter kids from looking at death, then how can they ever fully appreciate and respect life? Like the young girl from the John Wayne film who witnessed death and evil, but faced them head-on and bravely set out to set things right, the righteous young people who train with JFA can handle the truth, and they display True Grit.

JFA Students Display True Grit

Your support helps us reach hundreds of students per year with our training program, to which we receive as many responses. So many of them are heart-warming stories of transformation and conviction. Following are just a few responses from the 2010-2011 school year which display the True Grit of our students.

"My mom had an abortion. It's been really hard for me. I've been praying really hard about this so that I would start seeing abortion through God's eyes instead of mine. Today was...the day that healing began."

~8th grade student from Oklahoma



“The doctors wanted to abort me—my mom said no because of stuff like this.”

~junior high student from Arizona



“I believed abortion was wrong for me personally, but I [couldn't] tell others what to do. This exhibit changed my mind! I think all people should see the horrific reality of abortion. It's not just an option to solve a 'problem'...it is taking human life.”

~anonymous response card

“Two years ago I believed in abortion. I thought it was okay if a woman got one. This...changed my view.”

~high school senior from Arizona



“JFA...has taught me the truth about abortion. I have always said that abortion is horribly bad. But I have honestly said, through selfishness, that if I ever get pregnant young...I would get an abortion. I am truly sorry for having ever thought that thought. What if my mom, who got pregnant young, [had] gotten an abortion? Would that have been fair?”

~high school sophomore from Arizona

“This is the most prepared I have ever felt about witnessing about anything in my life, and I have been at a Christian school for 14 years.”

~high school senior from Texas

“I decided to be pro-life after this seminar.”

~high school student from Georgia

“All Christians should experience JFA's training program. Knowing how to approach someone who does not believe the same [as] you do and yet talk to them as a [respected] human—so valuable.”

~high school teacher from Oklahoma



On Tap for the Team

- August 5-7: [Midwest Family Conference](#)
- August: staff development & training days
- Sept. 8-14: training in Kansas City, Lawrence, and the University of Kansas
- Sept. 26-Oct. 5: training in Colorado Springs, Denver, Boulder, and the University of Colorado

Don't forget! The dates above are for you, too. Call or email me to plan a mission trip for your small group, bible class, or family around these opportunities.

