

Was that Jay Leno?

John Michener

Oklahoma & North Texas

Newsletter

August 2012

“What are we celebrating on this holiday that we call Independence Day?”

“Um...July Fourth?”

No, this was not Jay Leno doing a man-on-the-street interview. I was starting a conversation with a man in the park at the Freedom Festival in Bethany, Oklahoma.

Another conversation with two middle-aged women went like this.

“Don’t you just love this holiday?” I began. “Would you be willing to answer a three-question survey regarding the Declaration of Independence, which we are celebrating today?”

“Sure,” they said.

“Our founding fathers believed that the purpose of government was to secure mankind’s God-given rights, and they stated this belief explicitly in the opening paragraphs of the Declaration of Independence. Regarding those rights, the document declares:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life...

Do you think that this principle of equality, outlined in our Declaration, applies to blacks?”

“Yes,” they both nodded.

“Do you think this principle applies to women?”

“Of course!” they bobbed their heads up and down vigorously.

“Do you think this principle applies to human beings who are still in the womb, who have not yet been born?”

“Yes,” said the first woman.

“Well now...I don’t know,” said the second woman.

Conversations began in a similar way throughout the park on Independence Day. Justice For All fielded a team of experienced, local volunteers, and they were joined by dedicated pro-life activists from the likes of Louisiana Right to Life, Eagles for Life of North Texas, and Stillwater’s own Cowboys for Life.

Sarah Defresne, a JFA summer intern, was mentoring Jamin, a JFA training participant, during the outreach. The two of them were working together when they met a grandmother whose 17-year-old granddaughter was pregnant and deciding what to do.

Sarah and Jamin (pictured below) encouraged the grandmother to offer clear and continual support to her granddaughter. The grandmother left with a JFA Exhibit Brochure and indicated that she would visit with her granddaughter about the humanity and value of her unborn child. She was determined that she and the family would do whatever it took to care for her granddaughter’s child.



Thank you for supporting me financially and through prayer so that I can organize events like this one which save lives. These events also equip Christians like Jamin to find their voices and use them to change our culture, one heart and one mind at a time.

Dynamic Duo

I was blessed to meet hundreds of homeschool moms and dads and their children when I attended the annual Oklahoma City Homeschool Convention. Over one hundred families signed up to receive Justice For All Impact Reports and requested information about our upcoming Pro-Life Camp, held November 4-7. See www.jfaweb.org/camp for details, itinerary, and registration.

Special thanks go to Jasmin Aprile (white shirt and denim skirt) and Carson Banks (red striped shirt) for helping me greet families at the convention and recruit participation for the camp this fall. Jasmin and Carson are 2011 camp alumni and look forward to attending again this year.

Carson says,

“JFA was awesome! The training we received...was very informative and challenging. Being on campus engaging the culture on Monday and Tuesday was amazing... What surprised me most was how much I shared my faith through talking about abortion with people... Seeing the surprised looks on faces as we shared the truth in love was definitely my favorite part...”

Jasmin says,

“All in all, the JFA mission trip was an experience of a lifetime, and I highly recommend it to anyone interested in effectively serving God in America, especially teenagers passionate for Christ and for protecting life, and who want to make an impact on our culture. I am highly looking forward to my next mission trip with JFA.”

Carson and Jasmin also volunteered at the Independence Day outreach in Bethany, Oklahoma, where they each had many productive conversations. I greatly admire them both for the dedication, passion, and Christian leadership that they exhibit at such a young age.

-John Michener

