

JUSTICE  
FOR ALL

## “I’ll Change” May Transform An Entire Family!

As Tricia approached me at our recent outreach, her kind demeanor did little to prepare me for what she was about to say. After briefly explaining JFA’s mission to her, I was taken aback as she boldly exclaimed, **“I am pro-choice and actually am hoping my daughter will go in for an abortion very soon. She is having her 5th child and I think that’s just too many kids.”**

She was open to dialogue so I asked her questions to see why she was not only pro-choice but in fact adamant that her own grandchild should be aborted. She explained that her grandkids already have too little care from their parents and consequently are dropped into their grandparents’ laps far too often. I agreed that her daughter and son-in-law should take more responsibility. But then I asked why their lack of parenting skills should disqualify this unborn child from rights and value.

Tricia argued that her grandchild, at ten weeks in the womb, has less cognitive function than a newborn and therefore should have no rights. I agreed that the ten-week fetus has less cognitive function than a newborn but asked her why such a difference justified that value distinction. Then, using three pictures from panel two of the JFA Exhibit (yellow dots on right), I pointed out that the newborn *also* has less cognitive function than a ten-year old but still maintains the same basic right to life. I asked, “If having less cognitive function doesn’t disqualify the newborn, how can it disqualify the unborn?”

At this point I sensed a visible shift in Tricia’s thinking. She abruptly said, **“I’ll change—I see what you are saying and I should treat this new baby with love—just like the other grandbabies”**. As if that wasn’t enough, she went on to shock me even more. She told me that her son-in-law was also hoping that the fetus (his offspring) would be aborted, so she said she would try to change his perspective as well! She said that her daughter was set on having the baby no matter what, so she and her son-in-law would need to change their mind set or they would treat this baby with less love throughout its life.

I was so thankful that a simple comparison, with the help of several photos, guided her to understand that her thinking was flawed AND helped motivate her to challenge her own family members to change their attitude as well. **I’m hopeful that Tricia’s “I’ll change” moment may transform her entire family!**

This panel helped  
change Tricia’s mind!



*It will take an eternity for the unborn to defend themselves*

## An intern and a staff member on the way!

Laura Beeson and John Michener are two of the people currently raising support to join our team.



Laura Beeson, a student from Las Cruces, NM, will be coming to Wichita for a JFA summer internship this May! We are excited to help her grow as a pro-life leader and we can't wait to put her many great skills to use. Laura has volunteered with JFA several times over the last few years. She reflected on her 2009 May Missions trip experience by saying, *"I had the opportunity to see Christ work in so many people's lives. For instance, I was able to help reaffirm many pro-lifer's convictions that abortion is a non-negotiable issue. I also watched hearts transform from staunchly pro-choice to lovingly pro-life."* I have had the privilege of mentoring Laura as she raises her support for this internship.


John Michener (with wife Jayne and two daughters) is a long time volunteer from Oklahoma who recently accepted a JFA staff position. He too is working diligently with me to raise his support for full time work! John has helped us make many connections throughout Oklahoma for the last several years. One of the main motivators for John is that students around the country are truly open to discussing issues like abortion and morality. He told his supporters, *"after two full days of intimate conversation with one student after another, I was left with a stunning revelation. The students desperately wanted to talk. They wanted someone to hear their thoughts and respond to them, to validate their ideas or challenge them. They didn't want platitudes or a lecture; they wanted dialogue, because they were not getting it any place else. I was amazed that their minds were still open!"* Our effectiveness in Oklahoma and Texas will increase dramatically once John raises his support and begins as our manager for that region.



### Praises and Prayer Requests for April 2010:

- Pray for Laura Beeson and John Michener as they continue to connect with friends about supporting JFA. They are both very motivated and will have key support meetings and presentations these next few months. Pray that they stay encouraged through all circumstances.
- Pray for Tricia as she continues to sort through her views about abortion and challenges her son-in-law to rethink his views as well. Praise God that we were able to meet on campus!!
- Praise God for our opportunity to train the Focus Leadership Institute (Focus on the Family) next week in Colorado Springs. The institute students will join other volunteers in Greeley, CO for our outreach event at Northern Colorado. Pray that God would prepare them for the whole experience.
- Praise God for allowing us to train over 200 volunteers in Georgia and Tennessee. We saw amazing growth in the volunteers throughout their training and outreach experience.

Defending Human Value together,

  
Jonathan Wagner