

Truth in Art: JFA's Dialogue Tools, Old and New

Note: We recently celebrated a milestone in JFA's history — the creation of "The Exhibit." See the report from a team of JFA writers below. I know that you will share my excitement for the potential impact of the newest version of this dialogue tool that we're already using on campus. Last week I was able to start several conversations around this new tool at Wichita State University. This weekend, I head out to Arizona to train pro-life advocates through our seminars and outreach events. Thank you for your support! - Jonathan Wagner

Standing stoically in the background, it has cast its shadow over thousands of conversations in which important life decisions have been made—decisions to seek God, decisions to return to Christ, and decisions to keep babies.

The fall of 2010 marked the tenth anniversary of the first display of "The Exhibit," Justice For All's two-story conversation starter and dialogue teaching tool. It has been displayed hundreds of times on college campuses across the country during the last decade. It has been instrumental in saving many lives that we know about, and countless more that we have not yet had the privilege to meet.

This past summer the JFA team, along with many of our past staff and long-time volunteers, gathered to reminisce about the Exhibit's impact. Bruce Plank, the graphic designer of the JFA Exhibit, was there with his family, allowing us to thank him for his role in its creation.

Several of those present shared stories of times when the JFA Exhibit helped us touch another person's life in a special way. You have read many of these stories in our monthly newsletters.

John Michener, who joined our staff in 2010 as JFA's Regional Manager for Oklahoma and North Texas, shared these moving remarks.

*There are some things that are timeless.
Truth is timeless... Art is timeless.*

Tammy Cook shared a story a moment ago about ministering to a woman at the JFA Exhibit many years ago. Something similar happened to me just last week. This girl marched straight up to me.

"How can you do this?" she asked.

"Not lightly...and not easily," I replied.

She had on big sunglasses like all the models are wearing in magazines these days. But the biggest sunglasses in the world could not have hidden the tears streaming down her face. (continued on reverse side)



Above: One of the early appearances of the Justice For All Exhibit (University of Texas at Austin, 2001)

Below: Using the JFA Exhibit to create dialogue at Oklahoma State University in 2011 .



"How can you stand to look at those pictures?" she asked.

"I can't. I have to keep my back to them."

Then she asked a question that left me feeling her pain.

"Do you think God can forgive someone who has had an abortion?"

It took me a moment to gather myself. Suddenly, my own sunglasses were not adequate.

"I absolutely know that He can...and He does."

Bruce, your work on this exhibit is Art and Truth combined in a way that is most certainly timeless. To this day it impacts people with the truth not just about abortion, but also with the truth that God loves each of us.



Above: JFA presented the "Eternal Impact Award" to Bruce. Below: The first sign in a series of new JFA dialogue tools asks, "Where do you draw the line?"

The JFA Exhibit continues to be a tried and true catalyst for life-changing conversations. To help our growing team of mentors create more mobile outreach events across the country, however, we need a dialogue tool that can fit on an airplane.

Thankfully, Bruce Plank is again assisting the JFA team. This time, he's working with Steve Wagner, JFA's Director of Training, and Jacob Burow, long-time volunteer and newest JFA staffer, to create a tool that fits over a six-foot table and asks the question, "Where do you draw the line?"

We have already used this kiosk to create dialogue at Wichita State University, and we look forward to using it in April at Yale University, Bruce's alma mater. **With your help** the tool will also see action this spring in Arizona, Georgia, Oklahoma, and California.

—John Michener, Steve Wagner, and David Lee contributed to this report.



See the sign and student reaction on the web here: www.debate2dialogue.org

Prayer Requests and Praise Reports for February 2012

- I will be in Arizona for 11 days this month. Pray for energy. Pray also that lives will be saved and hearts will be changed throughout the whole trip, for insight and patience during our outreach events, and for safety while driving in Arizona.
- We found a new pro-life club leader in Denver, CO!
- We are still looking for other students in Denver.
- Last month, I spoke to a tennis team, a college Bible study group, and other individuals in Colorado about JFA!

Defending human value together,

Jonathan Wagner
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