

Developing Heroes Instead of Spectators - Part 2

Giving high school students in Colorado and Oklahoma empowering information, training, confidence, and motivation.

We only saw the students for an hour but the impact will be long lasting. I was so encouraged by the students we spoke to in Fort Collins, CO a few months back. So many of them confirmed that they knew the truth and how to share that truth due to our presentation. Furthermore there was a large group of students whose zeal to now influence their social spheres showed that our presentation changed their whole perspective.

These students were only able to see our introductory presentation. Normally, this is in their classroom or in a chapel setting. When we last traveled to Colorado we stopped by Heritage Christian Academy (mentioned above) and were thrilled by their response.

- "While the images were disturbing, I felt like your organization was simply showing the truth. I think it has definitely impacted people, but the impact is possibly life changing."
- "I thought the presentation was amazing. Revealing the truth about abortion is something I am truly passionate about. Now I have realistic examples to help me in my opposition of abortion. Thank you so much."
- "Wow this makes me really want to get involved. I have always been interested in preventing abortion and I know now it's time to actually put it into action. Please let me know how I can help. I think the graphic images put it into perspective."
- "I think what you guys are doing is so great. I really believe this is a subject people should be aware of. I believe people who hear and see your program will understand what abortion really is. It is a choice that will haunt you for the rest of your life and not a lot of kids understand this."

Flashback to *Developing Heroes*Instead of Spectators - Part 1:

6 things every pro-lifer needs:

- An authentic pro-life view
- Desire to end the injustice. Actively sharing a sound and complete message.
- A loving demeanor
- Win the person not just the argument. Listen well. Speak with a caring tone and loving attitude.
- Resources to study and use
- JFA exhibit at jfaweb.org and videos, books, essays, and other resources at str.org and abort73.com.
- Motivation to stop the injustice
- An understanding that each conversation and action step can and will change lives.
- An immediate action step
- Focus on closest spheres of influence. Keep studying. Join a group that is committed to helping consistently.
- Encouragement & accountability
- Every student needs someone to discuss their progress with. I give students my email and an invitation for questions. I email them to ask about their experiences.

Other students are able to take in our full training which includes the opportunity to participate in the Justice For All outreach. These students learn how to listen well, ask great questions, build common ground, ... -----> see reverse

...and speak clearly and persuasively once they have earned the right to be heard.

In November we had the privilege of taking some students from Christian Heritage Academy in Del City, OK and Community Christian School in Norman, OK through our full training and outreach program. I helped train them and I mentored them on campus. Below is a response from a student who went through our full training experience.

"It was an incredible experience! I'm really glad I got to do it (the Justice For All exhibit outreach program). Wednesday (our second outreach day) was much better than Monday. I was a little more confident and I was surprised at how much I had picked up on in just a few days. I'm obviously not a pro at it or anything, but I can see myself doing that in the future and I feel like I could have a somewhat productive conversation with someone about abortion now. Well, thank you again. I'll be praying for you guys." - Breanna Bullard (CHA sophomore)



<---Our chapel presentation at Community Christian School.

Trained students
engage in healthy
dialogue at the University of Oklahoma.--->



Prayer requests and praise reports for January 2009:

- Thank God for the many students who experienced our program in 2008.
- Praise God for changing the hearts of so many high school and college students we have trained. They are now willing to be bold and are excited to help JFA again.
- Be in prayer for the four people who are currently raising support to work with JFA... Lauren (Athens, GA), Catherine (Ventura, CA), Maureen (Phoenix, AZ), and Trent (Phoenix, AZ)
- Prayer for future training and outreach events with these and other high schools.
- Prayer for me as I travel extensively between California, Arizona, and Georgia.

Let's think about this...

I told one Oklahoma Univ. pro-life student, "What would we think of our Grandparents if they told us that in the midst of the Civil Rights movement they were personally against racism but they didn't want to judge others who were spreading racism?" Are we responding any differently to the horrible injustice of abortion?

Defending Human Value together,

Jonathan Wagner