



Should We Treat Abortion As An Issue?

It was shortly after my conversation with a student in California named Juan that I began to be bothered about calling abortion an *issue*.

Juan is a grieving father whose child was killed by abortion. I started thinking back through all the conversations I've had with post-abortive men and women; to most of these folks abortion is a tragedy and to all of them it is serious.

My short conversation with Juan shifted the gears of how I think about abortion.

Abortion is a product of a lot of issues, and a lot of issues spring from abortion. So it's not totally invalid to use the word *issue* when talking about abortion. But to box the information away in your head and label it an *issue* does the unborn an injustice.

Abortion is a tragedy and, in a sense, a holocaust. It's a symptom of an epidemic that has swept through mankind: an abandonment, at any cost, to serve ourselves. **This tendency toward individualism has led us to a tragic place.**

When JFA arrives on college campuses with truth about abortion and love through our compassionate staff, we encounter many different reactions—apathy, confusion, and frustration. Most people get uncomfortable when they see the consequences of our selfish world. Some are in denial, some are broken, some are angry, but all are affected.

I certainly saw this many times on our May Missions trip to California. My conversation with Juan was no exception. Early on during our first morning on campus he walked up and told me he was pro-life and very supportive of what we do. I thanked him and asked him if I could walk him through our



brochure (which we call the “mini exhibit”) so that he could share it with his classmates and friends. He agreed. Eventually he shared with me that he had paid for his ex-girlfriend's abortion.

He began to share with me how it has affected him. **He said, “Anyone who has had an abortion is going to be torn up inside with guilt and grief.”** Juan can't believe he didn't try to stop the killing of his own child's life.

The abortion drove Juan to an encounter with God's grace. →

He is now a born again believer, living a redeemed and forgiven life in Christ. He knows he has forgiveness, but that doesn't remove the pain of the consequences of his sin.

He had been contemplating calling his ex-girlfriend to ask her forgiveness for not taking the leadership in the relationship and



being the support she needed to keep the child. He wanted to apologize for taking the easiest route – abortion.

He realized that by taking a passive role in the decision he wasn't the support or leader his girlfriend needed in order to choose life over abortion. I encouraged him to prayerfully contact her again to help her find healing.

He then was able to encourage me in my work. Juan exhorted me to **never** become numb to what abortion really is.

He encouraged me to keep the reality of what is going on in our culture always at the forefront of my mind.

Juan then came out to the exhibit to volunteer and help us talk to students. He was courageous and firm in sharing the truth about abortion with his peers. I am grateful he was willing to share with me.

We don't call rape or killing simply "issues" nor should we. Abortion should also be taken much more seriously. It isn't simply about politics or about being conservative or liberal.

Abortion is the total destruction of a human life, and it is time we treat it as such. Perhaps the real issue is that our hearts have become hardened to the fact that human lives are being taken through abortion.

[Prayer Requests and Praise Reports:](#)

-Praise God for the hundreds of conversations we had with students in CA in May.

-Pray for pro-life student leaders.

-Pray for the development of pro-life clubs at Metro St., UNC, and CSU.

-Pray for the favor of the pastors and ministry leaders I am in contact with.

-Pray for wisdom in leadership as I seek out the formation of the clubs.

-Pray for healing for those hurt by abortion.

In Christ our Lord,

~Claire Marie~