



Out of the Mouths of Babies

Jordan Newhouse ~ August 2014



Dear Family and Friends,

It was a beautiful day in Yukon, Oklahoma. People of all ages gathered in the park for the "Freedom Fest" complete with food, games, and even a car show on the grass. I was there with other JFA staff and volunteers to give the "Independence Survey," which was designed to lead us into conversation about abortion.

I loved watching JFA Regional Manager John Michener use the survey to engage children. The conversations usually went something like this:

John: [Calling to a couple of children walking with their parents] Do you know what we're celebrating today?

Child: The 4th of July!

John: Sure, it's the 4th of July, but why are we celebrating?

The kids didn't know, so he told them about the Declaration of Independence, which states "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Then John asked the first survey question:

John: Who is included in this declaration? Should people with darker skin have the same rights as people with lighter skin?"

Children: [They nodded, as if to say, "yes."]



John Michener (second from left) and a volunteer speaking to a child and his father

John: What about girls—do they have the same basic rights as boys?

Children: [Both nodded vigorously.] Of course!

Finally, he showed them a picture of an unborn child.

John: What about humans who haven't been born yet, like this one—should they have the same rights that you have?"

Children: Yes!

John then shifted his focus to the parents.

John: In the United States, it's legal to take the life of this little human for any reason. What do you think? Is that right?

Mother: [She shrugged.] It's the woman's right to choose.

How sad. Her children saw clearly what she could not.

It makes me think of my own little brothers who are quick to point out that "a person's a person, no matter how small." Children easily recognize that the unborn is just as much a valuable human being as they are.

Philosophical arguments and theological discussions are important, but these children remind me that sometimes the most helpful thing is simple truth.

If, as the children recognized, the unborn child is just as valuable as they are, shouldn't we protect him in the same way they are protected?



Interacting with my mentor group at the Yukon, OK seminar

Please pray for me as I continue learning how to contribute to JFA seminars and outreach events by speaking and mentoring small groups. JFA will begin to have regular training events again when fall semester courses begin on our partnering campuses.

Psalm 8:2 ESV
Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.