Identity Crisis



KAITLYN DONIHUE'S MONTHLY UPDATE

MAY 2020

Dear Friend,

In February of this year, before COVID-19 turned our world upside down, I joined the JFA team in Texas to do outreach at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Shortly after we put up our display, a gay rights group set up a table across the sidewalk from us. As we did outreach, many of the guys and gals from that group came over to talk with us. It was an amazing opportunity to reach out to them and show them we cared.

As I talked with some of these young people, I felt a deep sadness for them. Within their community, there is so much confusion. Many of them are desperately trying to find out who they are and only becoming more confused.

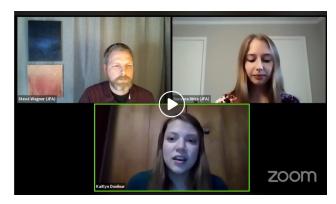
The issue of identity confusion is glaringly obvious within the gay rights movement, but it is also present everywhere in society.

Ever since man first chose to disobey God, way back in the Garden of Eden, we have been faced with an identity crisis. We were created to be children of God, but with the fall came separation from God and the loss of our true

identity. The only solution to this problem is for us to be reconciled to God through Christ. Nevertheless, many of us Christians still struggle to understand who we are in Christ.

We try to find our value, purpose, and security in other things — jobs, relationships, talents, hobbies. These are all good things but they should not be where we find our identity. If you find your identity in a job and you lose your job, have you lost your identity? If you find your identity in a relationship, do you lose your identity when that relationship ends? These things may be important to us but they can't define who we are. Only in Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, are we secure.

Abortion, homosexuality, and many of the other issues of our time are an attack on the identity God has given us — an identity that gives people value and purpose.



I participated in a Facebook Live event on April 30, 2020 ("Love 3: A New Roadmap for Conversations about Abortion"). Go to www.facebook.com/trainthousands (JFA's Facebook page) and click on "Video" in the sidebar to view video from the broadcast.

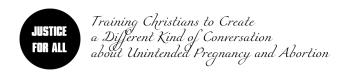
It is beautiful to know who we are, why we are here, and that we are secure in Christ. It is a security that not everyone has. May we, as Christians, share this incredible message with the hurting, broken world in which we live.

God longs to bring healing and restoration. He desires to end the confusion and bring peace. May we who know Christ proclaim the incredible message of the restored identity we have in Christ.

In Christ.







Dear Friend of IFA,

We pray that God is keeping you in his peace even as COVID-19 has caused so many changes for all of us. The Justice For All (JFA) team conducted outreach at UNT, UNM, Trinity University, UTSA, and UTD before we saw our outreach venues for the rest of our spring schedule shut down almost all at once. (See pictures of these five outreach events at the links in the footer.)

Convinced that abortion continues to be a great risk to unborn children and their mothers especially with the economic uncertainty of these times, each member of our team immediately changed gears. Together online, we have been meeting regularly to seek out conversations in places most of us thought held little promise for deep conversation (e.g. Instagram).

What about our training program, though? Even before the coronavirus outbreak, I have been troubled that so many people throughout the USA and around the world have no access to

mentoring from JFA's expert dialogue artists. Now, spurred on by the isolation of this season, we've developed a version of our training that anyone can access from anywhere.

I'm excited to announce "7 Conversations in 7 Hours," a new series of seven online interactive workshops from JFA. Each hour-long session will help you to have a productive

CONVERSATIONS HOURS

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS FROM JUSTICE FOR ALL

conversation on one topic related to abortion. After a short lecture, you will role-play a conversation in a safe environment and interact with JFA trainers through Q&A. Then you will receive a conversation starter you can use to immediately put into practice what you've learned.

We're offering a variety of options (see the reverse or www.jfaweb.org/calendar) so you can learn from JFA's dialogue artists right from your home at a time that works for you!

Show - Steve Wagner, Executive Director

Thank You

Thank you for standing with us during this unique time of COVID-19. Because of your faithful giving, we have been able to focus on developing online training events and ways to conduct conversations on social media. This work will continue to pay dividends even after we're able to conduct face-to-face events again, helping us reach more people in more places. Thank you!

Find All the Latest Online

www.jfaweb.org/7

"7 Conversations": Learn More, Register (Invite any friend anywhere to join you!)

www.jfaweb.org/newsletters

Rebekah Dyer: "Aubree Changes Her Mind"

Tammy Cook: "My Aha Moment!"

Jeremy Gorr: "Spending Spring Break..."

www.jfaweb.org/calendar

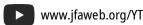
Recent Event Pics, Upcoming Webinars

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What Will You Learn During These Interactive Online Workshops?

Go to www.jfaweb.org/7 for more detail and to share with friends.

- 1. Three Essential Skills: These skills can help you with conversations on any topic!
- 2. Are Images Helpful? Learn to use images appropriately and sensitively.
- 3. *One Central Question:* Focus on the question, "What is the unborn?" and discuss biology.
- 4. The Equal Rights Mystery: Start with common ground to defend the unborn's human rights.
- 5. *The Question of Rape:* Meet the relational and intellectual challenges in this difficult topic.
- 6. *Do Bodily Rights Mean Abortion Is Okay?* Do women have a right to their bodies? Our answer might surprise you. And what does that answer mean for the unborn and abortion?
- 7. Extended Q&A: This session features an extended time of question and answers.



Seven Weeks, One Week, or One Day — Flexible Options for Any Schedule

Register at <u>www.jfaweb.org/register</u> for Zoom meeting login information and materials.

Complete the training in **seven weeks** with one of these options:

- Tuesday Nights, 7-8 PM Central (May 26 July 7)
- Thursday Mornings, 10 AM-11 AM Central (May 28 July 9)
- Saturday Mornings, 9 AM 10 AM Central (May 30 July 18, with no class meeting on July 4)
- Saturday Mornings, 10:30 AM 11:30 AM (May 30 July 18, with no class meeting on July 4)

Or, complete the training in **one week** with this option:

• Every Night for 1 Week: June 15 - June 20: M, T, W, Th, F Nights @ 8:30 - 9:30 PM Central and Sat. Night @ 7:30-9:30 PM Central

Or, complete the training in **one day** with this option:

• 1 Day: June 20: 10:30 AM - 9:30 PM Central (with breaks for lunch and dinner)

Or, make your own schedule with this option:

• "Choose Your Own Adventure" Option: During May-July 2020, we'll be delivering the same content four different times each calendar week for seven weeks (see above). Select this option if you'd like to mix and match sessions on different days and times each week. Our workshop series administrator will help you construct a schedule that works for you.

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