



# The Kulas Kronicle



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## Do not remain on the surface.

A few months ago, I wrote about some students being unaware of the beliefs held by their close friend. Since writing that letter, I've continued to run into examples of this same phenomenon. Justice For All helps to awaken the discussion about abortion among friends in such a way that they can go deeper into the topic, rather than remain on the surface level. One such conversation between two "pro-life" students I came across at a recent event in Oklahoma.

I struck up a conversation with Kameron and Aubrey, who I thought might be boyfriend and girlfriend. They both shared that they were "pro-life" and that they had seen our displays before, but that neither had talked to anyone at our past events. It became clear, based on some of their comments, that they had talked to each other about abortion before.

Although they said they were pro-life, I knew I needed to dig deeper. Many times people actually mean that they are "personally pro-life" but that others should be able to get abortions. Kameron was the first to voice his opinion. "I am against abortion personally, but because I will not have to go through that decision, I think women should have the right to do it." Aubrey voiced her opposition to abortion for herself *and* for other women, so I took some time to draw out the differences between Kameron's "pro-life" position and Aubrey's more consistent view. It wasn't clear to me whether or not Aubrey and Kameron realized that their "pro-life" beliefs were very different.

I said to Kameron, "So it sounds like you would support Aubrey *not getting* an abortion, but you would also support a different woman in her decision *to get* an abortion. Would that accurately describe your view?" Kameron affirmed that that would be correct. I could tell nearly immediately by Aubrey's body language that that didn't sit well with her. She turned to Kameron and with a very shocked tone, asked "So you would support someone in getting an abortion?"

Kameron responded in the affirmative again. Although these two had talked about abortion before, their conversation had clearly lacked important clarification. Some-

times when friends discuss the moral question of abortion, they both come to the conversation with a lot of assumptions. Because each is focused on his or her own perspective, they may not be aware that a wide range of perspectives exist that are called by similar names. When that happens, a clarifying question is necessary to gain a clearer picture of where each one stands.

It had been important to bring clarification between Kameron and Aubrey, but I didn't simply draw out their disagreements and let them go on their way. I stayed in the conversation to help guide it and keep it productive for both of them. I helped to illustrate to Kameron how his belief about the precious nature of the unborn child isn't just true *for him* because he believes it, but is also true *for others*. The reality of what the unborn child is cannot be changed based on personal opinion, like changing one's preference from coffee to tea. Biologically the unborn is a human, humans are valuable, and therefore the unborn child is valuable.

By the end of our conversation, Kameron did not indicate that his view had changed. Even so, I could tell that the information we discussed was helping Kameron see his obligation to defend the voiceless and stand up for those who can't defend themselves. And for Aubrey's sake, I was glad there was now clarification between them about their positions on abortion. Their differing perspectives on morality could cause further problems for them. This conversation provided a good foundation for them to continue discussing their differences productively.

Please pray for Kameron and for others whom I, other JFA staff members, and our trained volunteers have talked to about abortion over the last few months. Pray that these students would continue to study and ponder the arguments we discussed, and ultimately become powerful pro-life advocates standing side-by-side with us.

In Christ,

Paul G. Kulas