

JFA Reflection
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"So, what do you think?" I asked the young student of the University of New Mexico standing next to me, "Are the unborn human beings?"

She answered without hesitating, "Well, sure, that seems pretty obvious to me."

"And if they're human beings, do you think it's wrong to kill them?"

Again without hesitation, "I certainly would never have an abortion, but I would never try to tell someone else that they couldn't have one. Whether abortion is okay depends entirely on the specific circumstances of each situation and what the woman thinks is right."

"Do you hear what your saying?!" my mind screamed. *"You just agreed with me that the unborn are human beings, and now your saying that terminating them isn't wrong if the person doing the killing simply believes it isn't wrong?"*

And yet, about ninety percent of the pro-choice people I talked to during my adventure at a Justice For All outreach on the campus of the University of New Mexico held more or less this same view. I had often heard about moral relativism while growing up in a Christian household, and had often heard sample conversations like the following to demonstrate the underlying lunacy:

Moral relativist: "Morals are relative."

Christian: "Is that absolutely true?"

Moral relativist: "Absolutely!"

However, although I have basic knowledge of this belief system and of the arguments against it, I guess I never fully believed that someone would actually believe it. It's just so completely stupid! But there I was at the Justice For All outreach, talking to people who truly believed that individual people or individual cultures decide what is right and wrong.

I think this misguided belief stems from the desire of each individual to have control of his or her own life. Because they want control, they convince themselves that there is no "higher power" or anything else outside themselves that decides what reality is, and that they are, therefore, the sole definers of their own reality and morality, making them feel like they are the captains of their own lives.

Unfortunately for them, this is not the only effect of their beliefs; if what they believe is true, then their lives lack any meaning, purpose, or value. Although I am sure many of them try to ignore these consequences while still attempting to benefit from being able to take control and make their own reality, deep down at the core of their hearts, there is nothing but emptiness.

As I looked out over the hundreds, maybe thousands, of people that passed by me that day at the University of New Mexico, I was struck by a dreadful realization that all I was seeing were people whose beliefs implied that they were not actually people at all, but rather just meaningless...somethings. Were I in their shoes, I don't know how I would muster the strength to get up each morning.

This was the greatest revelation that came upon me while working with Justice For All. Indeed, I loved every aspect of the adventure, from the training to the six hour bus rides

to the family that hosted me for the night to the heat of dialog to the fulfillment of saving lives, but nothing was so powerful to me as the realization that all around me were people who truly have no idea why they are here, and that they subject themselves to this meaninglessness voluntarily.

May the Lord grant me the wisdom and opportunities to help these people see the lies they have told themselves and that taking control of one's life is not really freedom, but slavery. Only when people can see this truth and that morality is something God, not individuals, defines will we be able to start solving many of our other problems, such as the wanton killing of the unborn.