

## Impact One, Save Many



Tammy Cook Tammy@jfaweb.org September 2011

## Dear Friends,

Our Training events at Benedictine College and University of Kansas (KU) went very well! We trained a total of almost 60 people at Benedictine (BC), and about 75% of them participated in the KU outreach. Here's what one of the BC students (Sean) had to say about his experience:

"Sean! Where were you today?" asked one of my friends as I walked through the Cafeteria.

## Sean continued.

"I said it and I meant it. On Monday, September 12, 2011, I skipped my Latin, Logic, World Civilization and World Literature classes, piled into a minivan with some friends, and drove to the University of Kansas to receive an education more profound than I ever could have suspected. By the time I returned, I was beaming. I was exhausted and I was sunburnt and I had never felt so good ever since celebrating Holy Week with the monks of my school's abbey.

All day, I stood out in the sun with the Justice For All team and reached out to student after student, talking cordially and reasonably about the abortion debate. By the time I was done, *I had learned things that Benedictine College could never have taught me.*By the time I piled back into the minivan, I was drained and felt more complete than I had all year. It was a far more profound feeling than just intellectual gratification. For the first time, I had taken my stand in the public square. Many times before I have prayed in front of abortion clinics.

## I earned things that Benedictine College could never have taught me.

This experience taught me something that should have been clear from the start. At Benedictine, I live in a bubble. Here it is too easy to forget the outside world. I said it repeatedly to the KU students, but I didn't begin to register it fully until my return. One can get so lost in studies, daily Mass, Adoration and these other wonderful (and essential) Catholic rituals, that another essential Catholic practice can be forgotten. That is evangelization. We are called to spread our faith across the world. This means that we must understand our world, and interact with it.

<sup>&</sup>quot;KU," I answered.

<sup>&</sup>quot;What for?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Pro-life outreach, basically. It was amazing."

A political science professor told me last year that he worries deeply about how graduates of Benedictine will react to the world. He worries that they are too brittle to the rest of the world, having spent so much time away from it.

If we cannot dialogue with the world, we cannot win it over. If I am to deepen myself in the lessons JFA taught me, I must become more aware of the world. I must follow the news. I must think. I must speak with people that don't go to my school. In these two weeks, I have already sunk into the old quicksand of activities. I cannot let this quicksand blind me from an activity that is just as essential.

Too often I forget that I have stood many hours in front of houses of murder. I have seen buildings where doctors walk in and murder babies. I would be a monster if I did not develop and apply the skills I've learned with JFA every day of my life. "

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Your continued support is such a blessing to so many! Your gifts and prayers are vital to continuing our efforts to train *others* like Sean to make abortion unthinkable, one person at a time.

God bless you!

In Christ,

Tammy Cook