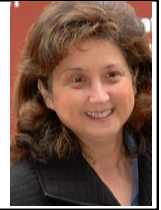




“Yearning to Make a Difference!”



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Dear Friends,

On January 22, 2012 we commemorated 39 years of legalized abortion in the United States under the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision. Grief, sorrow and anger are just a few of the emotions I felt as that day passed this year. The lives of 53 million babies have been innocently snuffed away not because they did anything wrong, but merely because their parents did not want them.

However, despite feeling sorrow that this atrocity of abortion continues to afflict our nation, I also have great optimism for an end in sight.

The source of my optimism comes from working with students like Isabel from Yale, whom I wrote about last month. I am deeply inspired and encouraged by the resolve of dedicated students like Isabel and her fellow Choose Life at Yale (CLAY) club members. Courtney and John are two other members of CLAY that joined Isabel for our Colorado training last fall.

Courtney and John articulated their experiences so beautifully in a written reflection that I wanted to share highlights of each reflection.

Courtney

The one-day training was very comprehensive in getting those unfamiliar with the displays and even the pro-life arguments in general oriented with JFA's mission and methods of engaging nonbelievers in focused discussion. I benefitted greatly from the “Seat Work” which narrowed the vast pro-life topic into manageable chunks that could fit easily into conversation.

The greatest part of my experience was the two days we spent on the University of

Colorado at Boulder campus. Going in on the first day, I was very intimidated and spent at least an hour listening to David, Catherine, Tammy, Trent and other JFA volunteers addressing interested students. When I began talking to students it was an incredibly different experience than I had imagined.

The most fulfilling conversations were those in which I could visibly see internal conflict afterward or at least an openness of mind that wasn't present before. In return, with each conversation, I improved in my responses to various arguments by practice and fuller understanding of pro-choice sentiment.



Courtney (right), in dialogue with a CU student.

My approach also changed as I observed the experienced staff and I learned how to ask questions and be a better listener than speaker.

I found that the best way to get students to discuss was by giving them the floor to express their opinion and only interjecting to challenge with another provoking thought.

What moved me the most was the incredible fervor for the pro-life movement of all of JFA's staff that is couched in a love that exudes from each staff member/volunteer. What I saw among the JFA staff in response to objections about the gruesome images was true apology and agreement that indeed we are sorry we have to put up such pictures.

A wholesale change of heart and the fostering of truth can't exist outside of an environment of love and I truly enjoyed working with JFA. I look forward to your visit to Yale in the spring. — Courtney McEachon

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John

Choose Life at Yale's recent trip to Colorado to participate in *Justice for All's* program on the campus of the University of Colorado at Boulder can only be described as an **eye opening, inspiring, profoundly moving experience**. Going into the 3-day event, I could have never expected the intellectual depth and unyielding compassion I would witness as JFA spoke to the people on the ground – nor could I have anticipated the wide breadth of intellectual and emotional responses our presentation received on campus.



John (center) having a conversation with CU students

I left feeling deeply moved by the commitment of JFA to the cause – and I also left with a new level of empathy for those who reacted so violently to the graphic images, for we had clearly sparked a nerve with countless people who had realized that **the unborn child is not an abstraction; it is a real thing**.

On a personal level, the trip sparked within me a resurgence of will to become an active participant in the pro-life cause. I have been pro-life ever since I can remember, but – up until the JFA trip – never felt so called to be on the front lines of the movement. My first semester at Yale has brought with it many new opportunities to take part in pro-life activism. Our organization [CLAY] has tremendous leaders - chief

JFA impacts people every day, and they certainly impacted this pro-lifer yearning to make a difference.

among them Isabel Marin, whose unflinching devotion to the cause is beyond inspirational.

Going forward, I feel not only more intellectually prepared, but I have a deeper understanding of all sides of the issue and how best to approach people who, in many different ways, have been impacted by the horrors of abortion. JFA was instrumental in this – and I thank everyone for their continued work on behalf of the unborn. **JFA impacts people every day, and they certainly impacted this pro-lifer yearning to make a difference.**
—John Aroutiounian

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Because of your partnership with us, JFA can continue impacting lives like Courtney and John. We look forward to working with the Yale students on the Yale campus this spring.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial gifts!! May God bless you.

### ***Prayer and Praise Intentions***

- ◆ Give thanks for successful fundraising efforts in December. Extra gifts totaling \$5,825 were received toward the needed \$8,000. Thank you for your generosity! Please email me with names of your pro-life friends so I can share our mission with them as I continue raising the additional funds for my support.
- ◆ Pray for our Arizona events (Phoenix, Tucson, Feb. 8-22) and for our team: Two weeks of training includes 6 seminars and 6 days on campus
- ◆ Pray for quick healing for my two sprained ankles; also pray for strength and perseverance during a grueling 9 day trip to Phoenix (Feb. 7-16).

***Thank you for your prayers!***

Richest blessings In Christ,

*Tammy*

Tammy Cook  
+JMJ