



Rebecca's Reflections



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“I never knew my oldest or youngest siblings”

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Dear Memory,

The Justice For All (JFA) team departs tomorrow for a nine-day trip involving seminars throughout the state of Colorado and an outreach at the University of Colorado—Boulder.

This morning I attempted to clean my desk before my departure. While doing so, I picked up a response card and read this comment written by a sophomore girl attending a Christian school at which JFA conducts our training program. After she watched the JFA's *Facing Abortion* presentation, she wrote:

Additional Comments: *Well, I know abortion is graphic but I'd never seen pictures. Before me (or my parents' marriage) my mom had an abortion. I think this might help me forgive her (the part of the exhibit about forgiveness). I never knew my oldest or youngest siblings (the youngest was a miscarriage).*

My eyes then shifted upward, about three feet above my desk, where another response card comment hangs. About a year ago, I placed it there as a reminder of something important I often forget. It seemed so important at the time that I had even shared it with many of my friends and supporters so they wouldn't forget.

This second comment was also written by a young female student. She too lives in Oklahoma. She even attends the same high school, but her name is different. She wrote:

My mom had an abortion. It's been really hard for me. I've been praying really hard about this so that I would start seeing abortion through God's eyes instead of mine. Today was also the day that healing began.

I hung this note up so that I would never forget that for every child who has been aborted, there is a mother, a father, friends, grandparents, brothers and sisters who are suffering loss, experiencing confusion, and are in need of forgiveness and healing.

Why then was I taken off-guard this morning when I read the yellow response card? And why was I even more surprised when I realized that both of these young women attended the same Christian high school, as if something so tragic could not happen twice in the same place—especially in a Christian school? Sadly, statistically there are likely many more students in that same school who have lived through similar experiences. Abortion is just as prominent within the Church as it is among those who do not associate themselves with Christianity.

Oh memory, help me during this trip to Colorado to continually remember the message of forgiveness and to share it with all those I encounter.

Sincerely,
Rebecca L. Haschke
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