



# Rebecca's Reflections



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## Blue Bandana

The blue bandana matched his torn jeans. A cigarette poked out from under his shoulder-length hair.

After forty-five minutes of conversation next to the Free Speech Board, Daniel, a student at the University of North Texas (UNT), tells me, "The world is over-populated, and abortion helps fix that problem. It doesn't matter that the unborn is a human being; abortion is necessary."

Not wanting to spend two hours off-topic discussing overpopulation, I responded, "Daniel, for the sake of argument, let's say overpopulation is a problem. Since we agree that the unborn are human beings, do you think we can solve the overpopulation problem by killing 20 million seven-year-olds?"

"Well, I don't think that is a bad idea, but we should at least use some type of testing so that we kill only those that do not offer as much to society as others—maybe medical and/or intelligence testing."

At this point my heart sank. Usually when talking to students about the need for abortion to control overpopulation, they do not agree that killing born human beings is an acceptable solution. Typically, we disagree about the humanity of the unborn, but Daniel recognized the humanity of all humans, born and unborn. The disagreement in this discussion was

over the reasons for which we can kill born humans.

The most disturbing part of this conversation was that Daniel seemed sincere about this belief. Many times I can



Daniel in conversation with JFA missionary Jacob Burow at the University of North Texas

tell when students are trying to be radical simply for the sake of their argument. I succumbed to the temptation to believe that he was a lost cause.

I felt there was nothing more I could do to make the conversation productive, so I simply ended it by saying, "Daniel, at least you are consistent. Thank you for not contradicting yourself during our discussion. I hope that I never have to live in a country where you have the power to choose who lives or dies, because I might end up on the wrong list. I want to live in

a country where all humans have the equal right to live regardless of disability, level of intelligence, or whatever. I guess we have to agree to disagree at this point.”

He smiled. The conversation had begun cordially, and it ended with a handshake, but it left my heart heavy.

Daniel returned two times that day to ask more questions. Thirty minutes before take-down, Daniel approached me one last time.

“Rebecca, I just wanted to let you know that today when I was talking about over-population, I was just messing with you. You had answered a lot of my questions, and I did not know where else to take the conversation, so I wanted to see how you

would respond.”

Lost cause? My lost cause was just messing with me! What a great reminder that some people seeking the truth have to push the truth to the limit before they can accept it.

What a lesson in humility for me. Once again, I fell into the temptation to believe that my conversation may have been in vain, but once again I was proven wrong.

Thanks again for your prayers and financial support which allow me to hear and address the questions of students like Daniel.

Defending life together,

*Rebecca J. Hasche*

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for:

- The five interns that will attend the Justice For All summer internship program in Wichita, Kansas.
- The Justice For All staff as we recuperate from the spring travel season, prepare for our summer interns, and work with the interns throughout the summer.
- Daniel, that his many conversations on UNT’s campus continue to challenge him to seek truth and find it.
- Jared, another student I met at the University of Colorado. Although he is an atheist, he is pro-life. We spent about one hour discussing the existence of God.
- All the students we will encounter on our outreaches this summer in Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Kansas.

## Comments from JFA Volunteers:

“I was grateful to learn how I can make a peaceful dialogue about abortion. The presenters made it an informative and interactive presentation.”

— Liz—Volunteer, Santa Barbara, California

“This outreach was effective in helping me begin conversations about abortion. It helped me to step out of my comfort zone and become more bold in sharing my beliefs.”

— Katelyn—High school volunteer, Colorado

This seminar taught me concise, effective ways to share my pro-life beliefs. Being able to practice the conversational techniques under the guidance of an experienced mentor was especially helpful.”

— Pauline—Volunteer, Fresno California