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JFA Newsletter

June 2010

Don't Debate - Dialogue!

From California State University, Fresno, April, 2010

Jake signed "Yes" on the poll table to the question, "Should abortion remain legal?" When I asked him to share why, he responded:

Jake (J): Because there's nothing wrong with killing people who are in the way.

Catherine (C): Do you mean adults, too? Or just these children?

J: Sure, adults, kids - anyone.

C (shocked): Have you ever imagined this philosophy of yours taken to its logical end? It would mean mass murders and chaos.

J: Well, okay, to be honest, almost everything I've said up 'til now is total %\$!#. I just think women should have a choice. I have to go to class, but I just said all that to get under your skin because, seriously, campus protests just annoy me. The only time I ever see people out here protesting anything, the only result is people yelling at each other. No one learns anything.

C: That would frustrate me, too! I'd love to have a real discussion with you if you want to come back after class.

(See "Dialogue" on page 2)

Dear family and friends,

One of the best parts of my job is working with high school students. We get to arm them with truth about abortion, and with tools for winning others before they head off to college.



I've learned a lot from the courage of students like Katie Morgan (*photo, above*). Read what happened when she came to UNC-Greeley to share what she had learned. Katie writes,

“Two girls walked by the poll table. One said to the other, ‘We should find someone to yell at.’

“As they approached the poll table, I asked why they signed, ‘No, this exhibit should not return next year.’ I knew I was probably going to get yelled at, but I wanted to see what these girls were all about.

“Immediately both girls began screaming at me. I stood there quietly as they yelled, ‘If I want an abortion I will get one! If I was raped today, I would have an abortion! You can’t tell me what to do! I am not ready for a baby so I will kill the fetus!’

“I remained silent as the two girls looked at each other. Then

(See “Katie” on page 2)

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J: Okay, sounds good - I will.

Later, as we were taking down the Exhibit, Jake returned and helped me carry heavy signs to the truck. He'd been in history class, learning about the Rwandan genocide.

J: Okay - you believe a one-cell zygote is a human being?

C: Yes.

J: Then isn't it wrong to kill sperm cells? They have human DNA, too.

C: Well, a sperm is a functioning part of another whole organism. Once DNA in a sperm combines with DNA in an ovum and is no longer separable, a whole, new organism exists.

J: So, if the biological case that life begins at conception is so rock-solid, why do people still think abortion is okay?

C: Well, in Rwanda, the Hutus knew the Tutsis were living humans, too. But they dehumanized them to justify the killing, right? It's bad philosophy overshadowing good science.

J: I see your point - that's just crazy.

Jake got it, and even apologized for the way he started our conversation that morning. We went on to discuss abortion, truth and faith for another 1/2 hour. Please pray for Jake!



(Cont'd. from "Katie" on page 1)

they looked at me and spoke, 'Have a bad day,' as they stomped away.

"We should find someone to yell at."

"Even though I knew from the beginning I would get yelled at, it is always hard to lose a conversation that may have saved a life.

"I replayed this event in my mind for the rest of the day. What should I have done differently? Had these girls experienced abortion? Later, as I stewed over my experience, who should I again see at poll table? **The SAME two girls who had earlier steamrolled me!**

"And they were engaged in rational dialogue with another JFA staff person! My first reaction? 'Not fair, Lord! That was supposed to be my conversation!'

"After letting it sink in a few moments, I realized that I was the seed planter. If I had not asked the two girls their thoughts, neither of them would have come back. I planted the seed. Now the other staff was watering that seed.

"This was the big lesson God prepared on campus for me. Sometimes in my own life, I try to make things work, but God says, 'Wait. It is not my time yet.'

"I plant a seed of truth and it will grow if I plant in His fields and wait for His rain." - Katie Morgan, Greeley, Colorado

The seed God had already planted in these girls may not have pushed through the hard crust of their world without Katie's invitation for them to vent their anger. Now, having broken through into the sunlight, these tender plants were being watered by other members of our team. What a great lesson for us all!

Tim, a recent volunteer at Kennesaw State University (Georgia) last month aptly summed up JFA's role this way:

I love your ministry philosophy: Make a display that does the confrontational part. Then as people talk with your team, they find people who care, who smile, who listen, who love, and who are secure enough to let the Holy Spirit win hearts.

Your partnership with me in this work means so much. Christ's peace,

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