



Abortion is a Man's Issue



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Dear family and friends,

“You’re a man! It doesn’t matter how you feel! Abortion is a woman’s right!!” shouted an angry female student during an open-mic session at the University of Georgia.

She was yelling at a young man who had just tearfully shared with everyone within earshot that he suffers *every day* knowing his girlfriend aborted their child. His heart is broken in pieces, and she tells him his feelings don’t matter? The nerve!



JFA’s Paul Kulas (*left*) discussing abortion with two young men in Pasadena, CA

I regularly meet men on campuses who have abortions in their past. They’re making their way through college with the heavy burden of having encouraged, paid for, or even fought against their girlfriends aborting their children. See Sam’s story in the blue box below.

In our society, there’s no space for women to grieve their aborted children - they’re expected to just move on, put it behind them. How utterly alone, then, men often feel who are grieving after

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“When did women’s rights become so important they trumped men’s rights?”

Don’t Debate - Dialogue!

From the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, Fall 2008

‘Sam’ was staring at the Exhibit with a dejected look on his face. I thought he was upset that we were there... Far from it:

Catherine (C): What’s on your mind?

Sam (S): These pictures are really hard to look at.

C: I agree - they really are. What’s on your mind as you look at them?

S: Well, a while back my girlfriend and I got pregnant. She was scared and thought having a baby would ruin her chance at college and ruin her life. I told her that I wanted the baby and

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that I would pay for everything and raise the child myself.

C: Wow - good for you! What did she say?

S: She said she was going to get an abortion. I asked her not to - I begged her! But she did it anyway.

(Silence.)

S: Now, every time I see a child the age mine would be, I'm reminded about what happened. (With tears in his eyes) I could have a seven-year-old kid right now that I could be teaching how to play baseball!

C: (Tearing up, too) I'm so sorry!

S: You know, I'm *all for* women's rights, but when did women's rights become so important that they *trump* men's rights - and fathers' rights?

C: I don't know, and I've heard so many stories from men like you who are hurting after abortion. Women don't even have a place in our society to grieve their aborted children - let alone men! Have you ever talked to anyone else about this?

S: No, you and your director, David, are the first people I've ever told.

C: There's a couple of great ministries I've learned of for men who've had experiences with abortion. Do you want more information about them?

S: (Taking out a notepad and pen) Definitely!

I was then able to connect Sam with orgs (See below) that offer counseling and support to help men heal from past abortion experiences.

Please pray for Sam and for the many, many other fathers grieving like him!

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abortion, especially when they're told that abortion is a "not a man's issue". As with any trauma or loss of a loved one, true healing requires acknowledging what happened and being allowed to grieve. Too often, men's pain and suffering is dismissed, though, which is one reason why it is so important to keep *lovingly* talking about abortion, and to do so often. You never know whose life you'll touch, or even save.

Thankfully, there are people and organizations committed to helping men heal from abortions. If you know someone who needs help, direct them to one of these great resources:

In Kansas, Choices Medical Clinic (choicesmc.org), **nationally**, Rachel's Vineyard (rachelsvineyard.org), Silent No More Awareness (silentnomoreawareness.org), M.A.N. (Men and Abortion Network www.menandabortion.net)

In Christ, for life,

I'm on a Podcast! On our recent trip to Fresno, CA, I was invited to contribute to the *LifeReport* podcast produced by our good friend Josh Brahm at Right to Life of Central California. JFA intern Josh Pedrick, staff Jacob Burow and I shared stories from campus and what motivates each of us to do the particular work we do here at Justice For All. You can listen to the podcast here:
<http://blog.prolifepodcast.net/2010/07/02/bonus-audio-interview-justice-for-all-trainers-part-2.aspx>