



GAP Visits New Florida University

CBR'S GAP TOUR OF FLORIDA UNIVERSITIES made its third stop at University of South Florida on February 22-23. Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform, CBR-Midwest, and CBR-Florida teamed up to plan and conduct this Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) tour of four Florida universities. CBR-Midwest Director Mark Harrington and Canadian CBR Executive Director Stephanie Gray provided leadership for Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, the sponsoring student group. They reserved the best location on campus for students to see our photo display, which contrasts abortion and other recognized forms of genocide.

The GAP team of staff and volunteers consisted of people from Canada, the U.S. and South Africa. Canadian volunteer Ania was new to GAP. Her first conversation was with a skeptic who thought our team came “to shove [y]our religious beliefs down other people’s throats,” and that “abortion should be something a woman has the right to choose.” Ania explained that our arguments are based on factual evidence and reasoning and challenged him to point out one display photo which carried any sort of religious connotation. He apologized for his incorrect assumption and aggressive tone. After 20 minutes of lively debate, the student smiled and said that, up until this point, he had thought all pro-lifers were screaming lunatics, but now he had been given a lot to think about. This stereotype of pro-lifers is largely due to the media’s portrayal of pro-lifers as holding an unreasonable position; our actions and arguments debunk it wherever we go.

Florida Gulf Coast University was the final stop on the tour, and it was the first time GAP had been on campus. The display was erected February 24-25 on the library lawn. Students and professors alike were shocked by the graphic photos; some students behaved very poorly and several professors were compelled to speak their minds about GAP.

GAP provokes many pro-aborts to grasp at straws to dissuade college students from looking at the “elephant in their living room”—CBR’s huge abortion photo mural in display. Consider this twist on the common “don’t-



Three University of South Florida students ponder the powerful message of our Genocide Awareness Project.

believe-everything-you-hear” phrase which came from Kris de Welde, Ph.D., the faculty advisory to the Gender Equality Organization at FGCU: “It [GAP] also has the intended effect of horrifying, but not necessarily educating, those who know little about abortion, human rights, genocide, and manipulation via imagery. ... Do not believe everything you see, and especially if what you see is meant to upset and disturb you. Get informed, get prepared, and don’t be blindsided by misinformation.” [campus.http://media.www.eaglenews.org/media/storage/paper1344/news/2010/02/17/Opinion/Do.Not.Believe.Everything.You.See-3873605-page2.shtml](http://media.www.eaglenews.org/media/storage/paper1344/news/2010/02/17/Opinion/Do.Not.Believe.Everything.You.See-3873605-page2.shtml)

Ms. de Welde didn’t want students to believe even what they saw—the factual evidence that abortion is an act of violence which kills a baby. Then there was history professor John Cox, who wanted to argue semantics when interviewed by the school newspaper, “As a genocide scholar and author of an upcoming book on genocide in the modern world, my opinion is that the GAP’s use of the term ‘genocide’ is highly inaccurate, emotionally manipulative, and demagogic. Their use of the term also cheapens and trivializes the many episodes of genocide that have occurred in world history.



A crowd formed during the open microphone session at Florida Gulf Coast University GAP. Stephanie Gray, director of Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform, handles student questions effortlessly.

‘Genocide’ should not be used in this exploitative fashion, to score cheap political points.” <http://media.www.eaglenews.org/media/storage/paper1344/news/2010/02/17/Opinion/The-Holocaust.Was.A.Genocide.Abortion.Is.A.Womans.Choice.Do.Not.Be.Misled-3873609.shtml>

In contrast to the subject-changing tactics of these two teachers was Terry Wimberley, a professor of Ecological studies at FGCU. He wrote a guest commentary for Naplesnews.com which commended our GAP staff, but which also expressed dismay over some students’ behavior:

They [CBR staff and volunteers] rotated their duties over a period of several hours and demonstrated remarkable patience, commitment and courage in the face of some pretty aggressive and uncouth behavior on the part of a number of students.

As a bystander in the crowd, I could scarcely believe my eyes and ears. There I stood, on a campus that I had lovingly devoted a great deal of my professional life developing as one of the university’s founding deans, and surrounding me were students—“our students”—behaving savagely, showering the presenters with shouts, insults and epithets. At one point I heard students calling the female narrator with the exhibit a “Nazi,” “idiot,” “fool,” “imbecile” and “whore.” Thankfully, these reprobates were a minority among the crowd, though a vocal and abusive minority. <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2010/feb/26/guest-commentary-embarrassing-spectacle-fgcu-abortion/>

Of the many students who were willing to quietly review the GAP display and seek answers to their questions, was Jared. He was in the middle ground on abortion as he began to speak with CCBR Executive Director Stephanie Gray. He offered all the usual arguments in favor of abortion. After nearly an hour, Jared prepared to leave and Stephanie

challenged him, “Jared, I want to leave you with this thought: Edmund Burke once said, ‘The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.’” He replied, “That sounds like it’s made for me!” Stephanie told him, “Well, you’re a good man, Jared, so I hope it’s going to motivate you.” As he turned to leave he said, “Yeah, it will motivate me.”

Our GAP display and trained staff challenge students to do what is right, but often hard. In contrast, the majority of their professors promote destructive behaviors when it comes to difficult life problems like an unplanned pregnancy.

A male student told volunteer Ania that his sister had had an abortion three years ago, and he hadn’t really thought much of it until that day as he looked and listened at GAP. As she gave answers to his many questions, Ania sensed he was moving closer towards the pro-life position. Eventually he shook his head and said he would talk to his sister because there was no way she wasn’t still carrying this burden of having had an abortion. Immediately thereafter, Ania heard the student engaging his friends in a discussion. As they fired question after question at him, he replied with some of the arguments she had just presented.

Zain and Joelene Reddiar started a CBR-South Africa affiliate this winter; they came on the Florida GAP tour to get firsthand experience. Zain spoke with a student named Andrew for three hours. Andrew subsequently emailed Zain. He wrote, “I learned quite a bit from our conversations ... Your efforts to reach out to people on the subject are very appreciated.”



A Florida Gulf Coast University professor joined the debate during an open microphone session at GAP. He led pro-abortion students in protesting GAP. Jojo Ruba, of Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform, handles the microphone for questioners.

They never show you this,” she said sadly as she gestured at the [GAP] images of aborted babies. –Chinese student at University of Florida who had two abortions due to China’s draconian one-child policy



CBR Florida Director Michael Schrimsher arrayed this VW bus with our Genocide Awareness Project signs and drove in Orlando during a statewide prayer effort outside all 67 abortion mills in Florida.

CBR IED (Improved Educational Devices)

CBR’S REGIONAL DIRECTORS HAVE DEVISED creative uses of CBR educational tools over the years. CBR Florida was invited to participate when Stand4Life organized pro-life Christians from many churches to pray at all 67 abortion clinics across the state of Florida on May 1, 2010. Mike Schrimsher, CBR Florida director, created a new application for our 4’x8’ GAP signs when he mounted them on both side of a 1979 VW bus. He called it an IED (Improved Educational Device).

The VW bus accompanied two of the CBR Reproductive “Choice” Campaign abortion photo trucks as they sought to photo-educate at the five abortion mills in Orlando. They also covered the Planned Parenthood office near University of Central Florida (they dispense Plan B and prescriptions for chemical abortions). The VW bus could navigate the smaller side streets and public parking lots (with one of our security vehicles following) where the too-large trucks could not go.

It was a family affair for Mike because his two oldest sons and daughter participated in prayer at two of the clinics and his next two sons were in the CBR vehicles. An Earth Day Birthday rock concert at the Citrus Bowl, a few blocks from the main PP office, afforded our crew the opportunity to reach that crowd.

Mike reported: “Some folks out on the road were really unhappy with the abortion imagery on the VW bus. I think there was extra cognitive dissonance achieved because of what

those old hippie/surfer vehicles represent to someone of my vintage: peace and love, sex, drugs, rock and roll, etc.”

Please share with us any unusual applications you have made with CBR educational signs, DVDs and other materials.

The Inspiration of CBR

WHEN CBR CREATED AND LAUNCHED the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) in 1998, we knew it had great potential to reach university and college students in the U.S., but we didn’t envision that internationals would take the project on as well and save babies in their own countries with GAP. We stand amazed at all that God is doing through CBR. The following are testimonials from three Canadian volunteers who were part of the Florida GAP tour:

“GAP was the first time in all of my work in the pro-life movement that I really felt like I was making a difference. I have already employed the debate and discussion tactics taught through GAP and Pro-Life Institute [CBR training] in conversations on my campus. ... GAP is the most important effort I have seen in changing the culture and ending abortion.” –**Edward Woolley, Queen’s University**

“GAP is a dynamic and powerful pro-life project. It combines revealing the truth about abortion visually with the loving witness of pro-lifers. It reaches out on a personal level to passers-by and engages people with a message they would otherwise avoid or ignore. GAP also helps bring into perspective the magnitude of evil which abortion really is and builds strong pro-life conviction in the volunteers who participate in the project.” –**Alanna Campbell, Campus Pro-Life, University of Calgary**

“The entire GAP tour was an immensely eye-opening and ultimately life-changing experience. It’s true. GAP changes hearts and minds. While away with GAP, I encountered one post-abortive woman who, after our conversation, told me, ‘People need to see this. If I had seen these posters before [I had my abortion] I don’t think I would have been able to go through with it.’” –**Lauren Kyfiuk, University of Victoria**

Note: Excerpts from quoted e-mail messages may be edited for grammar, punctuation, syntax, spelling and/or length. If you would prefer to receive a link to the Communiqué in lieu of a mailing, please email us at: newsletter@cbrinfo.org. Communiqué archives are available on our website.

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“If I had seen these posters before [I had my abortion] I don't think I would have been able to go through with it.” –Florida university student who saw CBR's Genocide Awareness Project on her campus



CBR Executive Director Gregg Cunningham (at right) debates UCI embryonic stem cell scientist Hans Keirstead, Ph.D in front of a new GAP sign we designed for UCI. It features Dr. Keirstead's photo next to a book cover about Nazi doctors. Look for the article on UCI GAP in the July CBR Communiqué. (For a fuller account of the CBR/UCI stem cell confrontation, go to <http://www.jillstanek.com/uc-irving-mortal-combat.html>)

Events

- May 12-14 – GAP at Cal State University, Long Beach
- May 18 – GAP at UCLA
- May 24-25 – GAP University of Washington

Prayer Requests

- God's blessing on CBR summer interns and new recruits.
- Success of the church project in moving churches to action.

Thank you for standing in the gap for preborn children through supporting CBR. "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Psalm 68:5

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