



YES WE CAN GAP BERKELEY!

OUR LONG-AWAITED GENOCIDE AWARENESS PROJECT (GAP) at UC Berkeley was a success, in large part due to the courageous Berkeley Students for Life who sponsored GAP on October 26-27. Since 1998, GAP has been conducted 165 times at universities and colleges in the U.S. and Canada, so our educational display linking abortion and genocide was long overdue at this birth place of free speech on university campuses.

Berkeley GAP included the first showing of an entirely new set of signs that not only highlight the truth of abortion, but also the hypocrisy of our President who talks about justice but denies it to preborn children. [See the signs here: http://www.abortionno.org/index.php/gap_signs/obama/C7/] Most Obama photo signs have a lofty quote from the President with which we might actually agree, at least in principle. These signs are not intended to communicate any disrespect for the President. They are intended to explain why his concept of social reform should also apply to preborn children. We are against torture, too. We just think the torture ban should protect babies, too. We are for health care reform. We just think health care reform should heal instead of kill babies. We also condemn genocide. Our point is that the definition of genocide is constantly evolving and as it does, it should also encompass baby killing.

The *Daily Californian* student newspaper reported on GAP:

Other students objected to the event organizers' use of pictures of Mario Savio and President Barack Obama. However, senior Alberto Gonzalez, president of Berkeley Students for Life, said any interpretations of such images were "in the eye of the beholder."

"(Savio) fought so fervently for free speech," Gonzalez said. "He would have supported us



GAP's two-tiered display makes a big impression even in a large plaza like Sproul Plaza at UC Berkeley.

being here." ("Graphic Anti-Abortion Demonstration Draws Student Criticism," *The Daily Californian*, Oct. 28, 2009)

To their credit, *The Daily Cal* offered Alberto Gonzales the opportunity to defend GAP. We quote in part:

Americans ought to be ashamed for having permitted the state-sanctioned killing of over 45 million children since *Roe v. Wade* in 1973 up to the year 2005, according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI).

Despite the hotheaded reactions and a counter-protest consisting mostly of students from a women's studies class and members of Berkeley National Organization for Women (NOW), GAP staffers were pleased to have many enlightening conversations with countless students. Berkeley is no longer the liberal bastion it is often believed to be. Today, it is a very apathetic campus, and it takes a large scale event to get people to talk about issues that matter. ... (http://www.dailycal.org/article/107298/abortion_debates_on_sproul_plaza)



This photo is taken from the Mario Savio Memorial Steps outside the iconic Sproul Hall. This is the exact spot on which the first speech of the free speech movement was given. At this point, crowds gathered to watch pro-abort students surround two sides of our GAP display. To twist the tails of free speech hypocrites, we created a Mario Savio sign (vertical photo) to use as the cornerstone of our display and used it to remind professors that the truest test of tolerance at Berkeley was our display.

Word about GAP spread in many ways. A Berkeley student posted on Facebook: "...this 'Center for Bio-Ethical Reform' showed up for a two-day display right in the middle of campusI mean HUGE display covering most of Sproul plaza... educating/fostering healthy debate around the issue of abortion. The organizers were anti abortion and they really woke up this passive/lethargic campus; for once students had to really defend themselves. These pro-lifers were very VERY organized though...that's the impressive part...they had ALL sorts of people (women who HAD abortions and spoke to how they regret it and church leaders, volunteers...) that could talk to any scenario/caveat the students came up with. They just kept knockin' 'em out one by one. I just listened. Whatever the bias...just the fact that lively debate was HAPPENING was refreshing/ ENERGIZING. ... (October 27, 2009)

While such students recognized the value of lively debate, the pro-aborts could only energize to chant slogans. "URGENT ALERT! Defend Women, Defend Choice! Rightwingers Assault Both in Berkeley!" was blasted by a radical Bay Area group:

Seemingly out of nowhere, a horribly ugly assault

on women and reproductive rights is happening right now at UC Berkeley. A Christian fundamentalist and Christian fascist road show calling itself the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform arrived at Sproul Plaza early this morning ... their mission is to "create debate" ...

... this anti-abortion/anti-women group covered Sproul Plaza with (according to one outraged eyewitness) "...an elaborate huge, huge display of bloody fetus pictures, targeting Obama, comparing abortion to Nazi genocide and lynching in the old south, and sporting a picture of Mario Savio as its "free speech" centerpiece." This horrendous display looks like it cost huge bucks...

As of mid-afternoon, students from the Gender Studies Department and the local NOW chapter were texting everyone they knew to get down to the campus, where they formed a line and locked arms in front

of these creeps, chanting "Our bodies, Our choice" for hours. People hurried to bring signs they had at hand – "Abortion Doctors Are Heroes" – enlargements of a Revolution newspaper centerfold, "A Fetus Is Not A Baby" – and joined in. The situation was very tense. .. (<http://sfbaycantwait.org>, Monday Oct 26th, 2009)

While the pro-aborts screamed themselves into acute laryngitis chanting "My body, my choice," they inadvertently helped us draw larger crowds. Pro-aborts will still be complaining years from now that we had the temerity to invade their domain, blaspheme their Cult of Obama religious icons and pirate the legacy of Mario Savio. The enormity of the exhibit was one of the most common laments we heard from pro-aborts both days at Berkeley. Since GAP's inception 11 years ago, we stressed that size matters a lot. The shock and awe created by the massive monolith we erected on Sproul Plaza will go down in history as one of the most influential events ever held in that sacred space.

The *Daily Cal* article quoted sophomore Imali Bandara's criticism of our display: "This is just in your face," she said. "It's just imposing these images comparing abortion to the Holocaust and genocide, which I find really offensive."

“*Yes we can” stop abortion without solving in advance every conceivable outcome that might arise.*

Because we “imposed” abortion images on students, teachers were forced to permit class discussions of abortion. One student told us his public health class turned into a two-hour discussion about GAP.

Gregg Cunningham was asked by a professor where and how we got our abortion photos. Gregg was appropriately circumspect in his answers but this man repeated sincerely how “compelling” the abortion pictures were. He was obviously very bright. He said, “I have always been very ambivalent about abortion.” He kept saying almost to himself, “I didn’t know that is what they looked like.” If he didn’t know, what are the odds that his students knew?

A female athlete who lost a sibling to abortion approached Lois Cunningham. She said her mother had an abortion years ago but “she tells me about it every day” and warns her not to abort. She was expressing interest in joining Berkeley Students for Life when a male athlete walked up. He also wanted to become a member. In all, our GAP team signed up approximately 25 students.

Lindsey, a Berkeley Students for Life member, had an interesting conversation near a GAP sign with a lynching photo. A female student argued, “What will we do if we outlaw abortion and then have all these babies that we aren’t able to support?” The student compared the situation to when slavery ended and all the slaves had nowhere to go. Then she caught herself, saying, “But I wouldn’t have wanted them killed.” Lindsey explained that this was our point; the parallels are valid. “Yes we can” stop abortion without solving in advance every conceivable outcome that might arise.

A female professor accosted Gregg and said, “Shame on you for making women feel guilty about their abortions.” We didn’t make students like Chris feel guilt; he was already suffering after his girlfriend’s abortion. Volunteer Lori (wife of pro-life hero Pastor Walter Hoye) listened and then asked how long ago it happened. She was startled when Chris replied, “October 5, 2001. It’s a bad experience. I wouldn’t recommend it. It’s been eight years and it still hurts.”

The total effect of GAP is incalculable and will be felt for years to come. Here is what one new GAP volunteer emailed us and her friends afterwards:

... This experience was one I will never forget and one for which I thank the Lord! We spoke with hundreds of students. Many of these students had never ever seen photos like these. We saw them moved by anger, and by love. We saw students who could not tear themselves away from the photographs, mesmerized and who returned again and again between classes to view them. I noticed a pretty young female student who I spoke with earlier and who spoke with at least half of us at one point in time during the day, just standing there, looking at the photos even as the exhibit was being dismantled on the last day. ...

.. this [GAP] was a cleansing for me, a reminder of why I am in the pro-life movement. I asked the Lord for the first time, if this was where my mission field is. ... Praise God and bless you all. Don’t forget me when you come back, to this area, I would love to be involved again. (Prima Mosely)



While the opposition raged around them outside the GAP display, CBR staffer Kathy Jones and TN volunteer Debbie Picarello were not deterred from sharing the love of Jesus to hurting women. Our team included at least four women and one man who shared personal experiences with abortion to dissuade students from believing the lie that abortion solves your “problem.”

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“*My girlfriend aborted on October 5, 2001. ... It's been 8 years and it still hurts.*” –UC Berkeley student



14-year-old volunteer Isaiah Johnson stands ready to offer a *Why Abortion is Genocide* brochure even when NOW chanters are screaming for the “right” to kill their preborn children.

Events

- Oct. 26-27 – GAP at UC Berkeley, CA
- Oct. 26 – Issues after Dark Radio interview KFAQ 1100 AM, Bay Area, CA
- Nov. 10 - Liberty University presentation
- Nov. 16-18 - GAP at University of Houston

Prayer Requests

- Planning for Winter/Spring Genocide Awareness Project at universities.
- Blessings on courageous Berkeley Students for Life

Thank you for standing with us as we show America the sin of abortion in the hope of bringing people to repentance. *“Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.”* John 3:20

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