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Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

May 2011

## GAP Tours Florida Universities

**F**or a second year, CBR's Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) visited four Florida universities in February. CBR's former Midwest Region Director, Mark Harrington, coordinated the tour, and Stephanie Gray, the amazing director of our Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform, oversaw the international team members. They partnered with Michael Schrimsher, our Florida regional director. Team members largely came from Canada and the U.S., but there were also several who traveled from South Africa and England. International and local volunteers were given GAP training sessions on February 12-13.

**The first campus was University of West Florida (UWF) in Pensacola on February 14-15.** This was the first time our large abortion photo mural exhibit visited this campus. Our team selected the Cannon Greens as the best location for our display, which contrasts abortion with more widely recognized forms of genocide. As expected, there were many who did not appreciate our efforts to win justice for preborn children. But untold minds were changed!

The student Opinions Editor for the campus newspaper prophesied: "Abortion will always exist, so it should be safe and legal." (<http://www.thevoyager.net/mobile/opinion/abortion-will-always-exist-so-it-should-be-safe-and-legal-1.2477020>) W. Paul Smith, writing for *The Voyager*, used falsified numbers (perhaps unwittingly) as he quoted "studies" of the numbers of illegal abortions done annually prior to *Roe v. Wade* as ranging from 200,000 to 1 million. Former abortionist Dr. Bernard Nathanson acknowledged they made up these numbers to help push through the legalization of abortion. Mr. Smith wrote: "No one likes abortion. And no one needs to see graphic pictures to understand the reality of abortion." He couldn't be more wrong on point two, as evidenced by countless people who tell us things like, "I had no idea," and, "I didn't know they had fingers and toes."

Michael Schrimsher, Center for Bio-Ethical Reform Regional Director-Florida, wrote a letter to *The Voyager* (published Feb. 22, 2011). In it, Michael particularly addressed one derisive and dismissive editorial written about GAP at UFW, which can be found here: (<http://www.thevoyager.net/mobile/opinion/abortion-display-a-miscarriage-of-decency-1.2469387>). Michael effectively demolished the writer's errors:

The Genocide Awareness Project is a descriptive, not a dress up, title for our display, which accurately portrays that abortion is 'flagrantly obscene and disrespectful' to unborn babies and their mothers. There is nothing decent about

abortion to display. If pro-life and pro-choice members of *The Voyager* staff can unite in dismay over the images, they should be even more united in horror at actual abortion procedures and those who perform them. ....

Whether or not you approve of GAP, it is absurd to say that we 'conveyed nothing but disrespect toward UWF's students.' We conveyed genuine concern for their well-being. Claiming a 'severe lack of judgment...in the administration' for allowing us to appear on campus reveals a fundamental lack of understanding of our right to freedom of speech exercised in the public square, especially on a public university campus. ....

*The Voyager* purports to speak for all who attend UWF that their top priority is to "encourage our society to outgrow outdated modes of thinking such as this."

Apparently, it is now outdated to speak up for those who don't have a voice and protect those who can't protect themselves. Please visit [AbortionNO.org](http://www.abortionNO.org) and read testimonials from some who saw abortion images and *changed their mode of thinking*. (<http://www.thevoyager.net/opinion/letter-to-the-editor/anti-abortion-group-representative-responds-to-the-voyager-1.2477019>)

Other media outlets covered GAP as well. WEAR-TV broadcast fair-minded coverage of UWF GAP; it can be viewed on this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXXcIHKs9lk>.

*(Continued on page 2)*



*Crowds were steady and debate was lively at Florida State University GAP on February 16-17. Pro-aborts tried hard to drown out conversations with their chants, but it's the pictures that matter most.*



## GAP TOURS FLORIDA (*Continued from page 1*)

Bloggers also discussed GAP, including a UFW journalism student. (<http://collegeghenianigans.blogspot.com/2011/02/anti-abortion-group-stirs-controversy.html>) In Shelby's blog, she wrote of the personal effect GAP has on people, describing how Nathaniel Blaney, a 19-year-old student, was "deeply affected by the graphic images." He signed the "Free Speech" Board we often place next to GAP:

'Looking at those hands on the quarter makes me think of my own hands,' he said. 'I was just playing guitar last night and it made me think of wasted potential.'

Abortion not only destroys preborn children, it also wastes the potential of those who abort and do not come to peace with God about it. CBR educates to spare both the children and their parents from the devastation of abortion. It brings sinners to repentance and opens them to salvation in Christ. That's why some campus ministry groups are enthusiastic about GAP.

While GAP was underway, a CBR Reproductive "Choice" Campaign (RCC) truck drove through Pensacola and the UWF campus, reaching even more people with the photographic evidence that abortion kills babies.

**The second stop was Florida State University in Tallahassee, where we had two RCC trucks driving through Tallahassee and the FSU campus.** Stephanie reported a truly remarkable experience at FSU in the February 2011 CCBR newsletter:

On February 16 and 17 we were at Florida State University (FSU) in Tallahassee where I experienced **the most intense, bustling, and powerful GAP of my 10-year experience!** We had a constant flow of students keeping all our volunteers busy in conversation. We also had a large crowd of opposition that chanted throughout the day, including when I did "open mic," where I took questions from passersby.

One young man stood at the student microphone during "open mic" and persisted in sharing his message even while the pro-aborts kept up their loud chanting. He thanked CBR for our presence, saying, "If me and my ex had seen this two years ago, we would not have done what we did."

This brave student was not the only one on campus who was grieved about a child of his being aborted now that he knew the truth. Team members Emil and Seth both ministered to another post-abortion male student. Post-abortion men, many of whom did not want their children aborted, are ignored by society. In contrast, we reach out to them at GAP, listen to their stories, offer them post-abortion materials, and refer them to post-abortion help groups.

Organized protesting against GAP came from these pro-abortion groups: The F-Word, The Pride Student Union (guess what they are proud of), The Center for Participant Education and the FSU College Democrats. Their chanting and yelling was intense; protestors raised on poles sheets decorated with various slogans, as well as carried signs including a ridiculous Planned Parenthood placard which read "Reproductive Justice for All."

The pro-abortion protestors helped spread our message as the local television station scurried to campus to cover the events. WCTV Channel 2 subsequently ran a story on GAP. [http://www.wctv.tv/home/headlines/Anti-Abortion\\_Activist\\_Rally\\_at\\_Florida\\_State\\_University\\_116430839.html](http://www.wctv.tv/home/headlines/Anti-Abortion_Activist_Rally_at_Florida_State_University_116430839.html)

### *"...Looking at those hands on the quarter makes me think of my own hands."*

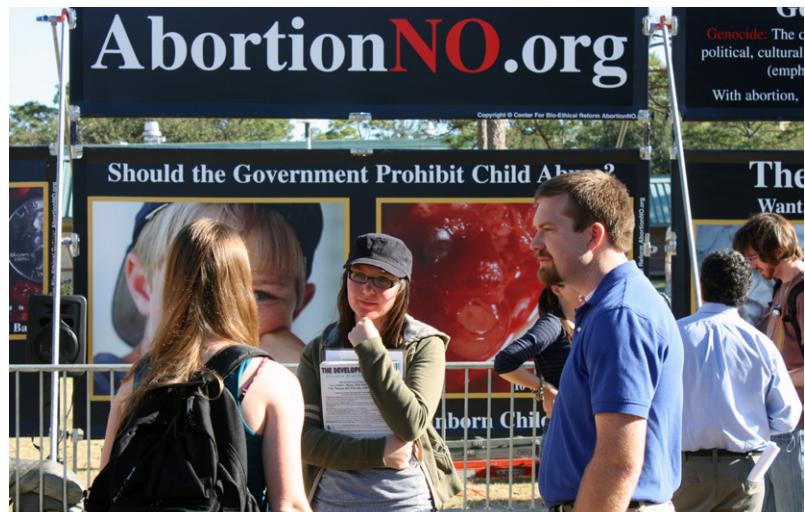
**19-year-old University of West Florida student as he pondered an aborted baby's hands on a GAP photomural**

Several local bloggers wrote about GAP, as well as respected national pro-life blogger, Jill Stanek. (<http://www.jillstanek.com/2011/02/angry-mob-tries-to-censor-abortion-truth-at-fsu/>) We are thankful that Mrs. Stanek regularly covers CBR displays held around the world.

Florida State University College Republicans reserved the Union Green for GAP as a courtesy to CBR. Although they did not help staff the display, as do many student groups, we are grateful for their willingness to help us obtain the best display location on campus. The display location is key to getting the maximum student traffic, and thus helps us save more babies.

Some years ago, a man who watched us interact with students at the University of Central Florida later walked up and identified himself as a Campus Crusade for Christ staff member. Then he said, "What you are doing here is **REAL** ministry!" Amen and praise God!

In upcoming CBR Communiqué's, we will report on GAP at Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University and Florida A & M.



*Darius Hardwick, CBR Midwest Region Director (at right) and a Canadian volunteer, Siobhan, listen as a University of West Florida student gives her opinion during GAP February 14-15, 2011.*



## News from our International Affiliates and Associates



**UNITED KINGDOM** – CBR-UK held an abortion photo banner display at the famous Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park on Sunday, April 10. This was their first time at this historic location. Their team of 26 volunteers held up eight abortion photo banners. They set up our abortion photo signs at 1:00 pm when the park was packed with people. There was immediate interest. As always, our abortion images did most of the “speaking.”

The police did move in to observe, but the crowd behaved reasonably. It included a number of Muslims who frequent Speakers' Corner. Most of them spoke to CBR-UK volunteers and were very supportive. One man told our post-abortive volunteer she would go to hell for what she had done; she corrected him with the love of Christ. Muslims often have little understanding of forgiveness.

CBR-UK Executive Director Andrew Stephenson set up the display as double-sided, so people picnicking and walking in Hyde Park directly behind them were also educated about abortion. Irene van der Wende from CBR-Netherlands flew over to assist the team.



**CANADA** – The evangelical Christian magazine, *Faith Today*, just published an excellent feature article entitled “Young, Female and Pro-life.” It highlights the powerful work of our Canadian CBR (CCBR), particularly Director Stephanie Gray and new staff member, Ruth Lobo. Ruth is one of the courageous Canadian students who was arrested last October as they attempted to set up a GAP display on their campus, Carleton University. She and the four young men lost friends and had family members divided over their stance, but God is surely pleased with them. <http://digital.faithtoday.ca/faithtoday/20110506?pg=18&pm=2&fs=1#pg18>



**SLOVAKIA** – Our affiliate has been conducting abortion photo displays in front of high schools since October, even during the cold winter months. They translated materials from our friends at Priests for Life and printed it as a brochure entitled “How to preach on abortion.” They sent it and CBR-Slovakia flyers to all the Catholic priests (Slovakia is 80% Catholic), and also to seminaries, Orthodox bishops and Evangelical pastors. Approximately one-third of the Catholic parish priests sent CBR-Slovakia donations to cover costs for the packages and some ordered more flyers and materials. CBR-Slovakia now has two full-time and three part-time professional pro-life workers.



**POLAND** – Our affiliate in Poland has been working to collect signatures in support of their legal project to protect the life of every preborn baby without exceptions. They needed 100,000 signatures by April 10, and they collected more than 500,000 signatures. They praise God for that and for the fact that almost every Catholic bishop supports CBR's work in Poland. The next phase is to influence the Members of Parliament to enact this law that will totally protect preborn children.



*Throngs of people crowded around CBR-UK's first abortion photo display at the famous Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park on April 10, 2011.*



**Your partnership is crucial as we seek justice for preborn children in the hope of holding back God's wrath.**

***“But they mocked God’s messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the LORD was aroused against his people and there was no remedy.” II Chron. 36:16***

### Prayer Requests

- That CBR's global outreach will continue to grow
- Funding & volunteers to conduct our Corporate Accountability Project (CAP) and run our trucks

### Events

#### GAP

May 3 Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

May 4 Inner Harbor, Baltimore MD

May 5 University of Delaware, Newark, DE

#### PRO-LIFE TRAINING ACADEMY

April 30 Baltimore

May 1 University of Delaware



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*I want to say thank you for being here, because if me and my ex had seen this two years ago, we would not have done what we did.*

**Florida State University student  
who saw our Genocide Awareness Project**



CENTER FOR BIO-ETHICAL REFORM

May 2011



*CBR-Poland mounted this billboard in September 2010 in the city of Poznan to highlight the injustice of their law which permits abortions of babies diagnosed with prenatal problems. On the left side is the quotation from John Paul II: "The nation which kills their children is the nation without a future". The large text over the late-term aborted baby photo reads: "Ill we kill," and the small text reads: "In 2008, 467 children were legally killed in Poland, because they were ill."*

Center for  
Bio-Ethical  
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