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Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

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A Huge Day for Life and Liberty

By Gregg Cunningham

Thursday, October 4, 2012, turned out to be a huge day for life and liberty. President Barack Obama's motorcade passed within 30 feet of one of CBR's strategically placed abortion billboard trucks in Madison, Wisconsin. Our great volunteer truck driver, Jim Davis, had our truck right at the front of a line of vehicles where police cars had blocked the intersection of Park Street and University Avenue. How many strong angels do you think it took to arrange the president's providential encounter with our billboard truck? I am reminded of CBR-Florida Director Michael Schrimsher's brilliant maneuvering of CBR billboard trucks to place them alongside then-candidate Barack Obama's campaign bus in Orlando, Florida, in 2008.

Tens of thousands of Obama supporters were forced to walk past our enormous Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) display on the campus of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, going to and from Mr. Obama's rally on Bascom Mall. Thousands of college students had walked past our exhibit earlier that day and



President Barack Obama's motorcade passed within 30 feet of one of CBR's strategically placed abortion billboard trucks in Madison, Wisconsin on October 4, 2012. Note the black limo and black SUV on Park St., visible in the left center of our photo.



One of our abortion billboard trucks is pictured in Fishersville, Virginia, along the access road to an auditorium in which Governor Mitt Romney and Rep. Paul Ryan addressed tens of thousands of their supporters. As an endless flow of traffic ground by slowly for four hours on October 4, countless people saw our message, including the candidates when their motorcade eventually passed by.

the previous day. But now the rally crowds streamed past in an uninterrupted procession for at least 45 minutes. Many of these lost souls were the same public employee union members who stormed the Capitol (just a few blocks away) in a failed attempt to recall Governor Scott Walker earlier this year. They were furious at us for raining on their parade; but the Madison Police Department had at least eight officers protecting us, and their department was very accommodating. Many patrolmen came by specifically to view the display, despite not being assigned to work there.

We watched Secret Service agents closely examining our signs, and a police supervisor had told us the day before that the Secret Service planned to erect a chain-link fence across the walkway beyond our GAP display. This barrier would have effectively walled our sign display off from the Obama rally venue. But to our amazement, the president's security detail not only abandoned their fencing plan but actually routed these immense crowds right past our exhibit! We immediately seized the opening and flanked the corridor with handheld "Choice" signs we held aloft on both sides of the walkway (see photo, page 2) leading to our GAP display. Could the Secret Service be more pro-life than is generally believed? They have known us for decades because of the sign and truck projects we conduct every year in Washington, D.C., near the White House. They used bomb-sniffing dogs to examine our trucks in the early

(Continued on page 2)



A HUGE DAY FOR LIFE... (Continued from page 1)



During our Genocide Awareness Project at University of Wisconsin on October 3, 2012, a police supervisor told us that the Secret Service planned to erect a chain link fence across the walkway in the background of this photo. This barrier would have effectively walled our sign display off from the Obama rally venue. But to our amazement, the President's security detail not only abandoned their fencing plan but actually routed these immense crowds right past our exhibit on October 4!

years, but stopped inspecting our trucks long ago. This level of trust may now be paying bigger dividends than we imagined.

We have attempted to conduct GAP at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for several years but were thwarted by prohibitive university regulations and timid pro-life students who refused to sponsor us. Just as I was about to file a lawsuit against the university, we discovered that a main street through the campus is actually owned by the City of Madison. Better still, it features a plaza, surrounded on all four sides by university buildings (the library, faculty club, etc.), and the plaza can be reserved for public events. Bingo! We were in -- and the university was powerless to stop us.

The Wisconsin Reporter newspaper wrote about our display in an October 5, 2012 article headlined "Candidates avoiding 'A' word in presidential campaign." The story reported that Madison is "arguably one of the most liberal campuses in one of the most liberal cities in the nation...." Predictably, "Passersby sometimes yelled vulgarities at the people running the provocative display." Vulgar indeed: "'F*#k you,' one college student yelled to each staffer individually, pointing to each as he walked by." Then there were the usual feminist cordialities: "'What the f*#k do white men know about abortion?' asked one college-aged woman." Then "Another mocked the group, saying, 'Praise Jesus,' although CBR had no visual religious displays, save an enlarged bumper sticker, 'CO-EXIST,' with various religious symbols as substitutes for letters, under a photograph of a [pregnant mother and a] dead fetus."

A student newspaper called *The Badger Herald* ran an October 3, 2012 story headlined "Pro-life protests fill Library Mall." It quoted me saying that "CBR is forcing a debate that otherwise does not normally come up among students and teaches students facts about abortion they are not learning in the classroom...." I added that "...

we had notified the gender and women's studies department at UW of the protests and encouraged them to debate with ..." us. Of course, these cowardly creatures barricaded themselves safely behind closed classroom doors until the danger of our presence had passed.

But the best commentary on our project came from another campus newspaper called *The Daily Cardinal*. In one of the more thoughtful essays ever written about our university outreach, headlined "Abortion protests gut check passersby with abrasive displays," October 8, 2012, the author wrote the following, in part:

Morgan Haefner wrote in a previous opinion column about what she termed the 'State Street Solicitors.' That is, those well-meaning men and women who stand on State Street trying to talk to you about the environment, about homelessness, about war. She praised these folks as 'the brave ones,'

as 'the opposite of selfish,' as fighters for the greater good in the face of all our disdain and apathy.

The Genocide Awareness Project people, with their grisly billboards, and the Wisconsin Environment people, with their clipboards, are similar in that they are both willing to tolerate our collective disdain. The critical difference is that the GAP will not tolerate our apathy. The Wisconsin Environment solicitors, convinced the environment is something that matters, try to reach you with a friendly face and talking points. It's easy to brush them off. The GAP people bypass your reasoning and your brush-off by going straight for your gut.

If you cried or vomited, their tactic worked because they reached you. They didn't persuade you, they didn't please you, but they reached you. They think that abortion is revolting, vile and obscene, and for a minute they made your stomach curl too.

At almost the same hour on the same day as our Madison event, depicted in the photo below, another of our abortion billboard trucks, driven by the inimitable CBR volunteer Bubba Gene Garret, was parked in Fishersville, Virginia, along the access road to an auditorium in which Governor Mitt Romney and Representative Paul Ryan addressed tens of thousands of their supporters. Fishersville is in the Shenandoah Valley, which Bubba dominates as authoritatively as Civil War General Stonewall Jackson ruled the Shenandoah during his ruthless Valley Campaign.

An endless flow of traffic ground by slowly for four hours, with the candidates' motorcade eventually passing at the same crawl. Congressman Ryan had his window open, waving, and gaping at our truck. Anyone who thinks these projects don't change things, at least at the margins, is flatly wrong. And in a close race, the margins can matter greatly.



CBR-Arizona displayed abortion signs and spoke with students on October 4, 2012 at Phoenix College, Phoenix, Arizona. CBR-Arizona Director Jason Walsh reported: “In four hours we were able to pass out more than a thousand pieces of literature.” In this photo, his wife Holly Walsh is speaking with a student as she writes down Holly’s phone number. We never know who needs help when we go on campuses, but God orchestrates those divine opportunities.

Please partner with us to save preborn children from abortion, in response to God’s eternal Word.

*“But the Word of the Lord stands forever.”
I PETER 1:25*

- Pray for our new affiliate in Spain
- Strength and safety for Key States Initiative staff and volunteers

Events

Key States Initiative July 20 through Nov. 6

GAP Oct 24-25 University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Corporate Accountability Project (CAP)

Oct. 6, 13, 27 Marriott Hotel, Dana Point, CA

Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD

“Choice” sign outreaches

October 4 Phoenix College, Phoenix, Arizona

October 27 Komen Race for the Cure,
World’s Fair Park, Knoxville, Tennessee

Weekly Maine –
Portland (Fri), Augusta (Thu), Bangor (Wed)

TV/Radio Interviews

Wednesdays 9 am

CBR-NE Pro-Life on the Air radio show, Maine

CBR Aerial Billboards

Nov. 2-6 Towed above major Wisconsin cities

Training Seminars

Oct. 27 – CBR Training Seminar, Phoenix, Arizona

One Small Step for a Man, One Giant Leap for Spanish Preborn Babies

October 14, 2012 was a historic day in Spain, although most Spaniards don’t know it. CBR Executive Director Gregg Cunningham and CBR-UK Director Andrew Stephenson had traveled to Spain in October 2011 to meet with pro-life people and to share our strategy for ending abortion. Among those who expressed the most interest was Jorge Benito. We have continued to work with Jorge to train him and prepare him to take a step of faith to show CBR abortion images in the public square. This is key to heightening public awareness that abortion is an act of violence that kills a baby. Here is Jorge’s report:

Today was a little step to abolition of abortion in Spain! As you can see we finally could stand with our CBR inspired sign! We stood in Gran Via Street in Logroño town, near San Antón Street and ‘Inmobiliaria Solozábal’ since 12:00 until 13:30...

I know two Christian communities were praying for us. Evangelical and Catholic. So, I strongly believe that God helped us definitely in this great day. ... It was curious because during all the time, we didn’t see any metropolitan policemen. There was only one national police patrol that passed in front of us – very normal.

We estimate about 500 persons passed in front of us. Most of them watching our sign were amazed, saying nothing. Almost no one reprimanded us. The exception was only one angry woman passing quickly in a car saying ironically to me, ‘All of this are lies.’

The people who helped to make this real are six friends of mine... I would like this to grow and to make much more noise, especially in front of high schools and at university...

Thank you very much for all your help! Lord Bless!! – Jorge

Please join us in praying for Jorge as he works with us to implement the CBR strategy and tactics in Spain. Pray for other international pro-lifers who see the success of CBR’s projects and are applying them in their countries. They are pioneering pro-lifers, so they are largely standing alone.



Jorge Benito (in blue jacket, holding the sign at left) and his volunteer team are showing their first Genocide Awareness Project signs in Logroño, La Rioja, Spain on October 14, 2012. This was a historic day for the babies.

“ *GAP will not tolerate our apathy.* ”

University of Wisconsin student newspaper writer,
editorializing on CBR's Genocide Awareness Project



CBR's trucks are rolling steadily up until Election Day as our Key States Initiative educates voters with abortion photo signs. We are focusing on these key states: Virginia, Florida, Ohio and Colorado, where this photo was taken as a CBR truck drives by Sports Authority Field at Mile High in Denver in mid-October.

Address corrections

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