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Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

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# God Gives Victory at CSULB

**A**fter four successful years of our Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) on the California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) campus, the university president revised display size guidelines such that the GAP display could not meet them. When we learned of that just weeks before this year's planned exhibit, we started praying and preparing for a legal challenge, if necessary.

CBR's Executive Director, Gregg Cunningham, suspects that some administrator must have visited CBR's website, <http://www.AbortionNo.org> and was sobered to note the large numbers of government agencies we have successfully sued for violating our First Amendment rights.

But God fought our battle for us. The Newman Club sponsoring students were surprised when GAP was approved with no size restrictions!

We had two excellent days of educating students about the genocide of abortion on March 25-26. While our team was still erecting the GAP signs, a man came up to one of our Westmont College volunteers and said, "Thank you. What you are doing here is the reason I have my kids." Since this was her first time to volunteer and she was nervous, she did not think to ask for more of his story. But it greatly encouraged her that she was in the right place that day.

The Newman Club did a fantastic job assisting us with display set-up, speaking with students, and finally taking down the exhibit. During this fifth CSULB GAP, students were overall responsive to our message, and the student newspaper made note of this:

'The campaign signs [caught my attention],' sophomore biology major Christopher Velez said. 'Usually when people bring up abortion, I put it off.' Velez thought that the comparisons were interesting, and said he was compelled by a statistic about babies being aborted if they're expected to be born with defects. <http://bit.ly/1kqX6Qj>

A pro-life university employee learned GAP was coming and she invited the local pregnancy resource center (PRC) to set up an information table next to GAP. Two pregnant students who were considering abortion stopped by the table for information, and we are hopeful that they decided not to abort their babies and visited the center for assistance. The PRC staff member told us she was blessed to be there alongside us.

Following are two Newman Club members' impressions of GAP:

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To be completely honest, I was hesitant to participate in GAP and I was the one who made the phone call to CBR inviting them to the CSULB campus. I have always admired people who were able to stand up for their beliefs and defend them with a gentle and loving fervor. I did not think that I had the skills or courage to defend life peacefully, lovingly, and effectively in the face of anger, pain, and hatred. However, CBR, GAP, and the power of the Holy Spirit provided me with everything that I needed to successfully participate in the two-day event. GAP was a life-changing experience and I encourage EVERYONE to participate! I was able to keep calm in the face of persecution and defend life! I became the person that I admired! I witnessed hearts of stone turn into flesh! What a beautiful thing to witness! I was able to save at least one baby's life because I allowed the truth to be revealed! Do not be afraid!

*Celine Bautista, Senior, Health Science major*

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When I first heard about GAP, I had a large debate within myself whether I should volunteer to stand outside the signs and talk to people. I figured I was too shy to be able to talk to people, so I should just stick to set-up and clean-up. However, I came to

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*Every head is turned towards the CSULB GAP signs while one student accepts the "How Can You Compare Abortion to Genocide?" brochure offered by 10-year-old volunteer Alice Cunningham.*





### VICTORY AT CSULB *(continued from page 1)*

the realization that even if I could only make a difference to one person, it would be worth it. So I signed up. One of my friends found out about GAP and was very upset by it ... the next day, he told me that the conversation we had the day before was able to change his mind a little bit. You never know who or how many you might touch by simply respectfully standing for what you believe. At the end of the day, I would do it all over again. When you finally put aside your fears and stand for something that is right, you not only may change others' lives, but you change your life as well.

*Kathleen Chelling, Junior, Chemical Engineering major*

*Right: CBR Director of Operations Kevin Olivier (center), patiently listens to a CSULB student argue in favor of abortion on March 25. Standing with Kevin are Newman Club members who sponsored GAP.*



## Overcoming Adversity at Virginia Tech GAP

**N**ow that we are in our 16<sup>th</sup> year of conducting our Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) at universities, most visits go fairly smoothly. Yet, we faced a disturbing turn of events just hours before our team was set to arrive at Virginia Tech (VT).

The Advocates for Life (AFL) had been formed at Virginia Tech for the express purpose of displaying graphic images, something the Students for Life (SFL) group is unwilling to do. The AFL members are all active in SFL as well, so the formation of a second pro-life group can be an amicable way of resolving the conflict between members who want to display images and those who don't. We were thankful to get AFL's invitation to bring GAP to VT because we're confident it saves babies' lives.

However, a mere 36 hours before GAP was set to begin, we were shocked to get a call from the AFL president informing us that he was cancelling the event. He said that Jesus told him it was dehumanizing to the aborted babies to show their photos without their consent. He acknowledged that consent is impossible and stated that photos of Holocaust victims should not be shown for the same reason. He would not be persuaded to resign his position and let somebody else take over. Instead, he used his position of trust to subvert the AFL mission and actively try to prevent GAP

from coming to Virginia Tech. Other members of this small club did not agree with him, but he was the one who had filled out the paperwork to reserve the location. The university had no other point of contact on record for AFL. The next day, at 5:10 pm, with our team on the road to Blacksburg, he emailed CBR-Southeast Director Fletcher Armstrong confirming that he had cancelled GAP: "I did let all the Virginia Tech authorities that are in charge of events know that GAP is no longer welcomed. I officially cancelled the event, and therefore when the reservation code is checked, you will be denied."

We prayed and developed a contingency plan in case administrators came out to say we could not erect GAP. It involved displaying hand-held signs and filing a lawsuit.

Deuteronomy 31:8 says, "The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." It became apparent that God went before us because not a single administrator came out on March 27, the first morning of GAP. It was only at day's end that an Events Planning staff member arrived to check the size of the display and to ask about the responses we were getting from students and to briefly discuss our return the next day. We are

thankful for AFL members like Zack Hoopes and Jackie Hawkins, who stood by their commitment to host GAP, despite the controversy.

Spiritual warfare is always present in our ministry because Satan is fiercely at work to keep the truth about abortion from being exposed. He is a murderer and the father of lies (John 8:44). To prevent babies from being saved from the horror of abortion, he stirs up confusion and dissent.

Even after seeing how effective GAP is at preventing people from ignoring or trivializing abortion, some pro-lifers still resist showing the truth. One of the SFL club members was quoted as saying, "I just don't want to dehumanize and objectify these children. They all have a story. They should all have a name." She was nearly mimicking the AFL president, and both of them



*Students debate abortion at the Virginia Tech GAP display on March 27-28.*



## VIRGINIA TECH GAP (continued from page 2)

are terribly confused. The story for each aborted child is always the same: killed in the womb. The babies remain unnamed, except by God. (A minority of women repent of their abortions and choose names for their aborted babies).

*Collegiate Times* ran an April 1, 2014 story on GAP which began, "On Thursday and Friday of last week, there was one topic on the mind of almost every student crossing campus: abortion." The story demonstrated more confused thinking from an SFL officer: "'Last year we asked people on campus if they think abortion should be legal, and that's the kind of activism we like to promote,' said Tori Nagel, SFL's communications director and a sophomore communication major." (<http://bit.ly/1wtAi7c>) Will polling students regarding their opinions on the legality of abortion save even one baby's life? It is feel-good nonsense.

In spite of these confused "pro-life" students, our display images and the gentle manner of our staff and volunteers make a profound impact. One "pro-choice" female student told us, "Talking to you has helped me realize that pro-lifers are not what I thought they were ... I am so glad I talked with you. You are much friendlier than your pictures. Education on this topic is so important ...."

A "pro-choice" female student told us, "Because of social networking across campuses, this message has not only reached VT but beyond. Facebook is abuzz about abortion, and this campus plus many others are talking about abortion now."

As usual, protestors came out against GAP. A CBR staffer engaged one protestor in conversation, a 23-year-old who claimed she was pro-life until she aborted her first child and walked away from the Christian faith. Initially, she said she didn't regret her abortion and was thankful she had it. She would not look at the abortion pictures. After 45 minutes she admitted, "I now get what you are saying about a woman's autonomous body and the baby's autonomous body. They don't share the same DNA and the baby is not a part of her body. I am really struggling now." The CBR staff member gave her some literature and she thanked her, saying, "I am now interested in reading about this." Pray that she also returns to Christ.

It is heartening to see some students reason with others who oppose our display. In Ivan Harangozo's April 3, 2014 letter to the editor, he acknowledged that when he came upon the display, he immediately knew what it was. Seeing the photos of aborted babies made him angry about abortion; but then he overheard students talking who were angry about our display. In his letter, he pled with VT students:

Virginia Tech students must put their self-interested logic aside and think about it with an honest perspective -- the Holocaust, Rwanda and other genocides consist of historical events in which elected government officials and common cultural beliefs classified their victims as less than human: 'Vermin; inferior; cockroaches ....'

**We thank you for your faithful prayers and support of CBR. God is with us as we speak up for the fatherless babies.**

*"The victims commit themselves to You; You are the helper of the fatherless." PSALM 10:14B*

- Pray for more campus clubs to sponsor GAP
- Pray for pastors to lead their churches in pro-life ministry

## Events

### GAP (Genocide Awareness Project)

May 21-22 University of California, Riverside

### Urban GAP

June 20-21 Firefly Music Festival, Dover, Delaware

July 18-20 Artscape, Baltimore, Maryland

### Reproductive "Choice" Campaign (trucks)

June 20-21 Dover, Delaware

### "Choice" sign outreaches

Weekly in Baltimore, Germantown, Berwyn Heights, Towson University and Rockville, MD. Also at Northern Virginia Metro stops; George Mason University in Fairfax, VA; Montgomery Community College in Rockville, MD; Washington, D.C.; and Old Town Alexandria, VA.

### Training Seminars/ Speaking Engagements

June 19 Pro-Life Training Academy (PLTA)  
Dover, Delaware

I remember sitting in seventh grade thinking to myself, 'This is nuts; Jews are clearly humans. How could millions of people become brainwashed?' Deja vu struck me as I listened to the pro-abortion comments...

Now, can you be truthful to yourself and say the hands and feet on that lifeless little body were not a human being's? I know I sure as hell cannot.... (<http://bit.ly/SVdaiH>).

A member of the VT housekeeping staff cried as she stared at the 22-week abortion victim photo. When asked if she was OK, she replied, "I almost did that to my now 27-year-old son. Thank you for being here. I will take a brochure back to women I work with."

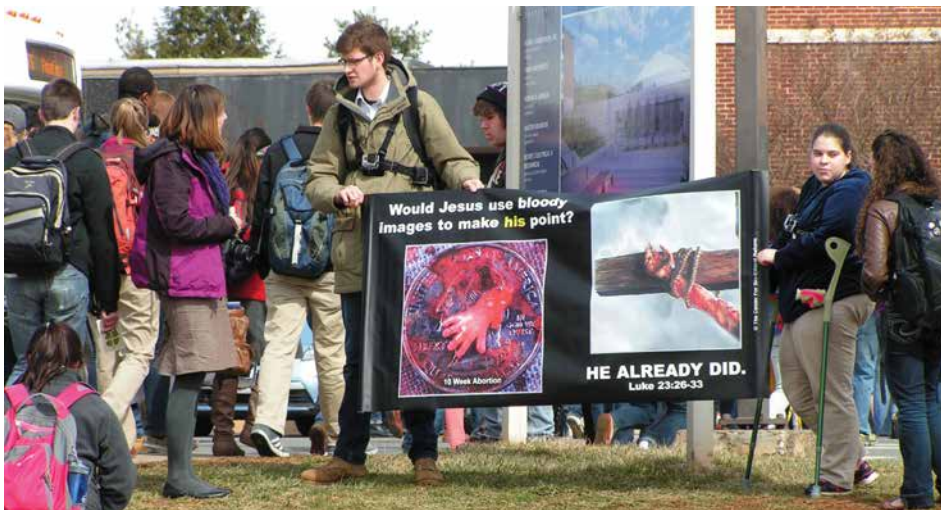


*GAP returned to George Mason University on March 24-26, 2014. Pro-abortion students made this dehumanizing statement against preborn children on a sign.*



“ There was one topic on the mind of almost every student crossing campus: abortion. ”

**VT Collegiate Times writing about GAP**



*Liberty University students Bethany Fox and Eli McGowan collaborated with CBR to receive training, along with this abortion photo sign which reads: “Would Jesus use bloody images to make His point? He already did. Luke 23:26-33.” Their application for permission to display the sign was denied with administrators saying, “Absolutely not!” Beth and Eli knew babies’ lives were at risk, so on March 5 they stood outside Vines Center to reach thousands of students as they left convocation to go to class. Our Christian College Project’s goal is to propel Christian colleges to permit abortion education that will prepare future pastors to mobilize their churches to fight against abortion.*

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