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Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

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## 19th year of GAP at Tennessee Universities

**W**hen CBR made its first Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) visit to University of Tennessee Knoxville (UT-K) in November 1998, we had no idea what God would do in the coming years. GAP involves a large outdoor sign display with 6' by 12' photo panels comparing abortion with more widely recognized forms of genocide. We did not realize that God was raising up our CBR-Southeast Director, Fletcher Armstrong, and that he would provide leadership in bringing GAP not only to colleges in Tennessee, but in many other states. CBR has returned to UT-K nearly every year to educate a new crop of students. Countless lives have been saved and many mothers have told us so.

This past spring, Dr. Armstrong's team took GAP to five universities in Tennessee and North Carolina. In this issue, we will report on the Tennessee schools. East Tennessee State University (ETSU) in Johnson City had the GAP experience on March 21-22. UT-K GAP followed on March 23-24. The following quotes and vignettes are representative of the varied reactions to GAP.

### REVEALING

"Wow. I was pro-choice but I can't look at this picture without changing my mind. This is a human being." This student phoned three friends who came to the display and then left saying they had a lot to think about. *UT-K male*

"Professors cut down our grades for questioning or contradicting them. It is good to see this out here," said a male student. When CBR validates the truth of the pro-life point of view by exhibiting abortion photos, our students know they aren't alone. *ETSU*

Volunteer Christy McKinney spoke with a student who was 31 weeks pregnant with her third child. Her first was aborted at her parents' insistence. She had never seen the pictures and stopped to look at them. *ETSU*

### RELEVANT

"I think your display elevates the baby over the woman and I don't want the government to oppress women." After conversing with Mrs. Bullington, the student said, "I see that you want equal rights for both and I am glad I talked to you." *UT-K*

### RIDICULOUS

"I truly believe it is not a baby until it is born." Staffer Jane Bullington then asked this female student, "What do you see when you look at a friend's ultrasound and the something is yawning and stretching?" "It is not a baby." *ETSU*

"Pro-lifers are trying to destroy the black community by removing access to abortion," said a middle-aged feminist woman who was followed around by a group of young women. Miss Hawkins, who is African-American, repeated what she said back to her: "So white pro-lifers want to eliminate the black community by keeping them from killing their own children." Yet the woman kept up her mantra about "racist" pro-lifers. We may not have changed her closed mind but the exchange shook onlookers. *ETSU*

"You are shaming women," said a foul-mouthed sociology teaching assistant to volunteer Debbie. A male student was appalled by her F-word-laced diatribe. A Christian

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*"Wow. I was pro-choice but I can't look at this picture without changing my mind. This is a human being." He phoned 3 friends and they came to the display. Each one was pro-choice and each one left saying they had a lot to think about.*





*CBR's GAP display can be configured to fit any plaza or grassy area. This 18-sign configuration was set up at East Tennessee State University on March 21-22, 2016.*

### **GAP at Tennessee Universities... continued from page 1**

student named Hally told Debbie that the TA showed a pro-homosexuality film in class. Hally presented a different perspective and was publically ridiculed by the teacher. We are encouraging Christian students to be a gentle but unyielding witness against evil. *ETSU*

### **READY ANSWER**

"I'm holding a petri dish with a clump of human cells in it and in the other hand a viable fetus. Which should I drop?" posed the female student who approached pro-life philosophy professor Dr. John Kress. He replied, "The petri dish has a human being in it." Dr. Kress went on to ask the student, "Before you stands a man and a woman. Who should you murder?" When the student replied "neither," Dr. Kress responded, "Neither will I murder either of which is in your hands." *UT-K*

### **REJOICING**

"I have a pro-life presentation in philosophy next week and I need a good argument." Mrs. Bullington gave this student a lot of materials and she left quite glad! *ETSU*

"Thank you for being here, may I buy you coffee, lunch or sodas?" asked the pro-life student who approached Miss Hawkins. As they spoke, it was apparent that her parents had raised this home-schooled student well. *UT-K*

"I found that if I patiently wait for an opportunity to talk [to those in opposition to the pictures], approach them with a gentle attitude, try to answer their questions and statements with honest and truthful information,

and thank them for being willing to be there and take a stand, they are willing to talk..." *UT-K Volunteer Tony Walker*

In closing, we share a letter from Adam Lovejoy, Pro-Life Collegians Co-President:

Thank you both for encouraging me to help bring GAP to campus. From the very beginning I was supportive of GAP, but lacked the courage to go through with the process. I was not as helpful as I could have been at the very beginning because of that lack of courage and it wasn't until the Lord laid it upon my heart during a prayer at a Christian ministry on campus did I truly hear God speak to me and say, "Why aren't you doing more for my children?" (Referring to the babies)

I have never felt more convicted in my life and I prayed to the Lord in my truck while driving home, and I knew that He would direct my path as long as I had faith and did what I was called to do. Door after door was opened up both with the Pro-Life Collegian's revamp and with GAP's event request being accepted.

Again, on Wednesday and Thursday morning, I had that lack of courage and allowed the devil to make me nervous and anxious about GAP's demonstration. But once they were displayed and I saw how many people had come to stand up against abortion, I had faith and I was so very blessed to be a part of what GAP did for UT-K's campus. I know that with the lovingkindness we showed to both the protesters and the casual passersby, the Lord has planted a seed in every one of their hearts that in due time, and according to His will, it will bring forth many people to our cause. I look forward to seeing you all on campus again with Choice Chains and with GAP in the near future. As long as I am at UT, I will be honored to sponsor GAP to come to campus. We'll be in touch! Thank you both from the bottom of my heart.



*We always set up the GAP display in areas of heavy student traffic, such as on the pedestrian walkway next to the Hodges Library at University of Tennessee-Knoxville on March 23-24. The protesters who came out helped draw even more crowds to see GAP.*



*Right – People in these slow-creeping cars had an opportunity to see the reality of abortion as they made their way into the LA Forum.*

*Below – Volunteer Matthew helped us reach thousands of people attending the Chris Tomlin concert at the LA Forum on July 9.*



## Important CBR work at Christian Concerts

The “choir” needs to hear some “preaching.” Research by the Alan Guttmacher Institute (abortion research and advocacy organization) indicates that 24% abortion patients identify as Catholic, 17% as mainline Protestant, and 13% as evangelical Protestant (2014 figures: <http://bit.ly/2anpwyh>). We estimate that these figures may be even higher as many women may be ashamed to admit they are Christians. Further, demographics have changed substantially since the prior survey in 2008. This 2014 survey found that 60% of abortion patients are in their 20’s, and many of them are going to concerts.

By bringing our abortion photo signs to the entrances of big Christian concerts, we can teach concert-goers in a matter of a few seconds that abortion is an act of violence.

Our most recent project took place at the Los Angeles Forum where Chris Tomlin performed on July 9. There were roughly 15,000 attendees, and by covering one entrance for two hours with signs held by five CBR staff and volunteers, we estimate that we reached 2,000-3,000 people.

Most people were in their cars, but they got a good look at our signs as they drove by us extremely slowly. Our team was able to hand brochures to some of them. The reactions were, as usual, all across the spectrum; some people cheered us, some people were upset with us, and most people were somewhere between those two extremes. A particularly revealing incident occurred when a young woman read the sign that volunteer Mark was holding, which asks, “What Are You and Your Church Doing to Stop Abortion?” She shouted from her car, “We leave them alone because we love Jesus!” She then added the exhortation, “Love people!” This woman was tragically speaking for large numbers of churches whose congregations care too much about the feelings of born persons and too little about the lives of preborn children.

Scripture is very clear that we must “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves” (Prov. 24:11-12) and that Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15).

**Thank you for standing with us  
as we do justice.**

*“Vindicate the weak and fatherless;  
Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.  
Rescue the weak and needy;  
Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.”*

PSALM 82:3-4

### Prayer Requests

- Pray for courageous pro-life students on every campus
- Pray for the Church to wake up to stand against abortion

### 2016 Events

#### “Choice” Sign Outreaches

July 14 George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

#### Matt. 28:20 Church Project

July 9 Concert, Los Angeles Forum

July 22-23 The Main Event, Nashville, TN

#### Urban GAP

July 16 Artscape, Baltimore, MD

July 16-20 NAACP Convention, Cincinnati, OH

#### Reproductive “Choice” Campaign Trucks

July 16-20 NAACP Convention, Cincinnati, OH

#### Training Seminars/ Speaking Engagements

July 14 Palomar College & CSU, San Marcos, CA

Sept. 7 Pro-Life Training Academy, San Marcos, CA



“ I was pro-choice but I can't look at this picture without changing my mind. This is a human being. ”

Student at UT-K GAP display



*Jacqueline Hawkins, CBR Project Director-Virginia, speaks with University of Missouri students during CBR's All Black Lives Matter/Genocide Awareness Project held December 2015. CBR's huge signs helped us counter the misguided and downright dangerous rhetoric being espoused by black student activists who were making all sorts of ridiculous demands of the administration, and who told our staff they supported abortion "rights" as well. Based on the response we had from African-American students on several different campuses, we see tremendous potential to expand our All Black Lives Matter to the national level. Stay tuned to learn how CBR is using hot news events to awaken people to the plight of babies at risk for abortion.*

**Address corrections**

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