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Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

June 2017

Pro-Aborts at Rio Hondo College Need Better Debate Skills

Rio Hondo College (RHC) students had the opportunity to see our Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) when we returned to the campus on April 4 and 5, 2017. Perhaps more than four-year universities, community colleges such as this school in Whittier, California, have substantial student turnover, so it is crucial that we make repeat visits to reach new students with the message that abortion is comparable to genocide.

Responses from students ran the gamut from “How can you compare abortion to genocide?” to “This makes sense to me.” *El Paisano*, the Rio Hondo College student newspaper, ran a story about GAP which opined: “Around the area were signs that discouraged pro-choice ideals.” Ideals such as killing your child is a good problem-solving method?!

Most of our conversations with students were civil, although the reporter claimed that “a student challenged a CBR member to a discussion which had led into a screaming match by the end.” The only one “screaming” was student Samuel Beltran, who was offended by our use of Holocaust photos. When seasoned CBR volunteer Gregory Grimm calmly and repeatedly attempted to respond, the student kept loudly complaining about his feelings of being offended. The punch line is what the student said when

he eventually excused himself, “I have to go to my debate class.” We hope he learns how to effectively debate, and more importantly, to recognize the humanity of preborn children.

El Paisano quoted CBR Director of Operations Kevin Olivier, “The reason that we’re here is to show people what abortion does to preborn human beings -- that it decapitates them and dismembers them. It’s information that we think everyone needs to have.” (“Anti-abortionists Exert Right to Freedom of Speech on Campus,” *El Paisano*, April 10, 2017.) Unfortunately, the article was filled with a number of errors and when Dr. Olivier wrote to ask the paper to print corrections, the advisor only agreed to correct CBR’s name. At least the paper gave students our www.abortionno.org website.

A female student spoke with CBR volunteer Christina Persandi to thank us for being on campus. “Sylvia” shared how she’d had an abortion about 10 years ago after becoming pregnant by rape. At that time, she was a scared teenager and did not even tell her parents she was pregnant. Later on, after Sylvia was married, her husband learned of her abortion and gently helped her understand that her decision to abort her child was wrong in God’s eyes. She repented and determined to help other scared young women. She told her mother about the abortion and her mother agreed to assist in this mission of mercy. Over the course of several years, Sylvia’s mother took in numerous babies while their mothers got their lives stabilized. When the birth mothers returned to pick up their children, they typically asked, “How much money do I owe you?” None was owed. It was a promise that the “foster” family kept to the mothers: come pick up your child when you are ready.

Our graphic abortion photo display moved Sylvia to call her husband -- they both knew the next day was the anniversary of her abortion. Many post-abortive women react intensely to the anniversaries of their abortions; but this couple could rejoice that Sylvia had turned pain into love. Our signs both save and heal.

A video was posted by *El Paisano* containing these two quotes from students who saw GAP:

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CBR volunteer Gregory Grimm adeptly handled this crowd of students at Rio Hondo College GAP. Often it only takes one student who opposes us to help draw a crowd of listening students.



Truth Shines in the Midst of Darkness at Murray State University

Nearly all of the first American colleges were founded by Christians with high ideals to train pastors and lay leaders to proclaim the gospel. For example, Harvard adopted Rules and Precepts in 1646, stating in rule 2: “*Let every student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of his life and studies is, to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only gives wisdom, Let everyone seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of him (Prov. 2:3).*” [Spelling was modernized.] <http://bit.ly/2ubrru5>



Murray State University students gather at the GAP display to discuss abortion. Note that one girl is holding one of our blue brochures and the others have their cell phones out, perhaps to take photos of the display. When they post photos on social media or text their friends about GAP, that helps get the word out that we are on campus.

An article entitled *How Christians Started the Ivy League* reports that “Princeton was founded in 1746 partly as a result of the First Great Awakening.” <http://bit.ly/2sLRtqg>

How grieved Christian founders of numerous colleges would be to learn of events like “GAYPRIL,” a month-long “celebration” of “LGBT culture” at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky. The campus newspaper reported that activities included: “LGBT-friendly church services on the weekends, an event called Speed Dating for Friends, LGBT-friendly yoga classes, meet-ups and an LGBT career services discussion...” In the midst of this degenerate and destructive month, CBR-Southeast’s team arrived with our Genocide Awareness Project on April 10-11. When we plan each GAP, we often do not know what else is occurring on campus, but God wants us to confront the darkness in His love and power.

As a demonstration of Christian support, a freshman music major came up to CBR staff member Jane Bullington and asked,

“May I pray for you?” This young man blessed us! God also sent a pro-life Christian freshman football player over to the GAP display. James saw his teammates asking CBR Project Director for Carolinas Joanna Kielson questions about our comparison of slavery to abortion. They were confused, saying, “The slaves had no choice; the woman does.” James explained how neither the slave *nor the child* had a choice.

Our lone protester carried a sign which read: “Abortions are fine, but condoms are cheaper” and “Homosexuality is also a fine choice.” Miss Kielson had a conversation with him and he was respectful, admitting we all have the right to free speech. Although he had genuine questions about abortion, God, and the Bible, he wasn’t able to follow through any thought to completion. Murray State News quoted Joshua as saying:

‘I walked by and saw it [GAP] and I despise the flawed reasoning that is used on these signs.’ [Freshman Joshua Marvin]

‘I don’t think I’m changing people’s minds; the most I have done is that I gave out a bunch of condoms. So, hey, I might’ve just kept a baby from being aborted, which is more than what these people have been doing all day.’ <http://bit.ly/2tgBMbT>

The student paper also interviewed CBR-Virginia Project Director Maggie Egger, who explained that our graphic images are meant to spark conversations with students:

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CBR-Southeast Director Fletcher Armstrong (tan blazer) speaks with a student at the Murray State University GAP display April 10-11. CBR Project Director for Carolinas Joanna Kielson is standing at left wearing a hood during the rain.



Truth Shines... Murray State University, continued from page 2

Some students came to debate, others to protest and others to offer support for the pro-life cause.

Egger said the volunteers who attended viewed themselves as social reformers, hoping to change public opinion surrounding abortion first and foremost. Only after the public opinion of abortion is changed can the law – specifically Roe v. Wade – be changed, she said...

Egger said the Genocide Awareness Project has two main messages: ‘The preborn are human beings, and abortion dismembers and decapitates human beings.’

Laurice Baddour, CBR volunteer, approached an angry female student who was passing out condoms and calendars on day two of GAP. The student was shouting lies and making it clear to passersby that she was not associated with GAP. Ms. Baddour accepted a calendar, which, to her great sadness, listed explicit activities for GAYPRIL. Ms. Baddour then offered her our GAP brochure and as she took it, Ms. Baddour looked into her eyes and saw that they were full of hate. “That brief encounter,” as reported later by Ms. Baddour, “catapulted me to the Lord and He spoke His heart, in volumes, to me -- His heart of compassion and heartbreak for ones like her lost in hate.”

God has given us love and compassion for these students whom Satan has deceived. As we bear witness to the truth and shine His light in the darkness, we trust that many of these students will someday become Christ-followers and join us in defending the right to life.

Mom and Baby Saved by Gateway and CBR Video

Some of the pregnancy help centers we deeply admire are Gateway Pregnancy Centers in New Jersey. This mom-and-baby-saved story comes from the Spring 2017 LifeTimes newsletter:

In mid-March the oil burner would not function at our Irvington location. It was 38 degrees -- inside! Our new volunteer, Chappelle, was not deterred. She was thrilled to be at Gateway.

Zina, age 19, came in convinced she was getting an abortion. She already has a child and is not married. Chappelle (who is also an intern at Gateway from Pillar College) showed her the *Harder Truth* video [produced by CBR]. They talked, and Zina trusted Christ as Savior and Lord. She and her boyfriend are not talking about abortion any longer, but are considering marriage. Our God seems strongest in our weaknesses!

Gateway Pregnancy Centers have faithfully offered excellent care and services to women for 31 years, and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ is at the heart of their mission. Currently, Gateway has centers in Irvington and Elizabeth. They are worthy of your support. www.Gateway.org.

**God bless you for standing with us at CBR.
Together, we will be God's hands to make
this promise true for preborn children:**

*“He delivers me from my enemies; Surely You lift me
above those who rise up against me;
You rescue me from the violent man.”*

PSALM 18:48

Prayer Requests

- Courage for pastors to preach against abortion
- Support for new international affiliates
- God’s blessing on our supporters & volunteers

Events

Genocide Awareness Project (GAP)

- June 13-15 Firefly Concert, Dover, DE
- July 24-26 NAACP Convention, Baltimore, MD
- July 21-23 Artscape, Baltimore, MD

RCC Trucks

- July 24-26 NAACP Convention, Baltimore, MD

Training Seminars and Speaking Engagements

- June 1 Luncheon for Life, Venice, FL
- June 8 Pro-Life Training Academy,
Edgewood Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
- June 10 Edgewood Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
- June 13 St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Raleigh, NC

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“It’s an opportunity for everybody to see what actually happens to a baby when it’s killed -- that it’s not just a blob of cells as they [abortion supporters] would like you to believe, but it’s a developing human being.” (Male student)

“These images made me see it clearly. I never really saw how small a person could be.” (Female student)
<http://bit.ly/2sbKHes>

It is a blessing to see the many ways God provides for our team and protects us during GAP and our other public education projects. In this case, RHC hired a security officer to be present all day during both days of GAP. He was friendly and helpful, and moved in close if an agitated student approached the GAP display.

After 20 years of bringing our Genocide Awareness Project to universities and colleges around the country, we know that if we “show up” to bring the truth to lost students, God always can be counted on to “show up” and move in people’s hearts.

“ *It's not just a blob of cells as they [abortion supporters] would like you to believe...* ”

RHC student at GAP



CBR Director of Minority Outreach, Jacqueline Hawkins, presents on June 8 at CBR's Pro-Life Training Academy at Edgewood Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

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