

Directors Gregg & Lois Cunningham and daughters

Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

September 2021

CBR Has Stared Down "Cancel Culture" Since Our Inception in 1990

he current "cancel culture" in America is disturbing to all who claim the name of Christ, and also to others who believe in truth. The things that are being "cancelled" are nearly entirely absolutes established by God: your gender is assigned at conception, people are given freedom of religion to follow Him or not, freedom of speech, etc.

The Marxist/Leninist definition of "progressing" is a political doctrine which progresses toward socialism or communism, which Stalinists, Maoists and America's progressives strive to achieve. A progressive journalist, Wesley Lowery (2018 Pulitzer Prize winner), has called for journalists to "rebuild our industry as one that operates from a place of moral clarity." (https://bit.ly/3lO1AVv) What he means by "moral clarity" is that his liberal positions are the only ones that are "moral" and are, therefore, worthy of reporting – journalists must cancel everyone else's opinions and opportunities to be heard. Big media and social media are moving towards an information monopoly. But God is more powerful than them all.

Since CBR's inception in 1990, we have encountered attempts to silence us, shout us down, shame us, and separate us from our intended audience. Thankfully, God has given us strategies to counter those attempts. We detail here some of the attempts by pro-abortion forces to obstruct our message that the preborn child is a person and that abortion is child sacrifice, and we share how we have prevailed against them.

Body wrap method – A student wrapped her body around the video projector at Glendale College in Glendale, California, in approximately 1994 in a desperate move to prevent Gregg Cunningham from showing an abortion video. The campus police removed her, and Mr. Cunningham gave his presentation.

<u>Cancelling sermons and presentations</u> – At a Catholic church in Lawrence, Kansas, some parishioners complained to the priest after Mr. Cunningham gave a pro-life homily in approximately 1997. The priest cancelled our homilies for the rest of that Sunday's masses.

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CBR Executive Director Gregg Cunningham (at the right, wearing a red tie) holds the University of Oregon General Counsel accountable to protect our free speech rights during GAP October 18-19, 2017. Students cannot legally cover up our signs with their tarps and bedsheets, but liberal campus administrators often ignore our requests to move the students away from the display, so we must negotiate with the lawyers.



CANCEL CULTURE (Continued from page 1)

Backing out of debates – A number of pro-abortion lawyers, doctors and others have been unwilling to debate Mr. Cunningham, largely due to the fact that Mr. Cunningham always uses abortion video in his debates. When debates were scheduled, such as in 1999 at the University of Florida, a pro-life student went through 38 professors before she finally found one willing to debate us. The student saw that faculty member walking around our Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) display on the day of the debate and then received a voice mail from the professor claiming he had fallen ill and could not debate that evening. Mr. Cunningham kept the engagement and presented to the students who attended, including taking questions from the demoralized pro-abortion students.

As our college and church events were cancelled, we realized that we needed to follow the example of social reformers and take our message out into the public since few people will come to our indoor presentations. After much careful research and planning, we created the Genocide Awareness Project, a massive photo-mural display in which we compare abortion to genocide. Literally millions of students and others have seen our signs since we first displayed them in Washington, D.C. in 1997.

Covering up - Bedsheets were first used by students desperate to cover up our GAP display at Oregon State in 1999. Students at University of Oregon also tried this tactic. Mr. Cunningham demanded that the administrators instruct campus police to move the "bedsheet brigades" back so interested students could approach the display. The bedsheets returned nearly every year and even 18 years later in October 2017 at University of Oregon. Bedsheets also appeared during that same GAP tour at Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon (October 9-10, 2017), Evergreen

State College in Olympia, Washington (October 11, 2017) and numerous other colleges. At Texas State University (November 4-5, 2016) students also showed up with bedsheets at the GAP display, so perhaps this tactic is in a proabortion manual.

We have had to threaten and/or file lawsuits to protect our free speech rights on campuses. By God's grace, we have prevailed in every university lawsuit and have been able to show our photo sign displays on hundreds of college campuses. <u>**Traffic control**</u> - Pro-aborts stood on a foot path and patronizingly tried to redirect foot traffic at Washington State in an attempt to keep students from seeing GAP in 1999. They were largely ignored.

<u>**Cancelling petitions</u>** - Pro-abortion students petitioned school administrations to shut down GAP displays at various schools, including UNC-Chapel Hill on April 1, 2014. Tony, an African-American student at UNC-Chapel Hill, spoke with our staff about the petitions: "It's ironic that they profess tolerance, and yet with their appeal to the dean, they are trying to shut you up, and take away your rights ... If we don't have the First Amendment, we don't have anything. With them trying to get you guys off campus, we might as well be back in the 1950's. It's just like the racist saying, 'Get in the back, n***.''' Thankfully, the dean must have had university counsel advising him it was unlawful to interfere with our display.</u>

Distancing by pro-life students - Pro-life students at University of Idaho held a sign with an arrow towards our GAP display indicating they were not with us. They clearly feared persecution.

Censorship - Harvest Crusade staff members took CBR pamphlets out of the hands of 2014 crusade attendees, telling them, "They're not part of the Crusade!" Our large photo signs were seen by most attendees as they entered Angel Stadium in Anaheim, California, but our brochures contained photos and information to further educate and call people to action. We know of at least one child saved as a result of our presence at Harvest 2015. His mother brought the toddler up to us in August 2017 and said, "He would not be here if it were not for your signs."

At Christian colleges such as Liberty University and Biola University, students have blocked our signs even though we were standing off campus.



Pro-lifers are regularly on the corner by the Planned Parenthood in Mission Viejo, California. Our group displays CBR photo signs like this one which shows a 9-week living fetus (preborn baby). On September 11, 2021, we heard a driver yell, "Get a life!" She was certainly not original, and she didn't get the irony that we are out there for the lives of the babies, not for us.

CANCEL CULTURE (Continued from page 2)

This is a deeply spiritual battle. We are proclaiming the truth that saves lives, and the great Deceiver does not want that. Revelation 20:1-15 tells us that an angel seized Satan and "threw him into the abyss and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed." Thereafter, Satan will be released to resume deceiving the nations for a time.

Satan has attempted to "cancel" works of God since the beginning. He deceived Eve and destroyed the relationship she and Adam enjoyed with God in the Garden of Eden, <u>but God</u> had a plan of reconciliation that came through Jesus Christ. The Deceiver used Pharoah to try to "cancel" God's plan for the deliverer Moses to save his people from slavery, <u>but God</u> used the Pharoah's own daughter to rescue baby Moses from the Nile River (Exodus 1-2). Pagan officials forcefully made Ezra and the Israelites stop rebuilding the temple of God, <u>but God</u> used King Darius to order the rebuilding to resume (Ezra 4-5). Wicked kings like Zedekiah and his officials attempted to "cancel" the word of the Lord proclaimed through Jeremiah by throwing him into a muddy cistern, <u>but God</u> prompted an Ethiopian to rescue him and Jeremiah's prophecy of judgment against Judah was fulfilled (Jeremiah 38).

We take seriously the prophetic role God has given to CBR to proclaim the truth, no matter the consequences. Those who stand against the truth and mock us will answer to God. We must be faithful messengers.

We are grateful for your continued support as we are God's messengers of truth.

"Yet the LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD rose against His people, until there was no remedy." II CHRONICLES 36:15-16

Prayer Requests

- The truth of God to prevail over "cancel culture"
- Pray for pastors to be bold leaders
- Ability to get CBR sign displays on campuses

Events

GAP (Genocide Awareness Project)

Sept. 27 – 28	University of Tennessee,
	Knoxville, TN
Oct. 4	California State University,
	Long Beach, CA

"Choice" Signs

Sept. 25 Phoenix, AZ

Outreach at Abortion Mills

Sept. 11 Planned Parenthood Mission Viejo, CA

<u>Urban GAP</u>

Oct. 3 Harvest Crusade, Anaheim, CA

CBR International Faces Current Cancellation Maneuvers

anada: Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform (CCBR), our first international affiliate, has been so effective in their abortion photo campaigns that enraged pro-aborts in Ontario have written Bill 259 which specifically targets CCBR. The "Viewer Discretion Act" seeks to make it illegal for CCBR to place pamphlets in people's mailboxes unless the pamphlets are in opaque envelopes with a description on the envelope. CCBR's friends in Parliament don't think the bill will succeed. CCBR stayed active through their summer intern program with 24 young interns who were out educating other Canadians using photo signs and pamphlets.

The Netherlands: CBR-Netherlands Founder Salome van der Wende was invited to participate in a United Nations Committee on the Status of Women (CSW), a March 2021 virtual forum. Ms. van der Wende attended nine meetings and gave input in eight sessions. In one session, Ms. van der Wende was blocked after posting to all panelists and attendees. Various pro-lifers were silenced for questioning the UN's pro-abortion ideology. One participant was entirely banned from the UN's virtual platform after making a sex-selection abortion comment during one meeting. Pro-life participant Denise detailed her questions to the organizers: "In the orientation session we were encouraged to share our stories ... But our posts were removed ... Why were we censored?" Nonetheless, Ms. van der Wende and CBR-Netherlands faithfully display CBR photo signs that educate the public regularly. (Links to the CSW agenda and events are here: https://teamup.com/ksjgjdxx23dqs947md https://ngocsw65forum.us2.pathable.com/agenda)



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He would not be here if it were not for your signs. Woman gesturing to her toddler outside Harvest Crusade

CENTER FOR BIO-ETHICAL REFORM



Women and girls gathered for this CBR-Pakistan campaign in Gafari Town on August 20, 2021.

September 2021

Address corrections addresschanges@cbrinfo.org Electronic funds donations

ACH@cbrinfo.org Credit card donations

creditcards@cbrinfo.org **Product order inquiries** productorders@cbrinfo.org

Estate donations plannedgiving@cbrinfo.org

INSIDE THIS EDITION...

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