



Directors Gregg & Lois Cunningham  
and daughters

Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

August 2023

# Gregg Cunningham Selected for Legacy of Life Book

Introduction by Gregg Cunningham

Last week I was surprised and honored to be selected as one of 50 pro-life leaders featured in the new *Legacy of Life* book. The book’s subtitle reads, “HONORING 50 OF THE GREATEST PRO-LIFE LEADERS OF THE LAST 50 YEARS.” The honor roll includes: Ronald Reagan, Pope John Paul II, Mother Theresa, Dr. John Wilke, Dr. Bernard Nathanson, and many other courageous change-agents who sacrificed much in opposition to the Culture Of Death, and in whose company I am manifestly unworthy of inclusion.

The book nonetheless describes me as the leader “... who revolutionized the pro-life movement by inventing a genre called abortion victim photography that takes the lid off the coffin of abortion.” But in truth, CBR didn’t actually “invent” the tactic of weaponizing pictures to make injustice impossible to trivialize or ignore. We merely adapted it for application to anti-abortion activism. For more than 30 years CBR has followed principles which reformers pioneered during centuries of historically unpopular campaigns against social injustice. Rule One has

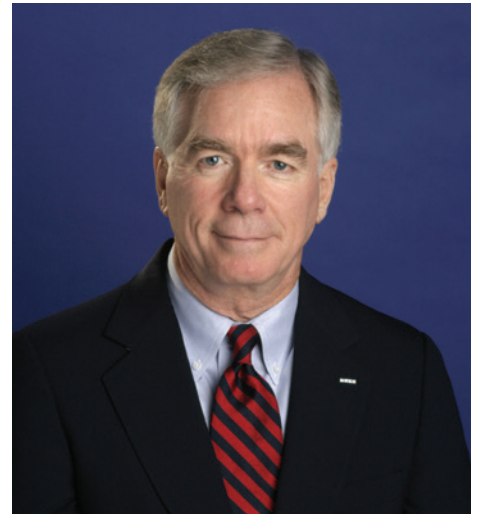
always been the imperative of “using shocking pictures to make invisible injustice visible.” Rule Two is, “prepare to endure withering persecution – from all sides.” We have never allowed ourselves to be called “protestors.”

We have never needed to “protest” abortion, because when we hold up an aborted baby picture, abortion protests itself.

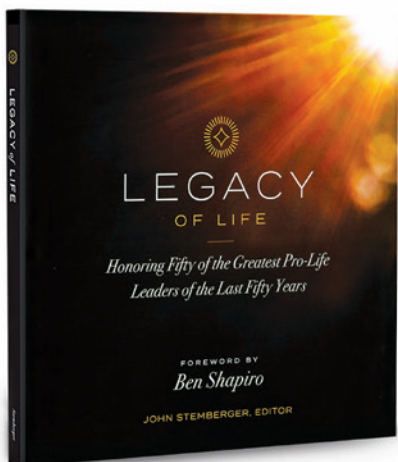
Every abortion has multiple victims and every saved baby has had multiple rescuers. I therefore share this honor with faithful donors who have supported our widely condemned vision for activism since CBR was founded in 1991. But I further acknowledge the vital role played by our board of directors, volunteers, contractors and legal counsel. I also join the selection committee in honoring Fr. Frank Pavone, a true “pro-life hero” who has for decades been unfairly mistreated by many Catholic clerics who will one day be judged for refusing to follow his courageous example.

Wrongly omitted from the book, however, is my wife Lois, whose picture should have been featured on the cover. For years she has been the low-profile but indispensable force behind the scenes at CBR. Among the many others who would have been worthy of inclusion is CBR’s board member and long-time colleague in activism, Pastor Clenard Childress. Pastor Childress’ deep wisdom and immense preaching talent could have made him a megachurch celebrity had he pursued fame and fortune instead of volunteering to be pilloried for speaking out against abortion in the African American Community.

Finally, “We have nothing which we have not received from the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 4:7.



Gregg Cunningham





The following article is reprinted in full from the *Legacy of Life* book.

## Gregg Cunningham Graphic Truth-Teller

*Jannique Stewart – Executive Director, Missouri Family Foundation*

A few years ago, public opinion on late-term abortion dramatically shifted after graphic pictures of babies being killed in the process of being born were publicized. The swaying power of those pictures did not surprise Gregg Cunningham, who revolutionized the pro-life movement by inventing a genre called *abortion victim photography*, which uses high-quality pictures of aborted babies to make a life-or-death point.

Just as an ultrasound is our window to life in the womb, Cunningham's abortion victim photography takes the lid off the coffin of abortion. His mission is to highlight the "reality" of abortion through pictures, and to persuade people to choose life. Cunningham believes "injustice that is invisible inevitably becomes tolerable, but injustice that is made visible, inevitably becomes intolerable. Our goal is to make the injustice of abortion intolerable, therefore it must be exposed."

That is why Cunningham- a Vietnam veteran and retired Air Force Reserve colonel, who introduced legislation to end Pennsylvania's public funding of abortion, and who helped stop such funding in Colorado- uses images to place the violence of abortion at center stage.

In 1990, Gregg founded the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform (CBR), which hosts a variety of projects that make it increasingly hard to ignore the violence abortion does to the innocent. At the core of CBR's existence is the principle

*Above: CBR Executive Director Gregg Cunningham stepped in to debate angry black separatists at Purdue University Genocide Awareness Project / ALL Black Lives Matter on April 26-28, 2016. Also involved in the debate was Pastor Martin from Ohio (at left). By God's grace, our team completely shut down these angry students and they did not return the next day to the GAP site.*

that "abortion represents an evil so inexpressible that words fail us when attempting to describe its horror. Until abortion is seen, it will never be understood."

CBR has prompted abortion advocates to see the horrors of what they're advocating for. The Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) is a huge mobile exhibit that juxtaposes images of aborted embryos and fetuses to images of other genocide victims - victims whose mass destruction the world clearly recognizes as genocide. GAP has reached millions of students on college and university campuses in the US and Canada since 1998, and GAP has expanded into Europe over the last decade.

While many critics, including some pro-lifers, object to Gregg's use of graphic abortion images, concerned that some may be offended, others argue that this in-your-face approach is not only necessary-it's vital to the pro-life movement if we really want to change hearts and minds.

*Continued on page 3...*



### GRAPHIC TRUTH TELLER... Continued from page 2

Gregg's justification for using graphic imagery is supported by several historical examples of how victim pictures were the catalyst for social reform and change. Cunningham and other CBR presenters routinely recount how the civil rights movement was galvanized by photos of the mutilated body of Emmett Till, a fourteen-year-old black boy from Chicago who was lynched after being accused of whistling at a white woman, Carolyn Bryant, in Money, Mississippi, in 1955. Referring to Till's story, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "America needed to see racism in order to reject it." Dr. King, Frederic Douglass and even William Wilberforce used victim imagery; Gregg calls this "the history of social reform":

*It's a long, long history of social reformers who have used shocking pictures to humanize victims of injustice whose humanity was being called into question, whether it was black people or unborn babies.*

Gregg says "abortion will continue to be trivialized as 'the lesser of two evils' or as 'a necessary evil,' so long as it is allowed to remain an invisible abstraction."

Images of aborted babies leave a lasting impression. The power and efficacy of these images in changing hearts can be seen through the lives of those who have witnessed them. Both Scott Klusendorf of the Life Training Institute and Lila

**God bless you for your help in making CBR a force with which to be reckoned. All glory to God.**

*"O Lord, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!  
Your glory is higher than the heavens."  
PSALM 8:1*

#### Prayer Requests

- God's guidance for interns who completed our 2023 CBR Summer Intern Program
- The new photo billboard vans
- Pastors to courageously lead their flocks to stand for the sanctity of human life

#### Events

##### Photo Trucks

Weekly in Manatee & Sarasota counties, FL

##### Sign Displays at Abortion Mills

August 12 Planned Parenthood, Mission Viejo, CA

Rose of Live Action are two national pro-life leaders whose lives were significantly changed after viewing abortion victim photography.

Gregg says that's because "pictures make it impossible for anyone with a shred of intellectual honesty to maintain the pretense that 'it is not a baby,' and that abortion is not an act of violence."

Book orders: <https://legacyoflifebook.com>

[Ed. Note – Two of the photos featured in the Legacy of Life article are included in this issue.]

## Notes from CBR Supporters

**"Thank you for your contribution to the pro-life challenges in our country." B.G.**

**"I pray for your safety daily and thank you for doing the work of the gospel of Jesus." K.C. 7/11**

**"My thoughts and prayers have been with those new diesel truck billboards." C.W.**

**"I would be honored and happy to sow into what you are doing ... Thank you for all you do in being faithful to your call." B.B.**

## Email Updates

**Would you appreciate periodic (brief) email updates about our work? We will be including short videos which will encourage our supporters.**

**If so, send your email address to [addresschanges@cbrinfo.org](mailto:addresschanges@cbrinfo.org).**

“*Gregg Cunningham, who revolutionized the pro-life movement by inventing a genre...*”

***"Legacy of Life" book quote***



*CBR-Pakistan sent us photos of their new signs being printed. A generous donor gave a gift that covered the cost of a replacement sign set for our director Muqrab, as well as sign sets for newly trained CBR-Pakistan interns.*

**Address corrections**

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**INSIDE THIS EDITION...**

- Every saved baby has had multiple rescuers**
- CBR has followed principles which reformers pioneered**
- "I pray for your safety daily"**