

Gregg L. Cunningham, Executive Director

April 2014

Dear Pro-Life Supporter,

Liberty University students Bethany Fox and Eli McGowan were convinced their peers needed to see the truth about abortion. They collaborated with CBR to receive training and we provided them with an abortion photo sign. Beth and Eli applied for permission to display the sign and met with a dean to further explain their plan. The day before their planned exhibit, Liberty denied them permission saying, “Absolutely not!” When Eli asked for more information, Dean Anderson reported that his superiors made the decision in part because this is an open campus where children could be present, and “We’re already very pro-life on campus.”

Beth and Eli proceeded with their plan to reach students knowing that outside convocation was the best location. On March 5, 2014, they stood outside Vines Center with the CBR abortion photo sign that reads: “Would Jesus use bloody images to make His point? He already did. Luke 23:26-33.” The sign features a 10-week-old abortion victim and a painting of Jesus’ battered and bleeding arm on the cross.

Thousands of students saw the sign as they left convocation to go to class. A few stopped to talk, but more importantly, everyone now has the true picture of abortion in their minds. In that 20-minute time frame, we are confident that God used Beth and Eli’s act of faith to save babies’ lives.

Beth and Eli were emboldened by the courage of Diana Jimenez, a Biola nursing student (now graduate) who stood on the Biola campus last May to challenge an unjust policy against pro-life students displaying abortion images. A handful of pro-life students joined Diana when she first displayed abortion photo signs outside the Biola chapel in early May. After the administration denied their request for a second display, Diana stood alone on May 17, 2013.

What were the immediate results? A Biola University sophomore cancelled her abortion appointment after seeing this “unauthorized” abortion photo sign.

Diana was following in the footsteps of Seth Gruber, the first student that CBR recruited to display graphic abortion signs on the Westmont campus on October 23, 2012. Seth Gruber had asked the Westmont administration for permission to hold GAP on campus and was denied for three years.

These Christian students know that many young people on their campuses are sexually active and are choosing abortion. CBR is not willing to sacrifice the babies of Christian students to preserve a false sense of peace and righteousness. There is no peace when the abortionists are at large and Christian students are vulnerable to become their prey.

It troubles us that while much of the Church is sleeping through the abortion holocaust, or simply offering “we’re pro-life” platitudes, the enemy is very busy deceiving people both in the Church and without. Writer Valerie Tarico strives to convince people that abortion is “God’s work.” In an April 3, 2014 column she urged readers to “Embrace abortion as a sacred gift or blessing.” She continued her writing: “An abortion

when needed is a blessing. It is a gift, a grace, a mercy, a cause for gratitude, a new lease on life.”

<http://rhrealitycheck.org/article/2014/04/03/abortion-blessing-grace-gift-changing-conversation-reproductive-rights-moral-values/>

Ms. Tarico may be taking cues from Northland Family Planning Clinic who sued us for producing “Angel of Light,” a mockumentary of their promo video. <http://abortionno.org/the-most-shocking-graphic-imagery-four-minute-abortion-debate-you-will-ever-see/> In Northland’s video, they repeatedly call abortion good. Northland lost their lawsuit, and our lawyers’ efforts forced them to reveal more of their atrocious work. CBR has launched the Christian College Project to focus on ending the abortion cover-up on Christian college campuses and theological seminaries. The Guttmacher Institute reports that one in every five abortions is performed on a “born-again” or Evangelical Christian. We will not stand silent while the enemy is deceiving Christian college students to make them think abortion is not really evil.

CBR has seen countless pregnant students change their minds about killing their babies after seeing abortion photos on public university campuses, so we know students on Christian campuses must also see just how evil it is.

We recruited and trained the students at Liberty, Biola and Westmont to save the babies of students on Christian campuses. They understood that they would likely be persecuted by their peers and that persecution by administrators could even result in arrest or expulsion. They counted the cost and were willing to put themselves on the line. In contrast, Christian leaders frequently work harder to stop us from educating their students than they work to do anything meaningful to stop abortion.

CBR has been working to reach Liberty students for more than seven years. Executive Director Gregg Cunningham met with Rev. Jerry Falwell and several Liberty administrators shortly before Rev. Falwell passed away in 2007. Dr. Falwell was quite responsive to CBR strategy and strongly agreed that Liberty should be the school that would lead by example and work with CBR to create the first ever college level pro-life curriculum that would prepare graduates for pro-life ministry as a vocation. As the largest Christian university, they should take the lead in encouraging their students to consider pro-life activism as a career along with other options like counseling, the pastorate, music, missions, etc. Sadly, those to whom that task was delegated have let time slip away and the whole idea has become a fuzzy memory.

Later, the newly elected Liberty student body president, who ran for office on the platform of making the pro-life issue a priority at Liberty, made arrangements for a week of activities. All were approved by the school, including a Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) display on campus. However, one week before the events, unnamed administrators, without explanation, cancelled GAP and approval was withdrawn.

This pro-life emphasis week was the first time these kinds of events had been held during the school's nearly 40-year history. With the exception of an elective presentation given by our CBR-Southeast director in which he showed abortion video to a handful of students, Liberty students still did not understand the reality of abortion. How much more would the students have understood abortion if they had seen GAP? How many more babies’ lives would have been saved?

CBR was forced to continue pro-life education off campus. We hired tow banner planes to fly banners over campus to show abortion photos. We later conducted a back-to-school outreach which included five “Choice” photo trucks driving around the city, flying an abortion photo tow banner, and conducting GAP at the entrance to Liberty on August 29 - September 1, 2011. Needless to say, many students and staff finally were educated.

In the comments section of a *News & Advance* newspaper story, headlined “Group takes anti-abortion message to skies over city,” one Liberty student responded to the story by saying, “Despite the image LU tries to portray ... there are many there who don’t neatly fit into a certain category.” She adds, “I myself am pro-choice and have also had an abortion. Do I feel bad about it? Absolutely not.” Expressing no remorse for taking her baby’s life, she declares “... I feel my life is better for it. I did the right thing FOR ME.” Then she spiritualizes her decision: “How do I know I did the right thing? I prayed and prayed about it and I got my answer. Now I’m an LU grad student ...” Tragically, some students are too hard-of-heart to reach, but they are in the minority.

The student newspaper interviewed CBR-Southeast Director Fletcher Armstrong and CBR-Florida Director Michael Schrimsher, but the administration must have censored the stories as not a word appeared in print. The cover-up of abortion’s horror as well as the commission of abortion by those claiming the name of Christ is both a scandal and an epidemic in the Church and Christian higher education. GAP has been banned at Biola University, Notre Dame, Gonzaga, Seton Hall and Westmont. Biola revised their policy in February 2014; students may apply for permission to display abortion photos in one specific location.

How bizarre that Christian students must ask permission to educate their peers about abortion, and even more unbelievable they could face arrest for exposing the truth about abortion on their own campuses! Such arrests would attract news media attention and provide an effective forum in which to debate the problem of Christian colleges and churches hiding the truth concerning a sin too terrible to fully understand without seeing it.

Many Christian colleges and large churches have become businesses which shield their students and worshippers from the reality of abortion in a market-driven effort to avoid alienating their customer base. Abortion is being swept under the rug and savable babies are being killed.

Matthew 23:23 says: “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices--mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law--justice, mercy and faithfulness.”

The pro-life movement is losing the abortion wars because the pastors refuse to lead on the issue and block outside attempts to mobilize their congregations. Unless we can reach students while they are still enrolled in Christian colleges and seminaries, they will continue to underestimate the evil which abortion represents. They will continue to misunderstand the futility of saying that abortion is evil if you refuse to prove how evil. They will leave school with little understanding of the Biblical mandate to fight abortion or how to discharge that mandate. If we continue to lose Christian higher education, we will never win the church -- and without the church, any hope of victory is illusory.

Liberty Vice President and Law School Dean Matt Staver runs a religious liberty litigation organization which represents students who have been denied speech rights at public universities. Beth and Eli did not have opposition from the administrators during their first sign display but we do not know what will happen when they do their next display. We hope Liberty will not turn against their own students.

CBR believes it is time for a Free Speech Movement at Christian college campuses. We will continue to work with Christian college students who have the moral courage to speak up for preborn babies.

We are committed to secure legal help for students, if necessary. Yet we pray that private university expressive rights can be expanded through negotiation rather than litigation.

Jesus healed on the Sabbath and scandalized the religious rulers. CBR believes Christian students should follow Christ's example and expose the truth about abortion on their campuses, even if it scandalizes today's religious leaders. The bloodshed in the body of Christ has got to stop. Will you support our efforts?

Lord bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregg Cunningham', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gregg Cunningham  
Executive Director

P.S. Please forward to friends and family a digital version of this letter from the "Archives" section of AbortionNO.org; please include CBR in your estate planning; please encourage your pastor to watch my YouTube pro-life sermon using abortion video in the main services of Calvary Chapel, Pearl Harbor, HI; please host a fundraising coffee at which we can present CBR's work to those in your circle of influence.