



Center for Bio-Ethical Reform

May 2012

GAP Travels from Maine to Massachusetts

I am not so sure about if I will continue to support legal abortion” was on her mind after CBR’s Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) visited the University of Maine, Orono (UMO) campus on April 9-10. This 36-year-old woman had never seen abortion photos before seeing GAP; she subsequently visited our website. (AbortionNO.org survey, Orono, Maine, April 10, 2012)

Her feedback demonstrates again the power of GAP to change people’s conception of the preborn child and of abortion. The immense size of our display which contrasts abortion with other forms of genocide cannot be easily dismissed. The UMO Dean of Students said, “This is a bigger display than we’ve seen before...It’s jarring.”

A UMO student gave her personal response to GAP: “I’m so glad that they’re here. I came out of class and walked the display and honestly started crying. I am pro-life but didn’t understand the extent of my commitment to that mindset until I saw the photos. I am now 100% pro-life!”

CBR-Maine Director Leslie Sneddon coordinated this GAP tour, supported by CBR-Midwest Director Darius Hardwick who

brought the CBR Reproductive “Choice” Campaign truck and signs from Ohio. Volunteers from Florida, Arizona, Ohio and New Jersey also participated in this tour of schools which had never before seen GAP.

Our abortion photos are what the pro-aborts fear most; accordingly, some pro-aborts were borderline hysterical when they saw the GAP display during our tour of four northeastern universities in April. During University of Southern Maine (USM) GAP on April 11-12, a student told our staff, “I am a pro-life lesbian, but I cannot state this too loudly because my opinion is not tolerated on this campus.”

Although CBR’s projects are designed to reach the maximum number of people possible, our staff and volunteers have opportunities for one-on-one ministry to hurting people.

The first day at USM, a male student told Leslie, “This hits too close to home.” He said he’d learned that weekend that a female relative had an abortion. “Now I show up for classes and I find these pictures staring at me.” Leslie told him about repentance, forgiveness and the power of Christ to heal. After she spoke of her abortions, he said, “I aborted two of my children...It was

with a former girlfriend. I’m married now. We have two children--they are precious to me.” He became teary-eyed. “I love them so much and it hurts to think that over 5 years ago I took my other children’s lives! How can God love me? I don’t know Jesus as well as I should. I don’t go to church--I don’t think I can.”

Leslie replied, “Jesus is ready and willing to save. You have just now confessed your sin of taking HIS children. Now go home and be the best father you can be to your earthly children and know that the angels are rejoicing over you being found! Please go, rest in HIS mercy and restoration.” They embraced, and Leslie informed him about post-abortion ministries that are available.

Pro-aborts don’t care about hurting people who need to repent of past abortions; they solely want to shut down our message. During the April 16-17 GAP at the University of Connecticut (UConn), desperate pro-abortion students resorted



University of Massachusetts GAP protesters included Gumby and the Superman shirt student. The day prior, her shirt read: “Feminism-the radical notion that women can make their own decisions.” Leslie Sneddon pointed to the GAP sign with Alice Paul’s photo and pro-life quote and asked her, “She was one of the founders of feminism. Do you agree with her?” She wouldn’t answer, but she mellowed by the end of GAP as she observed the gentle manner of our team members.

Continued on Page 2



GAP TRAVELS (Continued from Page 1)

to a tactic first seen in 1999 at University of Washington - they arrived early on day two to prevent us from setting up the GAP display. CBR immediately alerted the campus police and administration, who then asked the protesters to move. Two protesters refused and were arrested. Television crews were on hand to witness the action.

A UConn student posted on *The Daily* campus newspaper site: "The anger and outrage exhibited by these students when being confronted with the truth of what an abortion is demonstrated how they have no logical or reasonable explanation to their pro-abortion beliefs ... Hopefully these pictures have opened the eyes of many students to the reality of abortion."

Volunteer Marie Bastone reported on her experience at GAP: "UConn's were out vigorously protesting the display, with some students coming quietly to say they appreciated that we were there. The next two days at UMass at Lowell almost made the gang at UConn look like lambs."

Leslie Sneddon reflected on the words of Hebrews 4:12 "*For the Word of God is living and active... penetrating even to dividing soul and spirit...it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart...*" and wrote this application to GAP:

Just like God's Word, which is aimed, intentional, and personal in nature, the pictures speak the same way. When we are '*spoken*' to in this way, piercingly and penetratingly, we are not the same. The pictures get inside us and work their meaning on us. They may give us the exact encouragement we need, or they may cut us deep, exposing our motives.

GAP's last stop was University of Massachusetts (UMass) in Lowell on April 18-19. Planned Parenthood organized protesters, including a man dressed as Gumby. A bearded man was so volatile that on the first day, police asked him to leave and not return. We trust that God is working to bring these deluded people into the light. "*Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.*" Hebrews 4:13

To see news coverage of this GAP tour, go to the CBR Southeast Regional Director's blog: <http://www.fletcherarmstrongblog.com/media-coverage-at-u-of-maine-and-u-of-southern-maine/>



A crowd of students listens to the debate during GAP at University of Maine, Orono.

"I am now 100% pro-life!"

University of Maine, Orono, student who saw GAP

Rio Hondo College Students in Awe of GAP

"Students and staff members were in awe over the huge display taking up most of the Upper Quad, which is RHC's designated free speech zone." This is how *El Paisano*, the school newspaper, summed up the response to the April 18-19 Genocide Awareness Project at Rio Hondo College in Whittier, California. ("Abortion Display Brings Mixed Reaction," April 27, 2012)

GAP was brought to Rio Hondo by the student group "One in Christ Newman Club." The young man who motivated his club to sponsor GAP is Jose Espinoza. He did not let the fact that he is visually impaired keep him from seeing the power of GAP. After volunteering with us at California State University, Long Beach, GAP, Jose determined to bring GAP to his campus. The following is an excerpt from Jose's testimony about GAP, written May 17:

Day one ... I was quite nervous at the time because we didn't know what kind of reaction we were going to receive from the students and the faculty on campus. By 10 o'clock the display was completed and we were starting to have students pass by the quad area. Conversations were already taking place. I asked several students what they thought of these images and they answered back by telling me they had never seen images like these before. Towards the end of the first day of GAP, we were hearing from other students that we were the talk of the campus among students and faculty. The next day ... we had the opportunity to have conversations with students even more since the whole campus knew that we would show up again. Towards the end of our final day at GAP, we were happy with what we did. And I know I would do it all over again ... *Jose Espinoza, One in Christ Newman Club President*

Ironically, a young man who tried unsuccessfully to start a Navigators chapter on campus criticized Jose the first day of GAP, asking, "Where is Jesus in this?" He stated the oft-repeated criticism of our abortion photo projects, "You should have used another approach." (When we query these accusers, they generally can't give "another approach.") The Navigator guy left and missed the opportunity to witness to students like Aaron who are drawn to the display. Aaron admitted to CBR Deputy Director Lois Cunningham he didn't know his "place in the world." Lois shared God's love as she spoke at length with him, and Aaron was open to seek after God.

Students at this community college were more open to GAP's message than many of their counterparts at prestigious state universities. We are proud of Jose and his club for bringing GAP to their school and we trust that they will inspire others to do the same.



BBC Journalist Fails to Flummox Gregg Cunningham

Gregg Cunningham, CBR's Executive Director, was in England working with our CBR-UK affiliate when he was invited to be a guest on "Today," a BBC morning radio show. When Gregg arrived at the BBC station on April 27, 2012, he hadn't been told that this was a show listened to by 6 million Britons and that John Humphrys would be his hostile interviewer. BBC's website describes him thus: "John Humphrys is the longest-serving presenter of the Today programme and has built a reputation as one of Britain's toughest interviewers and most respected journalists."

The Daily Telegraph newspaper published a story on the interview later that day entitled "The BBC attempts to discredit the abortion limit campaign." We quote writer Cristina Odone in part:

Today invited Gregg Cunningham, the American (and male) director of the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, a pro-life campaign that uses shocking photographs of dismembered fetuses, to defend his actions. Opposing him was a tape-

recorded message from Ann Furedi of the British Pregnancy Advisory Service – a nice British woman who sounded calm and rational. Clearly, the listeners would take umbrage at being bossed about by some moralising Yank, and side with nice Ms. Furedi. Things, however, didn't go according to plan.

Despite John Humphrys's grilling – Humphrys brought up a comparison Cunningham

had apparently made of abortion with the Holocaust – Cunningham struck a few blows himself. Yes, he was using horrific images to raise awareness of abortion – but abortion is horrific; and William Wilberforce, in his campaign to end slavery, also used disturbing images of slavery to bring home to the British public what British colonials were doing in the West Indies. Cunningham also reminded the listeners that nice Ms. Furedi's organisation had in fact been exposed, by the *Telegraph*, as carrying out illegal terminations in Spain. And, more importantly, that hospitals in this country were saving premature babies at 24 weeks.

Oops, you could almost hear the Today producers freaking out. The 24-week cat was out of the bag! This was precisely what they'd been hoping to quash. Today is all too aware of a very real and serious grassroots movement to change the 24-week abortion limit... (See *Telegraph* article here: <http://www.abortionno.org/index.php/blog.>)

More than 430 *Telegraph* readers posted comments. Jessica's post reflected the thoughts of many:

"... I, too, wondered at the idea of showing pictures, but Cunningham's argument about Wilberforce showing pictures of the conditions in which slaves were kept seemed compelling ... I thought Humphrys ended up sounding shrill and somewhat indignant. How dare someone come on the programme and say something which so defied the liberal consensus, and how dare he do so in such a manner. I have to say that Cunningham made me think again about my own attitude, which has tended to be somewhat liberal."

Use your smart phone to scan this QR code and listen to Gregg's BBC radio interview.



CBR Executive Director Gregg Cunningham was interviewed by BBC News anchor John Humphrys for their Today radio program.

God bless you for partnering with us to seek justice for preborn children.

"Blessed are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right."

PSALM 106:3

- Continued progress for CBR-UK and our other international affiliates
- Funding and volunteers to conduct our Corporate Accountability Project (CAP)

Events

GAP

- April 23-24 University of Missouri in Columbia
- May 8-9 Ohio State University
- May 22-23 University of California, Irvine
- May 24-25 University of Cincinnati
- May 31-June 1 University of California, Riverside

Radio Interviews

- April 27 BBC radio – Gregg Cunningham

"Choice" Sign Outreaches

- April 22 Komen Race for the Cure
Ocean City, Maryland
- May 11 Framing Choice: Planned Parenthood
teen art exhibit, Knoxville, Tennessee
- May 13 Komen Race for the Cure
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



I would do it all over again.

Rio Hondo College GAP sponsor, student Jose Espinoza



One in Christ Newman Club students stand trained and ready to answer questions during GAP at Rio Hondo College. Jose Espinoza, sponsoring club president, is second from left.



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