

ANTI-CHOICE PROJECT

making abortion impossible to ignore or trivialize

August 2010 | antichoiceproject.com | PO Box 5992, Bremerton, WA 98312



Dear Friend of the Anti-Choice Project,

A little over a year ago, Andrew and I made our first pitch—our first presentation of plans for the newly created Anti-Choice Project (ACP). At the time, the ACP consisted of two volunteers, who also happened to be its co-founders. Shortly after laying out our strategy for making abortion unthinkable in Kitsap County, WA we generated our first fundraiser letter as it became clear the eight signs we had on hand were insufficient for the numbers of volunteers who wanted to take part in the effort to expose what abortion does to babies.

From the generous response of our supporters, we were able to increase our inventory from 8 to 30 hand-held graphic signs, which has proved more than adequate for our needs. Until now.

HOW TO END ABORTION



After a weekend protest in Poulsbo, WA. Pictured L-R: Andrew St.Hilaire, Courtney, Christie, Tom Herring, Hollie, Carrie, and Kerry.

The strategy and mission of the Anti-Choice Project is at the same time amazingly simple, remarkably inexpensive, and incredibly effective. We take 4'x3' pictures of babies killed by abortion to the busiest intersections of America. In doing so, we expose what Planned Parenthood and the mainstream media have worked painstakingly to cover up. The veil behind which they have hidden the truth of abortion all these years is stripped away every time the ACP steps out on the streets. The result is tension—a tension already alive in our society, but one that these images bring to the surface. And, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said of the societal tension during the Civil Rights Movement, “We bring it out in the open, where it can be seen and dealt with.”

No injustice has ever ended by covering it up. In a democracy, you can only end an injustice when sufficient numbers of people—a critical mass of 50.1%—are bothered enough by the wrongdoing to do anything to stop it.

Yet if you were to poll most cities in America today, 37 years and 50 million dead babies after Roe v. Wade, you would find that the majority population is not very bothered about abortion in general. They certainly are not much bothered by first-trimester abortions (when 90% of all abortions are performed), which they naively believe to be the simple removal of a few cells. I would venture to say the results from such a poll taken in Bremerton, Silverdale, Port Orchard and Poulsbo today would be different from other cities. I would further venture to say the results of such a poll taken in Kitsap County 10 years from now will be drastically different, as—much to the distress of pro-aborts—the Anti-Choice Project is here to stay. The people of Kitsap County can't hardly drive home from church or work anymore without seeing images of dead babies, thanks to the ACP. As any of our volunteers can attest, large numbers of these motorists are not happy about that.

Good. At long last, we are all angry about abortion. As with every movement of social reform, people always want to attack the messenger. But at the end of the day our message is getting through loud and clear: abortion is an act of violence that kills a baby and should never be legal. We could print those very words on some vinyl and hold it up in place of our graphic signs, but the problem with such a strategy is the population you are trying to convince must take you at your word. With a text sign, pro-lifers attempt to reason with a society that, on the one hand, tends to believe truth is relative, and, on the other, that first trimester abortions remove blobs of tissue, not babies. They consider a sign, which reads “Abortion Kills

Children,” as largely an exaggeration—a statement of opinion by a conservative anti-choice activist. They pass by impressed by his conviction but are not moved to conversion.

When ACP volunteers hold up a picture of abortion, we are not engaged in semantic games with the public, asking them to agree with statements we believe about abortion. Rather, in one millisecond, we prove to all who see our signs the humanity of the unborn child and the inhumanity of what abortion did to him.

On June 24th, 2010, the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform (CBR), a close ally of the Anti-Choice Project, received an email from a 27-year-old woman from Ohio who had just seen images of abortion on their website, AbortionNO.org. She wrote:

“ I used to feel that abortion was wrong, except in special circumstances; i.e. rape, incest. Now I feel the opposite and don't think abortion is **EVER** the choice.” - **27-year-old, female, June 24, 2010**

For so many, seeing our pictures is the turning point from holding abortion as a personal preference issue to seeing it as an evil so wrong that it should never be permitted. What's more, countless mothers and fathers decide not to kill their babies after seeing these images:

“ [My] girl[friend] is pregnant and wants to have one.... I was going to help her go through with it. I don't think I can do that anymore.” - **23-year-old, male, July 14, 2010**

*I was debating on having an abortion. I am 17 weeks pregnant. I WILL NOT have one now. I was disturbed at some of the things ive seen here.” - **25-year-old, female, August 2, 2010***

EFFECTIVE REFORMERS ARE RARELY LIKED

Our tactics are so effective that pro-aborts are willing to do almost anything to get our signs down. Police officers have related that their dispatchers are flooded with requests whenever we bring out the pictures. At the sight of a ground-up baby, some cannot control themselves and lash out violently with whatever is nearby: soda bottles, fruit, and once even a soccer ball. If nothing else is handy, some resort to spit. The violence directed toward us became so commonplace that we could no longer afford to be without security cameras rolling for the duration of our protests.

Two Samsung cameras with batteries, cases, memory cards and monopods for stabilized filming set us back nearly \$1,000. But it was an investment well made, as violence has dropped off simply by having them visible, and, in those cases where violent pro-aborts do not care that we are filming, the evidence is submitted to the police who turn it over to the District Attorney, who charges them with criminal behavior.

Our latest encounter was with Chad Smalley who is being prosecuted for disorderly conduct by the Kitsap County District Attorney. During our May 16, 2010 protest at the Highway 305 and Bond Road intersection in Poulsbo, WA, Mr. Smalley got out of his car and brought his young son over to me, insisting I explain to his son what my picture was. I said, “This is an aborted baby.” Mr. Smalley proceeded to yell, scream, and curse at me for five minutes, and demanded I “get off the G** d***** street!” Chad Smalley operates under a moral construct which says it is worse for children to see pictures of babies chopped to pieces, than for a nation to chop 1.3 million babies to pieces each year.

When I told him I would not be complying with his request to leave the public sidewalk, he then grabbed my sign out of my hands and threw it down on the ground, inadvertently striking his son who began to cry—likely more from the emotional trauma of seeing his dad out of control than the physical pain in his leg. But Mr. Smalley's violent response to a picture of a dead baby raises an important question, commonly asked by Gregg Cunningham, Director of CBR: If something is too terrible to look at, should we really be tolerating it?



Chad Smalley with son seen screaming at Tom Herring, before throwing a Choice sign and hitting his own son. The Kitsap County District Attorney is prosecuting Mr. Smalley for disorderly conduct.

Mr. Smalley never afforded me the three seconds I needed to ask that question. But destruction of another person's property and the use of language inciting a fight are going to be reasons enough for the D.A. to ask Mr. Smalley some very direct questions of his own.

Our security cameras captured this entire incident on video, which we have made available on our website. You can view it by going to www.antichoiceproject.com. (**Warning:** Rated R for extreme language).

WHERE WE ARE & WHERE WE ARE GOING

The Anti-Choice Project has been gaining confidence and popularity among pro-lifers. In Kitsap County, we have over 40 volunteers who hold signs. Since our start in 2009 we have held nearly 100 protests, and we estimate our signs have been seen a little over 300,000 times (for perspective, Kitsap County has approximately 240,000 residents). Last summer we created a Facebook page for the ACP, which is now approaching 500 fans, and continues to grow each day.

In fact, the success of the ACP in Bremerton has inspired several individuals to approach us about starting chapters in their own towns. Ever since we began the ACP, Andrew and I have had a vision of expanding beyond Bremerton and Kitsap County. This past year we have been working hard to make that possible. In May, we officially incorporated as a non-profit organization in the State of Washington, and are now ready to start ACP chapters in more cities. We share the belief held by Fr. Frank Pavone, Director of Priests for Life, that America will not end abortion until America sees abortion. It is our goal to have chapters in every corner of America until people are bothered enough by abortion to stop it.

EXPOSING ABORTION IN SEATTLE & PORTLAND



Marc Snyder (L), director of Seattle ACP, and Ian Gwynne (R), director of Portland ACP

The first new ACP chapters we are prepping to launch are Seattle, Washington, headed up by Marc Snyder, and Portland, Oregon, headed by Ian Gwynne. We are excited to have Marc and Ian on board and to begin showing the truth in two major metropolises in the Pacific Northwest. However, starting new ACP chapters means purchasing more security cameras and more signs. In order to show the truth about abortion to more Americans in more cities we need more funding. We expect our donor pool to grow as we expand, but at the moment it is frightfully small. Fortunately, the operating costs associated with a new chapter of the Anti-Choice Project are—though not negligible—remarkably low.

Outfitting Seattle with sixteen “Choice” signs and two video cameras (plus memory cards, monopods, batteries and carrying cases) will cost about \$1600. The same amount again is needed to properly set up a chapter in Portland. The beauty of this organization, however, is that we have very little in the way of overhead, or recurring costs. We are an all-volunteer staff and once we have signs and cameras, we operate at close to zero dollars per month. I say close to zero because there are a few bills that need to be paid periodically, such as our website hosting, our post office box, business cards and incorporation fees. But even these only amount to a couple of hundred dollars per year.

We need resources to effectively fund new ACP chapters in Seattle and Portland. Your gift of \$160 purchases four new 4' x 3' “Choice” signs. \$315 will supply a new security camera.

We would like to get to work right away and have new chapters in Seattle and Portland fully funded and operational by the end of September 2010. Every dollar we receive will go toward this goal, and any subsequent amount will help us to launch new chapters in even more cities and states. By the end of 2011, we believe we can also have ACP chapters operating in Tacoma, Bellingham, Spokane, and perhaps other cities, but the bottom line is we need your support to make it happen. Andrew and I are both pledging \$30 a month to this work because we know those dollars translate directly to minds changed, and lives saved.

YOUR SUPPORT SAVES BABIES

James 2:16 says, “If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?” And if I say to the unborn child, “Go, I wish you well” but do nothing about his physical needs, tell me, dear Christian, what good is it?

This ministry is life saving. Can you pledge to be a part of it with a one-time gift? Better yet, can you pledge a small, regular monthly donation? Recurring donations have been made very easy as we are now set up to securely accept credit card and debit card donations online at our website: www.antichoiceproject.com



If you wish to mail us a check, please make it out to the Anti-Choice Project. Our mailing address is PO Box 5992 Bremerton, WA 98312.

Do not be concerned by the size of your donation. If everyone receiving this letter gave just \$10 a month we would be well

on our way to opening up many more Anti-Choice Project chapters. On behalf of the unborn, and the parents who will be spared the pain of abortion, Andrew and I thank you in advance for your generosity.

Your regular gift of \$50, \$25, \$10 or \$5 helps us to expand our life-saving projects into more and more cities in need of seeing the truth about abortion. Set up a recurring gift with your credit or debit card by visiting our website at www.antichoiceproject.com and clicking the "Donate" button

One last request: please keep this ministry in your prayers. Pray that the hearts of men and women might be softened, that they might recognize the child in the womb not as a threat but as a precious gift from the Author of life.

Sincerely Yours,



Thomas A. Herring
Co-Director, Anti-Choice Project



Andrew St. Hilaire
Co-Director, Anti-Choice Project

P.S. On June 24, 2010 a 19-year-old woman from Texas who saw the graphic images on CBR's website said, "[It] made me realize how great [a] problem that is not only happening in America but world wide. Most people see abortions as a 'don't ask, don't tell' kind of topic. But it's time people stand up and tell one another just exactly what is going on. No one ever wants to see it (images, videos, etc.) but they will condone it. It is time we all realize the horrible impact we are making if we keep our mouths shut."

WANT TO PROTEST WITH US?

- Do you live near Kitsap County, Seattle or Portland and want to volunteer to hold signs?
- Are you interested in starting an ACP chapter in your town?

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