



Standing in the GAP

Winning Hearts ... Changing Minds ... Saving Lives
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Dear Partners and Friends,

We just finished a tremendous Spring GAP tour. Because of your generosity, we took GAP to 6 locations, including 5 major universities plus one urban GAP. We conducted our Pro Life Training Academy 4 times, teaching more than 80 students how to articulate and defend the pro-life position and answer every major pro-abortion argument. For the very latest, go to www.FletcherArmstrongBlog.com.

Fletcher

This Month
GAP at University of Georgia
Let's reach 700,000 students/year!

Future Editions
Kentucky GAP
Debate at Eastern Kentucky
U of Delaware GAP

Our Vision: 50 Schools/Year!

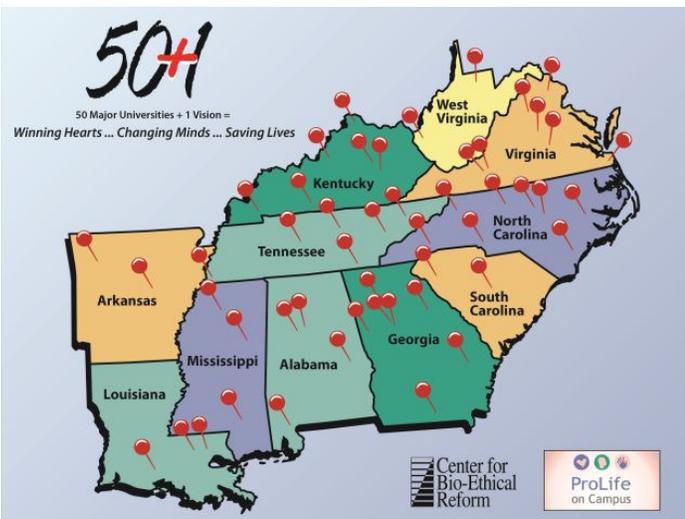
At the Celebrating Life event on February 14, we unveiled our vision to reach 50 of the largest universities in our region, every single year. By the numbers:

- The combined enrollment of these 50 schools is more than **700,000 students**.
- If 10% change their minds, that's 70,000 students/yr.
- If 1% don't have abortions, that's **7,000 lives/yr saved**.
- That's 7,000 moms and families spared. Every year.
- Over time, the injection of abortion photos into hundreds of thousands of minds will result in a large and important shift in public opinion.
- **Pro-life voters will change elections in swing states.**

The cost of reaching all these students is much less than you think. This vision will cost only 65¢ per student.

I hope you will join us in pursuing this vision. ***If every family that receives this newsletter would give just \$25/month, we could reach all 50 schools. Wow.***

As Gov. Huckabee said, "Let it not be said of us, ***'Why didn't somebody do something?'***"



Could you get 8 friends to join our team at \$25/month?



The crowd at the U of Georgia's Tate Plaza is always huge.

GAP Deployed for Third Time at the University of Georgia

In November, we took the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) to the University of Georgia. This is one of 50 universities that we need to visit every single year, ***which we can do if every person getting this newsletter gives \$25/month!***

Students for Life President Peter Ascik had previously participated in GAP, when he was an undergraduate at Appalachian State University. We are thrilled to see that our work has motivated Peter to continue in pro-life activism. He observed:

Doing GAP for the first time was a life-changing experience. After spending time on this project, there is no going back. You realize there are only two sides of the fence. Either you are OK with killing unborn human beings or you are not. I can't stand by and be silent while this is going on.

Framing the debate. Between CBR and others who show photos at the U of Georgia, we are changing the nature of the debate. Red & Black columnist Mark Miller is not pro-life, but he is thoughtful and is a defender of free speech. He wrote:

For as long as I've attended the University, I've been treated to the sight of blown-up aborted fetuses and dead babies on the plaza.

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Note the reference to “dead babies.” Absent the photos, he would never have thought of them in those terms. He went on:

... we’re all better for being forced to formulate an opinion and be able to defend it.

If a few pictures are enough to shake the way of thinking you’re comfortable with, then perhaps you should reconsider your mind-set.

The two things they remember. In our Pro Life Training Academy, we tell students that a few weeks after GAP is over, most people remember only two things: (1) the pictures, and (2) “Was I treated with respect?” This is so true. We’ve just seen how Mr. Miller remembered the pictures. But he went on:

... the display also included a “Free Speech Board” where viewers could leave their comments, praise and criticism for it.

I also noted that, while the operators of the display undoubtedly feel passionately about their cause, their passion didn’t translate into a lot of aggression or viciousness on their parts.

...

Although I don’t necessarily support the anti-abortion agenda the organization supports, I really appreciate the amount of dialogue and thought provoked on both sides of the issue, despite the unsavory way they do it.

Instead of being offended, use this as an opportunity to get educated, find what motivates proponents of both sides ... and make sure you’re on the right side.

Note his use of the term “unsavory” to describe his view of our methods. Eventually, it will dawn on him that if pictures of abortion are “unsavory,” how much more so is the act of abortion.

Free speech for me, but not for thee! Some people actually believe the government should shield them from information they don’t like. In her column (*Display violates University Code of Conduct*, Red & Black, Nov 15, 2010), Samantha Shelton ranted:

The display “infring[ed] upon the rights, privacy, or privileges” (Code of Conduct, Art. V, Sec. 2) of women who have exercised their right to terminate ...

What about the people who heeled to the “Warning: Genocide photos ahead” signs and were late to class? I believe that constitutes “disrupt[ing] the normal operations of the University” (Code of Conduct, Art. V, Sec. 7).

...

Not only should these preachers, photos and whatever group wants to display them be restricted on campus, the student organizations that invite them should be fined, suspended or whatever the proper punishment the division of student affairs can think up.

Her column caught the attention of Jordan Fischetti of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). He wrote in their blog (www.studentfreepress.net/archives/4828):

Special thanks to Georgia Right to Life for helping arrange this GAP and for their financial support. We appreciate all the good work they do!



About 10 students (not all shown) listen as CBR’s Jane Bullington addresses the campus media.



Students write their comments on the Free Speech Board, and we write answers! People read them all day long.

Fines and arbitrary punishment for protected speech? What country does Shelton think we live in? Her call for discretionary administrative power reminds me of an incident at another public Georgia institution where a student was expelled for protesting the president’s proposed parking garage. Does Shelton really wish to convert UGA into a place where students are afraid to host controversial groups for fear of administrative reprisal?

...

Thankfully, since UGA is in fact a public university “in America,” its students are entitled to the free speech protections guaranteed by the United States and Georgia Constitutions. That means that Shelton’s “free speech for me, but not for thee” stance doesn’t pass legal muster.

Worryingly, the dangers of students like Shelton “unlearning liberty” and actively calling for the censorship of others won’t simply be contained in the university. Shelton speaks of a divide between free speech in America and censorship at the university, but if more and more students graduate thinking like her, it’s only a matter of time before that divide is blurred forever and free speech is no longer an American right.