

Email

# Choice News

Positive perspectives on Life Events



Number 10  
Spring 2009

Young Australians deserve to know the scientific facts, ethics and attitudes surrounding the commencement of human life.

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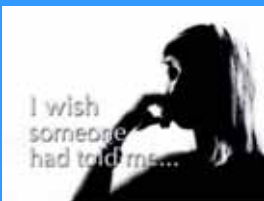
## SPECIAL EDITION

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN DARWIN MINISTRY REPORT 10th to 22nd September



Bruce Robyn Laura  
PRO-LIFE MINISTRY TEAM

- Spoke to 5 Secondary classes in 2 schools
- Presented to 4 Primary classes in 4 schools
- Ministered in 4 churches
- Encouraged 2 indigenous communities
- Moving drama presentations from Laura
- Enthusiastic music from Robyn
- Excited children in the communities
- Challenged young people
- Encouraged by faithful Christian workers
- Invitation to return in 2010
- Desire to establish first Crisis Pregnancy Centre in Darwin



### Coming Event

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND FAMILY CAMP

15-17 JANUARY 2010  
At Camp Toukley on the Central Coast, north of Sydney

# VISITS TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES



One girl from the Bagot Community (suburban Darwin) was so excited to receive her models of the 12-week old pre-born baby.



Mudginberri is an indigenous community near Jabiru, a uranium mining centre, approximately 250 kilometres from Darwin.



## DAVID AND ISOBEL GAWLER



For over 7 years David and Isobel Gawler have been bringing hope, through the Gospel, to the Bagot aboriginal community in suburban Darwin. David is one of the head surgeons at the Royal Darwin Hospital.



### Teenage Pregnancies

In 2007 the fertility rate for indigenous mothers aged 15-19 was 70 babies per 1000 compared to 16 per 1000 for those aged 15-19 in the general population (ABS, **Births Australia, 2007** ABS Canberra 2008; 30)

A national report into Indigenous disadvantage published July 2, 2009 found the pregnancy rate of Aboriginal teenagers is four times higher than non-Indigenous teens. The report also shows Aboriginal infant mortality rates, a key indicator of Indigenous disadvantage, are two to three times that of non-Indigenous babies.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/03/2615966.htm>

## BRUCE'S SCHOOL VISITS



Opportunities to speak at

- Marrara Christian College and
- Palmerston Christian School as well as
- St Andrew Lutheran Primary School and
- Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School.

Pray for the opportunity to return to schools in the Northern Territory in 2010. With recommendations from these schools already visited it is anticipated that new schools will be available for presentations.

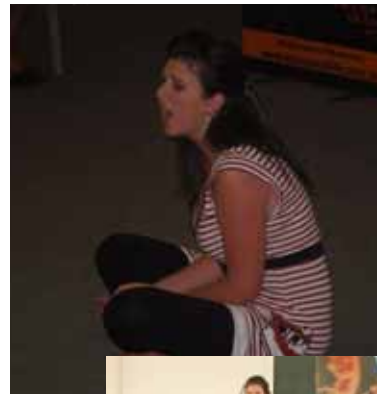
### Year 9 students' responses:

- Thank you so much—you have opened my eyes to a new world. It (the presentation) helped me realise more about life and how precious it is. I would recommend it to my friends to help them as much as it has helped me to understand—I know now what you go through and I now know I would never get an abortion.
- Always thought abortion was wrong—this made my beliefs stronger.
- Abortions ruin lives. It helped me understand abortion choices fully.
- It made me think—I saw the value and reality of life.
- This has shown me the value of each life, including those who feel worthless or dumb. God created each person with a purpose. It reinforced my belief that I need to make the right life choices. I need to care for others regardless of what they look like or if they're difficult.
- Thought provoking. It changed my view on unborn babies and showed me that you're killing if you abort.
- It was interesting and informative. Now you can never say you didn't know.
- It has made me think past myself and to think about what abortion could do to other people.

## LAURA'S DRAMA PRESENTATIONS



A number of Year 9 students commented on the impact of Laura's dramatic presentation and the influence on their attitude towards abortion. It was the same presentation which touched the hearts of all at the Choices of Life Annual dinner in Sydney in June. One pastor was emotionally moved when it was performed during the church service.



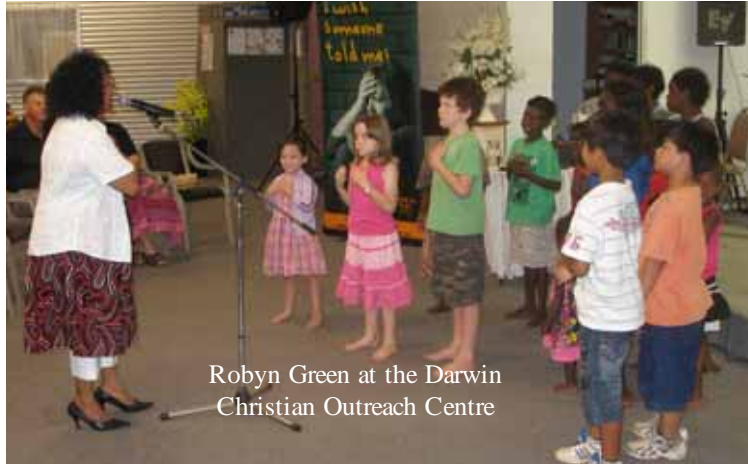
### Open Doors

Lindsay Parkhill has been a Patrol Minister with the Uniting Church for over 9 years in Arnhem Land. He has offered to help organise visits to Oenpelli and other Top End communities.



# ROBYN'S MINISTRY IN THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, CHURCHES AND THE PRISON

Praise God for Robyn Green's influence in the Northern Territory that opened many doors of opportunity. Robyn had a significant role in all the church and indigenous community meetings.



Robyn Green at the Darwin Christian Outreach Centre



Robyn is a welcome visitor at the Darwin Prison where she is able to bring the hope of the gospel to the inmates, most of whom are indigenous.

## NEW VISION FOR TOP END CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTRE

All abortions in the Northern Territory are carried out in Royal Darwin Hospital or the Alice Springs Hospital. It would seem that some of the doctors who deliver babies also carry out the abortions. Some people have even suggested that RU486 should be available in the communities to avoid expensive flights into the hospitals for abortions. Use of the abortion pill is likely to create more expensive emergency flights to save lives of traumatised girls who were misinformed about the drug.

The young girls in the Top End are in desperate need of accurate information regarding sexuality and abortion. Unfortunately there is no independent agency providing advice for girls with an unexpected pregnancy. To meet this need one lady spoke of a desire to establish the first Crisis Pregnancy Centre in Darwin. Pray for wisdom for the way ahead.

## Teenage Abortions

Aborigines make up 2.5% of Australia's total population. If aboriginal teen pregnancies are 4 times the national average and approximately 50% of all teenage pregnancies are aborted then the numerical impact on the aboriginal population is highly significant. This is based on the assumption that only 50% of indigenous babies are aborted. Anecdotal indications suggest the abortion rate may be much higher. The message of the value of life is vital in these areas.

### Year 6 Students' Comments:

- Every single one of us is unique,
- Thank you—I really enjoyed the presentation. It is fun and educational.
- Mind filling.
- It is amazing that a 10-week baby has really really tiny feet.
- I learnt that babies are special and can recognise mum's voice.
- Cool—awesome—interesting—creative—good—incredible.
- It's good to be prepared for the future.
- God put in so much effort and it is very appreciated.
- You do so much in such a small place in a short time.
- It helped me understand some things I was confused about..
- I would love to learn more!
- Life is amazing—thank you.
- It is a fun and interesting presentation that all ages would enjoy.



**THE AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**  
of



**FRIDAY OCTOBER 30**

Inner West Baptist Church  
Cnr Exeter and Hornsey Rds,  
Homebush West

HOST: Pastor Peter Rahme  
CONTACT: 02 9742 5716 or  
0418 249 989  
pastor@innerwestbaptist.org.au

**Booking Essential**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**  
**Bruce Coleman**

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**Book Now**  
**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**AND FAMILY CAMP**  
**15-17 January 2010**  
**At Camp Toukley on the Central**  
**Coast, north of Sydney**

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