

Email

Choice News

Positive perspectives on Life Events



Number 8
Winter 2009

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

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NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION APPROVES PROGRAM

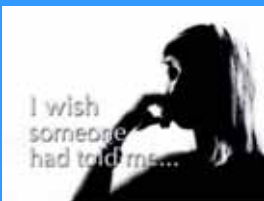


On the 18th March Bruce Coleman presented the Primary program to an enthusiastic group of Year 6 students in a Sydney State School. Also in attendance was a representative of the NSW Department of Education and Training (DET). The suitability of the presentation was assessed and given an enthusiastic 'thumbs up' for NSW State Primary Schools. A brief summary of the presentation, with the Choices of Life contact details, appears on the DET website www.schools.nsw.edu.au/pfs. It is entitled *The Wonder of Life (Before Birth)* and is included on the list of accredited Personal Development (PD/H/PE) programs. This potentially opens the door, with the approval of each Principal, in every State Primary School across NSW.

CHALLENGE: Now the doors are open we URGENTLY need more volunteer presenters to phone and/or make presentations in the schools. Please phone if you are able to help—weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

PRO-LIFE DISPLAY IN DENMAN

Frances Hopkins (15) and Susan Thing (16) are both from Denman in the Upper Hunter region (3 hours NW from Sydney). They took advantage of the local Wine and Food Affair on May 2nd to promote Choices of Life. They organised a display and sold little feet badges and baby models while engaging people in conversation about the wonder of life before birth. They felt very positive about the day and learnt different techniques to attract people's attention to the display.



Coming Events

ANNUAL DINNER—Sydney June 27
(see enclosed brochure)
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
AND FAMILY CAMP
15-17 JANUARY 2010—Toukley

HOPE GEN—a church committed to pro-life issues



REPORT FROM VICTORIA — March 23 to April 1

When I returned to Victoria in March it was the third opportunity to speak at the **Heathdale Christian College** (Werribee) and at the **Bayside Christian College** (Frankston). It was a first contact for other Christian Schools with the possibility of presentations when I return in October. A pro-life group within the **Hope Generation** church in Narre Warren provided great encouragement for future opportunities in schools as well as for young people prepared to be trained to take the classes. I am still pursuing openings into Catholic and State Schools in Victoria.

Primary School responses:

- Thank you Mr Coleman. It was amazing!!!!
- Now I know how wonderful the process is that babies go through.
- It was awesome! Its easy to understand. It teaches us how we began.
- It made me think about the intricacy of babies.
- It helped me appreciate that I am here today and I am alive.
- Showed me what my mum did for me.
- I never thought that I was that tiny before I was born.
- It helped me understand how special I was when I was conceived.



EXCITING PROSPECTS — two experienced teachers want to be presenters in Tasmanian schools

REPORT FROM TASMANIA — April 18 to May 6

- Spoke at 4 church services on the 3 Sundays in Hobart – 60 new people interested in receiving the new sletter
- 2 additional people interested in training – one in Hobart and one in Circular Head (NW near Smithton) – both experienced teachers
- Spoke at 10 classes in 4 Christian schools – Hobart, Launceston and Circular Head
- Doors opening in 6 other Christian Schools I was able to visit and referrals to others
- Interest in a State High School in Launceston
- Opportunity to visit the Catholic Archbishop to seek approval for speaking in Catholic schools across Tasmania
- Churches and youth groups indicating an interest in the Choices of Life program in Hobart and Launceston

- Investigations underway to pursue approval of the Primary Program for Tasmanian State schools
- Encouraging meetings with 3 strongly pro-life Tasmanian Senators
- Generous hospitality from Choices of Life supporters

Secondary student responses:

- It really spoke to my heart. Reminded me to value life.
- People who are pro-abortion have already been born.
- I thought the presentation was very interesting. I never thought that abortion would be classed as murder. (student's emphasis and a word I did not use in the presentation). Until someone explains abortion in detail, you really don't know what abortion is.
- There are consequences to your actions.
- We are perfect, not mistakes in life. We are made for a reason.
- Every woman, and man, should know this information.
- Helped me understand the people who are affected by an abortion.
- It really explained that the choices we make should be the right choices.



Mount Wellington as a backdrop to Hilliard Christian School

Contact CoL if you want multiple printed copies of *Choice News* for your church, work place or friends.

Please feel free to email the *Choice News* to those on your contact list.

Name Address Suburbpostcode Phone Mobile Email Please return to: CHOICES OF LIFE PO BOX 459 GORDON NSW 2072	Please charge <input type="text"/> each month to my credit card until I advise otherwise OR a one off donation of <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 or my choice <input type="text"/> My cheque payable to CHOICES OF LIFE <input type="checkbox"/> Debit to my credit card <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Amex ____/____/____/____ Name on Card _____ Signature _____ Expiry ____/____
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BLAXLAND HIGH SCHOOL

(in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney)

The SRE Coordinator at the school organised a Scripture Seminar on March 17 with 200 students in Years 11 and 12.

The coordinator wrote (in part): *"I was very pleased both with how Bruce spoke and the material he presented. The whole presentation was very professional and focused on the positive wonder of life. I was pleased that abortion per se wasn't the focus of this presentation....instead the miracle of how a baby is formed and grows was the focus. There were some students who found this concept quite challenging and even offensive but Bruce was very clear that what he was presenting was biology and not just opinion. One of the teachers present commented that the material was presented well in a sensitive manner."*

A number of students wrote that it reinforced their belief that they have a purpose in life. One put it this way: "I am precious to God—a miracle. I should make the most of my life by living for Him."

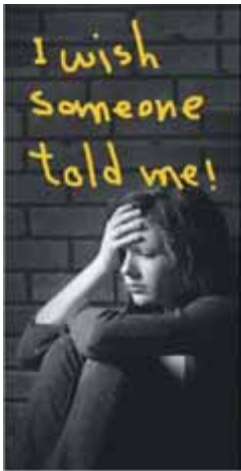


THANK GOD AND MY PARENTS

In July 2008 I met Jo Kotzur at the Living Word Church in Culcairn (north of Albury, NSW). Jo is a single mum with a little boy named Camden. She is keen to undertake training that will give her the skills to speak to young people in the Albury and Wagga areas about the wonder of life and the consequences of abortion. In a recent email Jo reflected on that time over 6 years ago when she was almost persuaded to have an abortion. She writes:

"I recently found the information that I was given to help me make the decision regarding my 'unplanned pregnancy' from the family planning clinic I contacted nearly 6 years ago. I was extremely perturbed re-reading the info and I feel compelled to contact the organisation and let them know that they make untrue claims supporting a women's right to choose an abortion. I remember also that, at that time, I had felt 'persuaded' to believe their message that abortion is okay, even though I was so convicted that no it is not. Thank God and my parents teachings that I was aware of this at the time, or the outcome would have been different."

Jo's experience is similar for so many young people—confusion, misinformation and persuasive claims— but the outcome is often so different for at least 50% of them. They have an abortion—and pay a very high 'price' - because they aren't told the truth and they don't have the support of friends and family to make the right decision. It makes the heartfelt cry, "I wish someone had told me", even more relevant as we speak in the Secondary schools. Our young people need to hear the truth and we need people like Jo who are willing to sweep aside the misinformation with the facts.



This is the banner used by Choices of Life in the Secondary classes.

HOW TO PRAY FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Before each speaking opportunity pray for:

- open minds and hearts to the message of life—understanding of the truth—
thank the Lord for the opportunity to be in the school

After each speaking opportunity pray that:

- the message will impact their lives and choices—that God will work in their hearts to bring them to know Jesus Christ more personally

Email

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

for *The Choices of Life*

Number 8
Winter 2009

1. Pray for preparations for the **Choices of Life Annual Dinner** to be held on 27th June at Epping (Sydney). The keynote speaker is **Robyn Green**. She is a well known and respected singer/songwriter from Darwin and is concerned about the abortion situation in the indigenous communities.
2. Praise God for speaking opportunities in schools and churches in **Victoria and Tasmania** during March and April. Many new contacts have been made.
3. Thank God for the opportunity to return to **Heathdale Christian College** (Werribee, Victoria) to speak to Years 7 and 9. Pray for John and Elizabeth Nelson (Assistant Principals) who have been great supporters and encouragers in these visits.
4. Pray that **Sally Baird** will be encouraged as she makes contact with schools in the Geelong area. She is hoping to make some more presentations this year. Pray for **Fiona Simcoe** who teaches at Heathdale Christian College and is considering making presentations on behalf of Choices of Life.
5. Praise God for the wonderful opportunity to speak in **State Primary schools** throughout NSW as a result of the Departmental approval for the program. Pray that Principals will welcome the program. With this blessing there is an **urgent need** for more trained presenters.
6. Pray for an increasing team of **financial supporters** for Choices of Life. There is great need as the opportunities continue to grow.
7. Pray for **Geoff and Carolyn Mongan** and those interested in organising schools in Canberra and the ACT. A number of school contacts have already been made and a few people have indicated that they would like to be trained to go to the schools.
8. Praise God for Steve Salisbury's (Year 6 teacher) enthusiastic support in organising speaking visits to **Bayside Christian College** (Frankston, Victoria)
9. Pray for schools contacted in eastern **Melbourne** in March. Pray for opportunities when Bruce returns in October. Praise God for initial positive responses.
10. Pray for the Years 6,7,9 and 10 students at the **Hunter Christian School** (2 hours north of Sydney) as they are presented with the Choices of Life message on 23 June.
11. Praise God for the opportunity to visit **Hilliard Christian School**, an Seventh Day Adventist school in Moonah (Hobart). Pray for an opening into the other SDA school in Penguin (Tasmanian north coast).
12. Pray for the year 5 and 6 students at **Berowra Christian School** (Sydney) as they hear the Wonder of Life (Before Birth) presentation on 18th May.
13. Praise God for the opportunity to speak with some **home school families** in Hobart. Pray for more opportunities with homeschoolers across Australia.
14. Thank God for the opportunity to speak to the Year 10 girls at **Launceston Christian School** and for their overwhelming positive response. Pray for an open door for a return visit when Bruce is next in Tasmania.
15. Pray for schools and churches contacted while Bruce was in Tasmania. Pray for speaking opportunities during a future visit. Thank God for the support of **Simon Matthews**, Executive Director of Christian Schools Tasmania.
16. Pray for God to raise up more **people to be trained** (and opportunities to train them) so that more young people can be impacted with the message of life. Pray for those who are willing but finding it difficult to make phone calls or continue training because of their other responsibilities. For those interstate it is often difficult for Bruce to make the necessary visits for training.
17. Praise God for the enthusiastic support of Patrick Bakes (Principal) and his staff at **Circular Head Christian School** (NW Tasmania).
18. Pray as the **Catholic Archbishop in Hobart** considers a request for the approval of the Choices of Life program for all Catholic schools in Tasmania.
19. Pray for the Years 6 and 9 students at **Wyong Christian School** (90 minutes north of Sydney) as they are presented with the message of Life appropriate to their age level (18th June)
20. Praise God for **Frances and Susan** as they take the pro-life message to the **Hunter Valley** country shows. Pray for wisdom in speaking to people who will visit their stalls.
21. Pray for the ongoing impact of the Scripture Seminar on the Year 11 and 12 students at **Blaxland High School**. The response was largely positive. Praise God for the handful of Christian students who were encouraged by the presentation. Pray for Judy Johnston (SRE Coordinator) and Kelly Wolfe (Chaplain) as they seek to make an impact for Christ in the school.
22. Pray for the arrangements to visit schools in **Darwin** area. Marrara Christian College has already made a booking for the week beginning 14th September. Pray for **Robyn Green** as she seeks openings into some of the indigenous communities and follows up contacts in churches and schools.
23. Pray for the young people at the **Hope Generation** church in Narre Warren (Melbourne) who have desire to

- impact their community for the gospel and with the pro-life message. Pray for **Lucas and Lauren Grant** as they look for ways to partner with Choices of Life in the schools.
24. Pray for a group of passionate pro-lifers, in the **Newcastle/Port Stephens** area (3 hours north of Sydney), who are interested in partnering with Choices of Life. They are already involved in pro-life activities and are considering assisting with the school visitation program.
25. Praise God for the responses of students to the pro-life message. One student wrote (after the presentation), **"It spoke to my heart"**. Praise God that He is changing lives and that He is using us as His instruments.
26. Praise God for a supportive **Choices of Life Committee**—Peter Barnes, Pat Christian, Rod Hordern and John Kingsmill. Pray for wisdom as they make important decisions.
27. Pray for **Nick Hutchinson**, Chaplain in a **Launceston State High School**. He has a desire to encourage healthy relationships and choices, and bring the positive pro-life message, to the students in the school.
28. Pray for the 4 girls aged between 12 and 14, in the **Blue Mountains** west of Sydney, who are heading up **"Passion 4 Life"** to raise awareness of the abortion issue in their community. Ebony writes: "We are a group of Christian teenagers with a passion to stop abortion or at least take part in helping support the cause of pro-life."
29. Praise God for the opportunity to share the ministry of Choices of Life at the **Central Mountains Baptist Church**, Hazelbrook (Blue Mountains) on 24th May. Pray for minds and hearts prepared to receive the message.
30. Pray for people who will commit to making **phone calls to make bookings** in schools. It is a task that requires perseverance so that more children and young people have the opportunity to hear the truth.
31. Pray for preparations that are underway for visiting schools in the **Riverina area** of southern NSW from August 10. Many schools in Wagga Wagga will be organised by **Henschke Catholic Primary School** because of the commitment and enthusiasm of their Principal, **Michael Jones**, for the program. Pray for **Jo Kotzur** (from Albury) as she takes this opportunity to be involved.

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