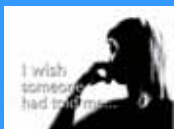


Young Australians deserve to know the scientific facts, ethics and attitudes surrounding the commencement of human life.

The Choices of Life Inc
PO Box 459
GORDON
NSW 2072

PH 9499 5108
FAX 9498 7183

info@choicesoflife.com.au
www.choicesoflife.com.au



RESERVE THE DATE NOW FOR

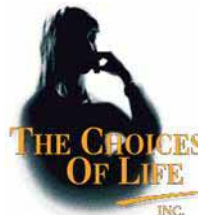
THE CHOICES OF LIFE 2008 ANNUAL DINNER

6 PM
SATURDAY 21st JUNE

Epping Baptist Church Hall

'Choices of Life' - the First Anniversary

Special Speakers: Peter and Jenny Stokes of 'Salt Shakers'



Choice News

Positive perspectives on Life Events

Number 3
Autumn 2008



TRAINING HAS BEGUN!

An enthusiastic group of people met in Sydney and on the Central Coast (north of Sydney) to begin training in the procedures and program presented in the schools. Some of these trainees will be equipped to go into schools as presenters—others will be involved in support roles. Both are vital in ensuring the message of life reaches more students.

A number of other people have indicated their desire to be involved. More training days will be planned in the near future in Sydney and on the Central Coast.



INTERSTATE TRAINING COMING UP

Do you have friends in Melbourne or Hobart who could also be trained? Let them know that the training program will be conducted in Melbourne on 8th to 9th April and in Hobart in the week beginning 14th April. For more information on these sessions and on the public meetings please email info@choicesoflife.com.au or contact Salt Shakers in Melbourne on 03 9800 2855 or Brenda in Hobart on 03 6227 1425

Ans wer from page 2
A quotable quote
William Wilberforce said it in 1789 when he was debating the slavery issue in the British Parliament. He could have made the same comment if he had been debating abortion in 2008.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM HIGH SCHOOL

After each class the students are asked to complete a questionnaire. They are asked to answer questions such as: What did the presentation say to you? Has this presentation helped you? Would this information influence you to make a different choice? Here are some responses from some Year 12 students.

Female student responses

- It reminded me about just how important human life really is and it has shocked me about how many abortions occur in Australia (2000 a week).
- I have realised that although I may believe strongly about this issue, it is a difficult topic. People who have experienced abortions will be hurting. I need to be compassionate. It has made me realise that we really do need to stand up for those who do not have a voice.
- I would recommend it to my friends because it gives the facts—it is not exaggerated or one-sided. It is also thoughtful and compassionate and non-confronting.
- **I always thought that abortions may have some validity for rape victims or women whose lives are in danger from the pregnancy, but seeing the statistics was really eye-opening. It has opened my eyes to the true facts about abortions. I think that in no circumstances would abortion be the best thing for the mother. THANK YOU!**
- Life is valuable and you shouldn't throw it away.

Male student responses

- That we (whether embryo or person) are not a mistake. We are creations of God and our choices have consequences.
- It made me realise that the glamour of sex has real implications. The baby is a person who has rights.
- It was factual—it was the truth— and everything makes sense.
- I never knew so many humans were dying through abortion. It makes me angry too!
- Awesome information.
- Thank you Mr Coleman for this presentation. It's made me more confident for the future.

A quotable quote

"Having heard all of this you may choose to look the other way but you can never again say you did not know."

Who said it ? What was he talking about?

Answer on the back page



From a Year 10 student's email:

"Your talk made me feel stronger about what I believed."

I just wanted to thank you again for the talk you did at our school today. I wanted to let you know that after we left my friend and I were talking and agreed about how informative the talk was. It didn't necessarily change my views, but it definitely confirmed them and made me feel stronger about what I believed. I really hope that you one day get to talk to my sister, perhaps when she's in year 10. I think it would really help her to hear what you have to say. I know that the people I talked to this afternoon agreed with me.

I'm not sure exactly how people can justify a certain age to determine when someone is "alive". Life is life, whether it be one second old or has been on this earth for thousands of years. The dictionary (at least the one I looked at) defines life as "the period during which anything exists." How can anyone deny the existence of a human, even if they are only a couple of cells. But as you said, we must face people with compassion, not judgement. We will always come across people with differing opinions and we must be ready to face that. I just pray that as I finish school and am thrown out into the world, that I can be strong enough in my own beliefs that I can still take the time and effort to listen to others, even if our views are completely different.

Thank you once again for the inspiration."

APPOINTMENT DIARY (in addition to schools)

February 12—Southern Sydney Presbytery meeting—an opportunity to share with the ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church from that area of Sydney.

March 7—Association of Executives of Christian Schools—an opportunity to share about Choices of Life with a number of Principals and other executive staff of Christian Schools.

April 7 to 12— Training and schools in Melbourne

April 13 to 19—Training and schools in Hobart

May 5 to 8— Pastors' Annual Conference for the Anglican Diocese of Armidale—this will be an opportunity to share about Choices of Life and to provide suggestions and resources for counselling and support in related issues.

June 21— Annual Dinner and Celebration of Choices of Life

June 29—Revesby Congregational Church—combined church service with the Padstow and Georges River Congregational Churches.

July 26—Annual Community Dinner at Tarcutta (near Wagga Wagga)

October 1—Fellowship of Congregational Churches Pastors and Families Retreat

Already 15 schools have been booked throughout 2008—the opportunities are increasing as God opens many doors of ministry!

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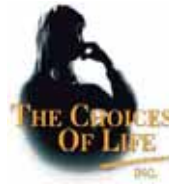
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PRAY WITHOUT CEASING for *The Choices of Life*

Number 3
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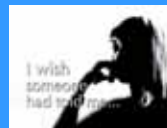
Little Feet—a source of inspiration and comfort

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One supporter wrote:

"I bought 'little feet' for each of the women in my immediate family (my wife and three daughters). They have expressed with a little surprise how when they wear the little feet badge others ask them about what they represent.



It is all the more pertinent since our eldest daughter, her husband and the wider family last year lost their third daughter at 39 weeks. She was named Jasmine Hope. A beautiful and fragrant flower, with her middle name expressing our daughter's hope in God in the midst of this tragic loss. Jasmine is in a better place being straight into the arms of Jesus. God graciously showed me a picture in my mind of this beautiful little one running joyously in His presence.

My prayers are with you as you go forward in faith."

One year 10 student wrote after the presentation that it helped him realise that "God is loving with an everlasting love"

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

PRAYING EACH DAY

1. Praise God for the ongoing freedom to visit schools and speak clearly about the sanctity of human life. Pray for the impact of the Word of God in their lives.
2. Pray for **Julie and Sheree** as they gain in confidence and experience to speak in the schools on behalf of Choices of Life.
3. Pray for the **Management Committee** of Choices of Life— Rod, Peter, John, Pat—as they make decisions and guide the ongoing ministry directions of the organisation.
4. Praise God for enthusiastic young people, such as **Frances**, who are excited about speaking up for the unborn.
5. Pray for the **Armidale Diocese Anglican Ministers Retreat** (on May 5) as they are encouraged to be more involved in, and to preach on, life issues, including counselling of those in need.
6. Pray for the Year 12 (all boys) ethics class at **Holy Cross, Ryde** (NSW). Pray for open minds and a ready acceptance of the value of life. (March 6)
7. Praise God for the opportunity to share with the **Principals and Executives of Christian Schools** (March 7). Pray for new openings into schools.
8. Praise God for those who are faithfully praying and providing financial support each month for Choices of Life.
9. Pray that God will raise up many more prayer partners and financial supporters as the ministry expands into more schools in more states.
10. Pray for **Graham Freemantle** as he coordinates the ministry of Choices of Life in the Gosford area (north of Sydney). His prayer is to eliminate abortion on the Central Coast.
11. With God's abundant blessings have come challenges and opposition. Pray for steadfastness and faithfulness when tempted to doubt.
12. Praise God for another opportunity (March 13) to speak to chapel services as well as class groups at **Bethel Christian Academy**, Mount Druitt (NSW). This is the eighth annual visit to the school.
13. Pray for the message of the '**Little Feet**' pins as they speak of the wonder of life. Pray that more people will wear them and take the opportunity to share this message in their community.
14. Pray for those in **Hobart** who have expressed a desire to be trained to speak in Tasmanian schools. **Training is planned for April 13 to 19.**
15. Pray for preparations for the **Annual Choices of Life Dinner** (June 21) as we celebrate God's goodness and provision over the past 12 months.
16. Praise God for the interest shown by **Presbyterian Ministers** at a recent meeting of the **Southern Sydney Presbytery** as they heard of the ministry of Choices of Life.
17. Pray for preparations for the **Community Dinner at Tarcutta** (July 26). Praise God for the occasion to encourage this needy country town.
18. Praise God for the abundance of research that is available to uphold the wonder of who we are from conception. It only confirms what the Bible has always declared.
19. Pray for **Martin as he is involved in training in the Choices of Life program**. He expects to take this knowledge and experience overseas when he completes his Bible College and Missionary training.
20. Because of the busy-ness of schools phoning to make an appointment can be a difficult process. **Pray for open access** and acceptance by teachers in the midst of the many demands on their time.
21. Praise God for increasing opportunities to speak to pastors—Presbyterian, Anglican and Congregational. Pray for wisdom to challenge them to be more aware of the impact of 'life choices' on the members of their congregations.
22. Pray for the opportunity to visit **St Phillip's Anglican College at Cessnock** (May 21).
23. Pray that the **teachers in Christian Schools** will take the opportunity to build on the life presentation and encourage the students to consider the value of eternal life in Christ.
24. Pray for **volunteers** who assist in many of the mundane but essential tasks, such as folding and mailing. Praise God for each one.
25. Pray for **Peter and Jenny Stokes (Salt Shakers)** as they prepare to bring a challenge at the Annual Dinner on June 21. Praise God for their ministry throughout Australia.
26. Pray for **Trina**. After she is married she will be living in California and is hoping to take the message of life to the students in the schools.
27. Pray the message of Psalm 139—"I am fearfully and wonderfully made" - will inspire the students in our schools and will give hope in a troubled world.
28. Praise God for schools where the Choices of Life is welcomed each year. In some schools presentations have been made each year for 9 years.
29. Pray for those in **Melbourne** who have expressed a desire to be trained to speak in Victorian schools. A training program is planned for **April 7 to 12.**
30. Pray for more opportunities in **Public Schools**. Wisdom and the right contacts are needed to make this possible.
31. Praise God for those who are involved in ministering to those who are struggling with an unplanned pregnancy or who are battling with the aftermath of an abortion. Pray for **Jennifer Cotter of Diamond Pregnancy Support.**