Standing in the GAP

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Director's Corner C. Fletcher Armstrong, PhD CBR Southeast Director



Dear Partners and Friends,

This month we touch on three areas of emphasis for CBR:

- *Campus Outreach*. We are charging onto college campuses, where Satan has dominated much too long.
- *Training*. We are teaching pro-lifers how to answer the hard questions.
- *Growth.* Every time we show up, we win. We just need to show up more places, more often.

Fletcher

What does your hat say about you? by Nicole Cooley

At the Shenandoah Valley Soap Box Derby, a complete stranger asked, "Did you go to Tennessee?"

He seemed really excited about my orange Tennessee hat. I hated to disappoint him, but, "No, my boss did."

Furrowed eyebrows.

I continued, "I am a pro-life activist. We travel all over the country with our Genocide

Awareness Project (GAP), and I always get a hat from each campus."

Who knew a simple baseball cap could spark a conversation about abortion with a complete stranger?

I've been a collector all my life. I collected Longaberger baskets for years. I still buy a new basket on occasion, but at over 200 baskets, I'm pretty satisfied there.

As a child, I collected rocks from the different places we lived. We were a military family that traveled all over the world, so I have lots of rocks, including some neat limestone from England and large round rocks from a beach in Scotland.

But of all my collections, my current one is the most meaningful to me. You see, every hat has a story.

At the University of Tennessee, I spoke at length with a (Continued on page 2)

Welcome Philip Hamilton, CBR Project Director for Virginia

We are pleased to welcome Philip Hamilton of Springfield, Virginia, to the CBR family. He is already taking our message to George Mason University (GMU)!

Philip has a Bachelor's of Science in Administration of Justice from GMU, a Paralegal Certification from GMU, an advanced Paralegal Certification from Virginia Tech, and a Master's of Science in Administration of Justice and Security from the University of Phoenix.

He has been active in politics for more than a decade, with a growing emphasis on the pro-life movement after joining the GMU Students for Life (SFL). This illustrates the effect that CBR is having on campus. CBR started the GMU SFL, recruited and trained the founding president; we continue to bring abortion photos to the GMU campus every two weeks. All of this influenced Philip to join the pro-life movement full-time!

Recently, Philip has written several pro-life articles for The Fairfax Free Citizen. Philip has also written articles supporting the Unborn Child Pain Capable Act, promoting counseling for women considering abortion, and supporting the GMU SFL.

Welcome aboard, Philip! We're expecting great things from you!

If you'd like to support Philip (or any of our staff members), it's quick, easy, and secure to support CBR online. Whatever you can do will make a huge difference. To support Philip's work, designate your gift for "Virginia Project Director (SE-PAH)."



Philip Hamilton (Continued from page 1)

student who used to be pro-life, but changed her mind in college. Veteran pro-life apologist Mick Hunt took the lead. I call him "the philosopher" because he's great at talking with students who are wrestling with higher-level questions. This student struggled with bodily autonomy arguments like the "famous violinist" scenario, in which the violinist could be saved only by an unwilling kidney donor. We sat on the grassy knoll across from the display for over an hour.

Mick gently explained how a mother's relationship to her own child is different from a person being forced to offer his kidney to a complete stranger. I took note of his probing questions to specifically identify the fallacies in her thinking. I also saw how he carefully dismantled each one in a patient way, not acting superior, but as if he were merely suggesting another way to look at it.

I'm not sure if that young lady is pro-life today or not. But, I do know she must have wrestled with the things we talked about for some time. Most people are not solidly pro-life without having first wrestled a bit.

For most people, being pro-life or pro-abortion is a continuum; few are truly 100% pro-life or pro-abortion. Most get hung up somewhere along the line because of those pesky "exceptions" to the rules. They struggle with the idea of telling a rape victim she should carry to term or with making abortion illegal in the case of fetal abnormalities. That's why GAP is such a great tool for college campuses. We help students wrestle with the hard questions. We challenge the status quo of their own opinions. We put pebbles in their shoes and force them to think.

After watching Mick Hunt at work, I vowed to be ready next time. I went home and studied the bodily autonomy arguments in depth. At the next GAP, I would be ready to plant a few pebbles of my own.

Nicole Cooley is a CBR project director. This is the first in a series of "hat blogs" about memorable experiences with GAP. Follow the entire series at www.FletcherArmstrongBlog.com.





At Columbus State, Emily McGowan of Liberty U explains how genocide perpetrators always dehumanize their victims.

Georgia Right to Life sponsors GAP at Columbus State University

For the first time in history, CBR exposed the horror at Columbus State University (CSU) in Georgia. We were hosted by the CSU Advocates for Life (AFL), the student group we started earlier this year.

We were joined by five students from Liberty University who spent their spring break in Georgia as a witness against child sacrifice. We pray for the day these students expose abortion on their own campus, without interference from the Liberty University Administration.

The trip was funded by the Chattahoochee Valley United for Life, a chapter of Georgia Right to Life (GRTL). Over the years, we have worked with many GRTL chapters to bring GAP to Georgia. This trip was a huge answer to prayer.

AFL and GRTL hosted our Pro-Life Training Academy to prepare members and students alike to articulate and defend the pro-life movement, even in a hostile environment.

A middle-aged woman told us, "I am so glad you are here. Folks don't understand what they are doing. I have 50-year-old friends who are still hurting from abortion. It goes so much deeper than people realize." Indeed.

Liberty student
Titus Folks
exposes hard
truth to Columbus
State students who
desperately need to
know. He is not
allowed to do this
on the Liberty U
campus.

