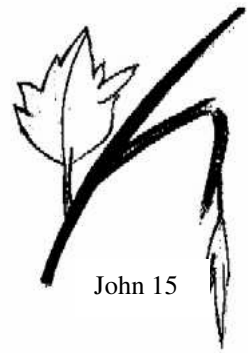


BROKEN BRANCHES



John 15

A newsletter of *Victims of Abortion*

Issue 9

June 2000

Of recent times there has been a raging debate over the licitness of safe injecting rooms for drug addicts. We have heard from legal minds, from interested minds and from spiritually based perspectives. Indeed, opinion and war of words has, on this issue, as with other “anti life” issues set the scene for a split in the human camp.

I enter this fray from the perspective of a post abortion grief counsellor. I speak from experience of having listened to nearly 100 individuals (on a long term one on one basis) and hundreds of phone calls over three years. Indeed, I wish to offer insights into this particular issue gleaned from my involvement with post abortion trauma.

Safe injecting rooms whilst ostensibly compassionate are in my opinion a precursor to the ultimate legalization of illicit drug taking. This is society saying “we have been beaten, we cannot stop drug taking, let’s give up and let them (drug addicts) continue to kill themselves as long as it is done under clean conditions.” If we cast our minds back nearly thirty years ago, abortion was legalised (under certain conditions) for the same reason, “compassion.” Abortion was made legal in order to protect the life of the mother (as if this was ever necessary). This indeed was considered most compassionate. After all those *supposed* thousands of women who died as a result of backyard abortions, it was considered the just thing to ensure that if women needed to have abortions that they should be carried out in *clean and sterile conditions*. How compassionate were those calling for *clean, sterile, abortion conditions*. The women would be safe and only those, whose life was in danger, would be aborted. It couldn’t really be said that there was malice or hatred for the baby just concern for the life of the mother. Today we know that this was a lie of gigantic proportions. We know that through the keyhole of the door entered a diabolical agent of mass destruction. Today we know that abortion on demand is available. No longer ostensibly to save the life of the mother but simply because the pregnancy is an inconvenience. We know that whether legal or illegal the law turns a blind eye to the mass slaughter of infants. We know that what appeared, as “compassionate reason” was “diabolical reason” Yet we today are hearing voices calling for the same type of “cheap compassion.”

Further evidence of “anti life” horrors sold to the world under the guise of “compassion” have been the contraceptive devices, sold as a measure for family size management. This has led to wholesale slaughter of innocents as a result of the ensuing sexual revolution. Contraception did not free anyone but rather enslaved those involved in its advocacy. Artificial reproduction technology (IVF) was sold as something “wonderful” which would assist childless couples to overcome sterility and fulfil their dream of having a child. Indeed this sounded really wonderful. Today we know of the mass destruction of human embryos due to experimentation and gender selection and even neglect and or abandonment of frozen embryos. Euthanasia is being sold under the label of “compassion” even though the world was horrified at Hitler’s endeavors in this area, and of course now cloning is being introduced under the guise of “human wellbeing,” a technology which will in time eliminate genetic imperfections together with the imperfect babies. However, we do not have to wait for cloning to dispose of imperfect babies, pregnancy screening now ensures the rapid disposal of imperfect babies at whatever gestational period. The spectre of cloning for human spare parts also looms before us. Again we do not have to wait for cloning for spare parts the trade in fetal body parts is alive and thriving. We know that a torso can bring in about \$ 500. Brain matter about \$1000. And the list of prices is available for all to read on the Internet. *We do not learn*

The preceding horrors were unleashed onto society under a mantle of “love, care, concern and healing” of some existing horrible condition. The women needed to be saved from backyard “butchers,” but no one has come up with the method of saving the women from their own self-destructive behaviours as a result of the abortion. No-one has yet found a way to stop the women from thinking about the pain their baby experienced as it was dismembered. This thought alone causes such pain and horror and indeed contributes to the non healing of abortion related grief.

Contraception, which was to help in family size management, exploded into contraception for anyone who wants it at whatever age in order to

free both males and females to engage in unbridled sexual activity. Contraception and sex education programs not compatible with life have not ensured less and less sexual experimentation by the young (and not so young) but have encouraged younger and younger involvement in an activity which for all intents and purposes is an adult activity requiring adult understanding and consent. No one has surfaced who has found a way of curbing the rate of abortion and sexually transmitted deadly diseases as a result of unrestrained sexual activity. Now we have well intentioned souls who would provide the facilities for young, troubled, sad, drug addicts to continue killing themselves, so long as it is done in *clean sterile conditions*.

Again “compassion” is the keyword used to justify this diabolical suggestion. It must be fought, because we are at the very genesis of the idea and it is still possible to do something about it. Today abortion is out of control. Euthanasia is making inroads although I suspect this might be fought harder because it affects our very selves. We might be the one “forced” to be the recipient of the lethal injection so the fight will be more strongly fought. Cloning is still trying to find public acceptance but if correctly marketed will find ready buyers, and finally contraception, which has been marketed as the panacea against slavery of women, is globally out of control. Today we can still do something to prevent further holocausts (drugs) but it must *not* be done under the guise of “cheap” love but under the banner of “tough” love. Cheap love always ends in death. The tough love of God has meant eternal love.

Clean sterile injecting rooms are not the answer to drug addiction. The answer is to be found at the root of the poisoned tree. The answer is to be found in the heart and mind of those injecting. The answer is to be found in the pain, which is causing the need for pain control. The answer is to be found in the abandonment of children by parents whose priorities are not compatible with life. The answer is to be found in the break up of families and the psychological dismemberment of children who are then left to the whims of ravaging diabolic agents. The answer is to be found in a legal system, which protects the guilty, through loopholes. The answer is to be found in society’s rejection of children. Globally over 50,000,000 children a year are discarded as unwanted rubbish. When we consider that over the past 25 years there have been over two million surgical abortions and unknown millions of chemical abortions, (in Australia alone) is it any wonder that children need to take drugs in order to escape the pain of unwantedness and abandonment?

As a post abortion grief counsellor, I encounter individuals in the depths of the deepest despair. To

alleviate their sorrow and pain they resort to measures which can only lead to further disintegration. Over 80% of those who come to me for counselling have been taking prescribed and illicit drugs to “help me feel better.” In their pain anything that helps to remove the pain is acceptable. Just several examples of these are a 16-year-old girl on her third abortion and into drug taking since her first abortion two years earlier. A case of 14 year old girl who has started taking drugs and alcohol to “stop the nightmares about dead babies.” A thirty five year old young lady who has been taking both licit (prescription – anti depressants) and illicit substances for 16 years to cope with 2 abortions. A 23 year old young lady taking very strong substances to “stop hearing the baby cry.” Etc. There is very real deep pain in the lives of these individuals and because of their immaturity, pain, abandonment and loneliness after their abortions they have resorted to taking/injecting substances simply to survive. These are not isolated cases they are the norm. Pain is at the root of drug addiction and it does not have to be abortion pain alone. It is psychological pain and it appears to me that parental abandonment of children is central to this.

Whilst not all who abort, or all who inject/take drugs have been literally abandoned by parents, abandonment in the form parents too busy (work/leisure) to notice their children. Parents too involved in careers to be present to children. Parents too ineffectual at parenting to guard and protect their children. Parents too absorbed in their own pain to notice their children’s pain. These parents miss the signs exhibited by their children’s change of behaviour. They miss the signs that all is not well in their child’s life and appropriately intervene. The root of the pain is to be found in the heart of a child being abandoned to institutions (including schools) which for the most part are ill equipped to deal with psychological pain.

It must be clearly understood that the breakdown of family and the security which “family” implies is one of the main sources of deep anguish for children. Breakup of family, unhappy family life, alcoholism, abortion, sexual abuse and physical abuse leave children very vulnerable and open to the ultimate self-abuse of addiction, which at times leads to their own permanent self annihilation, suicide. Where children are insecure, lonely, continually depressed and frightened for their future they will resort to extreme measures to ameliorate their condition and in their search for peace and contentment often take the risky paths of drugs, alcohol, promiscuity (search for love) and alienation.

Clean, sterile injecting rooms, whilst seemingly “compassionate” are not compassionate at all, indeed, they are a further sign that society is very ill. They are

a sign that a terminal malaise has overtaken the hearts and minds of humanity and the healing of this insidious lethargy can only come with a complete reversal of the existing norms. The cancerous growth, which has overcome society, can only be incised with "tough love." Any other treatment is only band-aid treatment and opens the door to future disaster. The notion of safe injecting rooms brings terror to those of us who are involved in pro-life activities. We see first hand the devastation wrought on society by activities, which are anti life but which were originally proposed as something good.

As I speak to, counsel and observe the young of today, it has occurred to me that the self-destructive behaviours, that is, drugs, promiscuity, nihilism are evidence that the young are turning in on themselves. Do the children and young adults sense that to be young is dangerous. Do they sense that children are not valued, welcomed or wanted. Do they sense that to be infirm, young, helpless, and tiny is unsafe, therefore it is better to be none of these? Are the drugs, promiscuity, recklessness their cry to be loved, welcomed, valued, nurtured, guided, directed?. Are the dangerous paths embarked upon a rebellion against their perceived valuelessness? Are the young unconsciously atoning for the unjust deaths of millions of their siblings? Has the societal message been "children are not important. Self, career, freedom, money is important. Children are disposable." Perhaps the worldwide phenomenon of youth self-destructive behaviour, suicide, hopelessness and artificially induced "happiness" is a sign of deeper societal illness. It is ultimately a symptom of the absence of the Sacred in life and therefore absence of security and hope and future.

As a concluding thought I would suggest this, every effort should be made to strengthen family, support family and in turn they will strengthen their children. Legally deal with drug traffickers in such a way that the message is clearly understood. Allot resources to treatment of drug addiction not facilitation of the addiction. Restore a sense of dignity and worth to children. Stop the notion that abortion is only a minor procedure the removal of a "bunch of cells." This dehumanizes children and when children are dehumanized they resort to self-destructive and self-annihilating measures. As adults and parents we have only a short time to form the hearts and minds of our

children. Let us "turn our hearts towards the children" (Mt. 2:24) because if parents return to being parents whose main charism is to love and form their children, clean injecting rooms will not even be a consideration.

I realise that this newsletter is perhaps a little different than the usual ones and perhaps there will be those who will think that I should not comment on matters other than post abortion trauma. However, I disagree because abortion, drugs, rampant sexuality, alcoholism, dysfunctional families, sexual abuse of young ones, physical abuse, these all show up during counselling for post abortion grief. The panorama of the woman suffering from post abortion syndrome is often littered with unmentionable suffering. I am often left astounded at the resilience of the human spirit. Indeed I can truthfully say that at times I can see clearly how in His Mercy God can forgive an aborted woman. Further, I can see so much suffering that indeed the reflection is similar to that of the One on the Cross.

This month I would ask my friends and priest friends to continue praying for Caterina and her family. Caterina is undergoing chemo at the moment and she is very ill. Please pray. Also pray for Ann and Edward and for Cheryl, Tracy, Tracey, Martin, Maria. All these people have a great need of prayer and support. Please continue to support me and this work in whatever way you can. All is much appreciated. I would also make a request that you might encourage others to become subscribers. My newsletter list is quite small and therefore it makes it very difficult for me, as I don't like to ask continually for financial support. Mind you I do have a priest friend here in Melbourne who suggested that my need for your help with finances helps all of us (me included) to reach heaven. I'm still working that one out. Maybe by next month it will all become clear. *Special thanks to "my brother in Christ" from Qld.* May the Lord Bless and Keep you.



Anne Lastman
Victims of Abortion.



Name _____

Address _____ P/C _____

Donation/Newsletter _____

Yes/no, I would/would not like to be on your mailing list.

Victims of Abortion, National Office

PO Box 6094, Vermont South, Vic, 3133.

Ph: (03) 9663 9032 or Ph/Fax: (03) 9887 7669 Mobile: 0408 175 033 Email: lastman@primus.com.au