

# Broken Branches

“Take courage! God has healing in store for you; so take courage” (Tb. 5:10)

Issue 101 – Oct/Nov 2014

## In Memory of Robin Williams-comedian, 1951-2014 RIP.

Thank you for the laughter and tears.

Recently an article was sent to me by one of my readers. An article which he and I think is beautiful and should be spread about, far and wide.

The article is about twin brothers from Chile whose mother was told to abort. The doctor told her she was pregnant with only one child and that the baby had deformities. But instead twin boys were born, perfect. When their mum was told about the disability she responded with “I’ll accept whatever God sends me.” Like George (thank you) who sent me this article I also think it’s beautiful and we have to think how many priests, Bishops, even Popes we have aborted since this insanity called women’s rights and free and open abortion became legal.

How many parishes have special days of prayer for vocations? I know of some, and yet I would say that God is giving us the vocations, “before you were born I knew you before you came to birth I consecrated you” Jer.1:1) but we are aborting them. That is the insanity. That the pews are emptying, the church in all denominations is not full and women and children missing. Why? Because of abortion and its after effects.

These two priests in the article sent to me, have both responded to the call of priesthood and today are brothers in the flesh and brothers in discipleship and ministry, and who would have been killed if their mother had listened to the medical advice. Two priests dead and the mother would have suffered and the parish would have been minus two priests and the church

minus two consecrated ones. Remember “before you were born I consecrated you” (Jer.1).

Dear friends this story can be found at this website and it’s so inspiring especially when one looks into their faces and sees the beauty of the young men and the serenity in their eyes.

We should never be short of priests and we would never be short of priests or Pastors or Rabbis who serve the Lord well except that we dispose of them. Perhaps this is what the Jesus meant when he entreated the Lord of the Harvest, His Father, to send more labourers to gather the harvest in. the shortage is not that the Lord hasn’t sent any labourers but our rejection of them. For this we need to pray for mercy. And more than this to beg forgiveness (as women) who unlike the mother of these two boys will not “accept what God sends me” (words of their mother).

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/saved-from-abortion-chilean-twin-brothers-are-now-priests/>

## Abortion breast cancer Kerfuffle

Dear friends as you know I have written, spoken, and personally am experiencing breast cancer and its treatments and after effects of these. I have written about this issue in my newsletter (Broken Branches) and other places for years but I have come to the conclusion, (as I have mentioned in past) that an industry has grown around the breast cancer topic and there is too much money to be made/given for this topic for the breast cancer council and others to be interested. The pharmaceutical industry would go bust without us women needing to take very expensive medications. I am personally on my 3<sup>rd</sup> brand. Tamoxifen didn’t work for me, Arimedex didn’t work well either and now am on Femara. I have spoken to my oncologist, to my breast surgeon, to breast

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care nurse about the abortion breast cancer link and have heard nothing not even a comment. Have given them all a copy of my book Redeeming Grief and leaflet which enumerates studies. Nothing.

I have worked through (after 5 weeks off) my cancer surgery and treatments including the 30 treatments of radiation, because I didn't want to let my clients (post abortive/sexual abuse) down. And there have been moments when even I wondered if I am trying to be a "martyr" or even perhaps am a little nutty. Especially as I struggle to keep the office going. The donations have almost dried up, (I have recently needed to make a call) and yet the "pink ribbons" and morning teas for fund raising for CC go on infinitum. And cancer donations because of the emotive nature of this subject gathers much support while abortion after effects are still, after so many studies speaking otherwise, considered an issue of the anti-choice lobby (us) and "religious right" (us).

Abortion grief and pain is not on the important list of ribbon wearers, but I want to say that it probably is the most important grief and pain of our day and respect should be given to it at least as much as respect given to breast cancer topic since and especially because abortion contributes to this scourge.

## Abortion and Breast Cancer

We have long known that there is a very real connection between women having abortions, and an increased risk of developing breast cancer. The abortion industry, the *femenazzi*, a media which is pro-abortion and abortion activist politicians placed in positions to ensure changes to laws all need to deny the risk, because not to do so would bring a calamity on a society which has been lulled into a deep sleep. It would bring disaster to governments who have legalised a procedure which may give their women citizens' cancer.

Imagine the class actions against governments, pharmaceutical companies, breast surgeons, cancer councils, and all involved with the cancer industry and who should have warned against the possibility of developing breast cancer following an abortion and who did not warn against this possibility.

The anger of the *femenazzi*, the pro-abortion lobby, needs to continue in order to maintain their ideology even if it means the death of women or even development of cancer and this not to even speak about the death of in utero babies up to full term.

I am also reminded that we have and demand liberal rights and laws. however these laws only apply to those who are pro death and not to everyone. I am not permitted to have an opinion against abortion only those who are pro-abortion are permitted to have an opinion and a right. The media does not respect my (and other pro-lifers) a right to hold opinion for life, we are ridiculed for our beliefs, however the pro death voices are urged and encouraged. How is this fair and just and right? Are only the voices of death the correct and justified voices?

Recently the news in our media about the abortion breast cancer connection was because one of our Members of Parliament, Senator Eric Abetz made a public comment about the link, and all hell broke loose. It seems to me that if he had come out and spoken in favour of abortion and that it's a woman's right and that there is no link with adverse reactions then and no problems attached to it then the media and pro-abortion lobby would have congratulated him on his stand, but because he mentioned the connection and possible added risk of abortion and breast cancer then he was vilified, and facing all sorts of abuse and censure.

Greens Deputy Leader (an Australian minor Party begun 1992) Senator Adam Bandt went so far as to say that it was an insult to all women to say that abortion is a risk factor. Warning them before going in for an abortion which kills their child and increases their risk of breast cancer an insult? What planet does he come from? This "good" (not) senator went on to demand that Sen Abetz

apologise for making that comment which was considered by him (Bandt) an insult. I wish the good Deputy Leader (Bandt) would spend just one day only and read just half a dozen studies Only half a dozen. Unbiased. Just read them. Read the newest Chinese studies. The Sri Lankan Studies. Read the Coleman study. Perhaps it might help him be a better Senator. It concerns me so deeply that this man does not even consider the very idea of telling the woman going in for an abortion that there is a possibility of developing breast cancer. It's concerning but then again not surprising for a party whose mantra on abortion is "keep abortion safe and legal."

However, at this point it must also be understood that not all women who have had abortions will get breast cancer (I hope not-though I have) and not all women who get breast cancer have had abortions. But that a possible risk is found and should be made known to those going in for an abortion should become imperative.

In this day and age we are contending not only with abortion as a risk factor but women taking contraception hormones and then later HRT for menopause. It seems like we women are ready to take whatever is offered in order to be free to participate in sexual freedom. The "pill" which promised low rate of abortions and only to regulate family size has had within it synthetic dangers of unmeasured dimensions and the truth that it would mean low rate of abortions has been anything but truth. Indeed the biggest lie of the 20th-21<sup>st</sup> century.

American breast cancer expert, Dr Joel Brind, a Prof. of Endocrinology at Baruch College New York, has made the comment that "the single most avoidable risk factor for breast cancer is induced abortion." This we can see is because abortion need never happen. It is, as demanded "a choice," and if it is a "choice" then surely all risks should be discussed. No one proceeds with any surgery without having risks discussed. Yet this is one procedure where risks are not discussed. At least the most important and future risk.

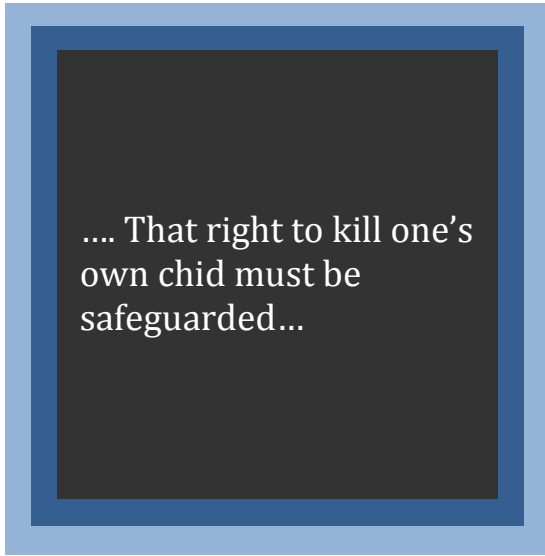
Brind in his own words, "By way of background, abortion raises a woman's risk for breast cancer in two ways; the debate is over the second, not the first. Scientists have long understood that the risk of breast cancer is reduced when a woman completes a full-term pregnancy. This 'protective effect of childbearing' is lost with an abortion. The second way abortion increases the likelihood of breast cancer is that an abortion leaves a

woman with more cancer-vulnerable breast tissue than she had before she became pregnant." And studies in past and subsequent and even most recent times have been shown to agree with Prof Brind and Dr Angela Lanfranchi.

Dr Lanfranchi's recent visit to Australia and the rage against her talks clearly shows that those who want abortion as a right do not want to hear an argument which might be harmful to their view.

In an interview on our evening prime time news a young woman was being interviewed by the channel reporter who asked her why she was there and the protestor's response was "we have fought for abortion for a long time" So the reality that abortion may actually be harmful to women then is not important, but what is important is the fact tht "we have fought for this for a long time." And this says to me that no amount of studies linking abortion and breast cancer, and no amount of studies showing the damage that abortion does, in the realm of psychological, spiritual, physical is important. It will be suppressed and shouted down because of the demand for that "right to kill one's own child" must be safeguarded.

A new and more recent study coming out of Sri Lanka also found that women who had abortions more than triple their breast cancer risk compared with women who carry their pregnancy to full term. This



... That right to kill one's own child must be safeguarded...

study was published in the *Journal of Cancer Epidemiology*. See: De Silva M, Senarath U, Gunatilake M, Lokuhetty D. Prolonged breastfeeding reduces risk of breast cancer in Sri Lankan women: a case-control study. *Cancer Epidemiol* 2010;34(3):267-73. Abstract available at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20338838>

A study published in the *Indian Journal of Community Medicine* (May, 2013) found a 6.38-fold greater risk of breast cancer among women with histories of induced abortion. The study, led by Ramachandra Kamath, MD (Department of Public Health, Manipal University), found induced abortion was the most important risk factor....Kamath R, Mahajan KS, Ashok L, Sanai TS. A study on risk factors of breast cancer among patients attending the tertiary care hospital, in Udupi district. *Indian J Community Med*, 2013;38(2)95-99. Available at: <http://www.ijcm.org.in/text.asp?2013/38/2/95/112440>

"Medical texts acknowledge delayed first full term pregnancy is a risk factor for breast cancer. It's indisputable that abortion contributes to delayed first

full term pregnancies; and in some cases, women remain childless, which is also an accepted risk factor.” Kamath’s group observed that India has the “largest estimated number of breast cancer deaths worldwide,” and breast cancer rates are on the rise there.

So dear friends there is much support for the link between abortion and breast cancer and even without studies if one were to think about the whole issue it would make sense. Natural intelligence. Old fashioned common sense. It is known that from the moment of conception the body knows that something new has begun and sets into motion a dialogue between itself and the new being in how to bring this new creation into life.. All that the mother has to do is to host the new creation, and yet..... 50,000,000 times per year she says no I will not be a host you. I will not hold you and welcome you.

I often need to ask, “Why is it so important that a woman has the right to take her own child to be killed. What is the motive behind such a desire? “And my answer to that has to be that it is a spiritual war against the woman. If she can turn on her own flesh then all things/atrocities become possible. If she can make a decision that the life of her baby can be ended then she has some power, some control which she otherwise has not been able to have. Like sexual abuse, abortion can also be an issue of control. Gaining of control or loss of control.

Further, as I listened to the young lady being interviewed on TV in prime time news respond to the question of why she was there and her answer that we “have waited a long time for abortion to be legal and available” I wondered if she really knew what she was saying. Did she realise that she was saying that they had waited a long time for the right and freedom to legally kill their own child? Do those who say the word “abortion” realise that they are saying “death” “end” “terminate” “kill” “finish” the life of that new child? Their child. The child which is also 50% theirs?

Do those who work so hard for the legalisation, protection, freedom to have this right realise what it actually means? Because if we really do then Lord have Mercy on all of us. Society has demanded the “right” to kill defenceless life at whatever end of the spectrum.

## An Interview and after

Dear friends recently I was asked by a young student who is studying media studies to do an interview on my work at a local university (RMIT for those who live in Melbourne). I wasn’t worried about it I have now done many interviews’ on TV, radio etc. so the request did not worry me. (Thank you Claudia).

However, the outcome of the interview was surprising. The person (Claudia) who interviewed me said she received positive comments which is always good especially as that particular place has a strong pro-abortion voice. However, both the interviewer and I privately received some really good comments like “non-judgemental” “gentle” “understanding” A few days later I received a phone call from a young lady (Sonia \*) who had been listening to the Uni radio and listened to my interview right through. I don’t know how she found me but I suspect she searched for my book’s name (which I had mentioned) and later called me and asked to come and see me.

She seemed fearful and ashamed and worried that someone would know that she had come to me and most of all she was fearful because she is a Christian and her family are well known (yes I know of them) and they would be devastated if they knew what she had done.

We spoke for a time and I have left it with her to decide if she wants to come and see me. To call and we can proceed. However as I looked at her, I had a sense that there was more to her story than what she had told me. There was a sense of detachment from herself. Like she had stepped out of herself and felt safe out of herself.

As we talked a new sense of quiet anger emerged. Almost as if it had been simmering away and I wavered on whether to probe and begin to open some issues or to send her away to think about counselling for her. This is important because there needs to be co-operation from her and a sense of being secure and trusting me that I am able to help her.

I did ask her what made her decide to come and she said “some words you said in the interview, you said you don’t have to do it alone. Look for someone who can help you share the pain. Even me if you want to” that for her was an invitation to respond. And I am glad she did. She smiled through her glassy yes and yes I know I can help if she calls.

## Abortion and Relationships

*“Anne I was told that abortion reduces the mental health of women and that women do grieve for a few days, if at all, then get on with life because the difficulty which the pregnancy posed has been removed. Their husband, boyfriend won’t leave and the relationship is saved if the abortion is done” (Cas )*

Research and my counselling experience clearly show that this is not the case. Abortion is not a “quick” procedure and then a return to normal. It is a life changing event.

In the first instant it may appear the issues in question have been addressed and so on with life as before. However, in the silence of the conscience, rumination starts first quietly and later loud begins and with this rumination then a terrible disquiet and loss of peace.

Prior to the abortion the present difficulties were magnified most especially those related to the relationship with the child’s father. There were threats or even possible threats of abandonment together with fears about own life changing event (which is acknowledged) and even rumination about “how will I manage if he leaves me or if no one supports me or even if I lose my job.” These are very valid fears. Spousal/partner pressure is an important determinant in the ending of a pregnancy.

These are very real concerns expressed at a time when the girl/woman is very vulnerable. When the new and different hormones are coursing through her body and she needs comfort and rest rather than threat of abandonment.

These new hormones also at times make her temporarily ill (morning sickness or even all day sickness) which is endured when there is support, knowing that at the end there is a beautiful gift coming. But when there is threat of abandonment and the hormones have done their job then this woman is rendered extra vulnerable to pressure. Abortion then is grave to the stability of the relationship



# REDEEMING GRIEF

ABORTION AND ITS PAIN

ANNE R. LASTMAN

REVISED EDITION

FOREWORD BY HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP BARRY J. HICKEY

## NEW REVISED EDITION!

**REDEEMING GRIEF** is a reflection of over 17 years of counselling and study of abortion grief, which is experienced by some women who choose to undergo this elective procedure. These reflections are the result of listening to over 1500 personal stories and listening to the expressions used by the women as they speak about their decision to abort the life of their child. These reflections then attempt to reconstruct the meaning that this procedure has had for the aborting woman and how this one procedure has been the catalyst for life changes.

**REDEEMING GRIEF** looks at abortion trauma and grief from the spiritual and the psychological perspective, and its influences on the individuals involved and society. It is hoped that the language used is reader friendly and the concepts (both spiritual and psychological) are also reader friendly.

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and indeed has been reported as eroding the very fabric of the relationship

An unwanted pregnancy always tests relationships, even the very best and solid relationships.

Why would an unwanted pregnancy test a relationship especially when it seems that both male and female have agreed that an abortion is the answer? Or even when a woman is not quite sure about the pressure being put on her to end her pregnancy, the pregnancy of the person who is supposed to be loving her?

And herein begins the doubt. Yes, both may have decided that abortion is the answer, but always one of them is not quite fully convinced. Agreed to it. Yes. Convinced about it... no.

Post abortion, a relationship whether marriage, or otherwise, struggles much to be retained because at the deepest level both the male and the female know that something they did wounded and killed another wholly independent person, their child, and has in essence spoken, without words, a message of rejection of the other. What united them now slowly separates them.

Because abortion is always an intentional death experience the first emotion is guilt. It is the fleeing from the one who will make “me” uneasy about an action done. Guilt always speaks to “wrong” and the human being has an innate knowledge of this right and wrong. Irrespective of how unchurched, how unbelieving one is, there is the law which whispers “you have done wrong, you have hurt someone else.” This law then maintains its murmurings until it is attended to. Until...and slowly the relationship begins to unravel.

One of my clients said “he didn’t love me enough to stop me from going ahead with the abortion. He should have been strong for both of us. He knew I wasn’t strong and now I don’t want him he is not the man I want to be with” (Chloe).

Why would an abortion which is decided upon by both be an obstacle to their relationship? So much so that it often destroys what was an otherwise happy relationship? The sense of abandonment on the part of the woman and sense of rejection on part of male. And for him it is difficult because he feels that he must “support you whatever you decide” even if he does not want that decision. He feels he has to suppress his own desires and wishes because “it is her body and she has to carry it so she has final decision” (Tom).

This already speaks to me about compromise, but the wrong type of compromise. A compromise of “giving in” rather than discussion about possibilities and when there is wrong compromise from this builds a future on a challenged and flawed relationship. “He didn’t love me enough to be strong for both of us” (Terri).

A further struggle when there is an abortion within a relationship is the reality that always there will be a shadow between them and if there are other children within the relationship the other children will also be affected by the

abortion because of how the existing children of future children will be treated by the parents.

Abortion places a barrier or “fig leaves” around the parents who then are unable to be “normal” around their other children.

One client told me that with the two children she had prior to her abortion she felt no insecurity. She mothered “normally” but her following pregnancy, subsequent to her abortion, she was unable to leave her child alone for any time even when asleep because of her fear that her little girl would die in her sleep. This nearly drove her husband to insanity because of her anxiety over the child and her fears for the child’s welfare.

Indeed this behaviour placed a great strain on the marriage and could be traced to the abortion and her fear of impending punishment for this.

Again the heart spoke of pain even though the head had spoken reason for the abortion.

## Join Us in Prayer

Dear Anne and your readers,

As you know, our tenth “40 Days for Life” campaign commences on 24th September and the final day is 2nd November. Each day is from 7am to 7pm.

We invite you to witness peacefully, prayerfully at this so-called “fertility control clinic” 116-118 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne (Tram 75 from Flinders Street Station, stop 13).

We are absolutely convinced that we can only overcome this evil through prayer. We also witness so those helpless infants do not die alone, and to possibly assist some of those mothers in need.

We are inviting you to join us in prayer with Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop, the novena prayer (privately in your own home, prayer below) for the 9 days before – commencing on 15th September concluding 23rd September.

During this novena we will be asking St Mary of the Cross to intercede for us, to ask our Lord to grant the conversion of personnel working in the abortion industry, especially “our” clinic and the permanent closure of that dreadful place.

The opening of our 40DFL campaign will start with Mass at the end of the first day, 24th September, either at St Francis (cnr. Elizabeth and Lonsdale Street) or a Latin Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral side altar by Fr Glen Tattersall (your choice). Both start at 5.30pm. Afterwards, about 6.45pm, we will be having a very friendly family oriented get-together with finger food and pizzas at the Chisholm Library, 3rd floor Mitchell building, opposite St Francis entrance in Lonsdale Street.

May God bless each and every one of us, and thank you for your prayers.

*Fons Janssen, Co-ordinator, 0406 322 694*

[www.40daysforlife/melbourne.com.au](http://www.40daysforlife/melbourne.com.au)

# Letters

Dear Anne,

I am sure that the enclosed document will be of interest to you, it tells a story that deserves to be widespread. How many babies are aborted as the result of faulty medical advice?

Your recent contributions to AD2000 have been excellent. Keep up the good work. I know that you are working under difficulties but I am sure that your gallant sacrifice in this world will ensure you a high place in the next. I enclose a small donation to help you in your work.  
George S. (Vic)

*Dear George thank you for your kind words I appreciate your care. I will continue as long as the Lord permits. My health is OK at the moment its other issues that are not. Keep well....Anne*

Dear Anne,  
Congratulations! What an achievement! Broken Branches-100<sup>th</sup> issue. Please accept the enclosed help to begin the second hundred.  
God Bless your sensitive ministry.  
Fr John S. (Vic)

*Dear Father John, Thank you for your kind words and your ongoing support. I can only do this because people like you help me. So again thank you, I appreciate your care.  
Anne*

Dear Anne,

Please find enclosed a donation. I do pray for you every day and can understand how hard it must be for you to keep going.  
God bless your and your work  
Frances.

*Dear Frances, I thank you also, for your care for me and this work you have been with me a long time and together we keep going. Blessings on your life also.....Anne*

Congratulations Anne!  
Well done! 100 issues. Let's pray for another 100!

Jean W.  
*Thanks Jean. Glad you enjoy.*

Dear Anne,

Thank God for you and the work that you do. No matter how hard it is Our Lord knows it all. Yu are right-this world is so broken and it seems voices like yours are drowned out and at worst silenced. That is not our concern. Our Lord asks only that e try and never give up. Any "success" is all due to Him and it is all in His hands. I have had three Masses said for you. Recently someone did it for me so I am paying it forward as they say.  
God Bless  
Kathy H..... (Vic)

*Thank you darling Kathy for your \$ support and Masses and yes I will keep going as long as the lord wants me to.*

Dear Anne,

Thank you for your work dear, you have been soldiering on even though sometimes you don't sound too well. I hope that you begin to feel better as the weather begins to brighten. I have also felt the weather this year. Enclosed is a small donation to help you in your precious work.

Paul J (Vic)

*Dear Paul,*

*Thank you as always for your thoughtfulness I appreciate your care and the time you take to acknowledge my newsletter and work. God Bless  
Anne*

Dear Anne,

Congratulations on your 100<sup>th</sup> issue. What an amazing achievement. From little seeds big things grow. You have been that little seed which has sprouted into a beautiful tree. Please keep going I look forward to everything you write and read your newsletter from cover to cover as soon as it arrives.  
I make a cuppa tea and sit down and devour everything you write about. I also absolutely love your writings in AD 2000 you really are a hidden talent aren't you?

God Bless,  
Mary L.  
*Thanks Mary love you too. ☺*

## **March for the Babies – Please dear Friends support this.**

Join the March for the Babies on Saturday 11 October at 1pm at the Treasury Gardens, Melbourne. Don't be afraid to come because of what the protestors did last year – the police have committed to doing better this time and from what appeared on screen and by comments of those who were at WCF they (police) helped superbly.

After last year's fiasco, I wrote to Commissioner of Police and Minister for Police and relayed my disgust at the conduct of the constabulary and their lack of preparation and lack of support for the quiet group who were marching and giving voice to those who do not have a voice.... The babies.

Both the Commissioner of Police and Minister replied to my correspondence and assured me that more would be done this year. So with hope we expect more support and protection from them.

I'm sorry I again won't be able to attend because I will be overseas at a conference I really would like to be there. Last year I went with one of my "girls" and when we saw what was going on, that is, the attacks by protestors, we had to leave.

I saw her fear and I felt very threatened also, so it's important that we are there for one another. So I would encourage you if possible to attend this walk for the babies. Show them that they matter.

## **New Book**

And finally dear friends as I come to the end of this latest issue of newsletter I want to tell you that my new book is now nearly ready to go off to the printer. Just the final touches necessary, I so much hope that you will support this venture. It has taken about two years to write and much speaking and counselling of these victims.

Dear friends sexual abuse of children is as rampant as abortion and if we turn our eyes away because we are disgusted by what we see what we say is that they don't matter. The children hurt. We can do something if we know what we are looking for. This book is not about attacking. It's not about laying blame like royal commissions but this book is about something which hurts all and which we as a society, like what abortion does, don't want to see.

I have lost the friendship of dear friends as a result of my speaking about this, but the children hurt and then take that hurt into life, and self-wound, and at times even suicide. Addictions become norm. Wrong relationships are norm. Self-deprecation is normal.

I trust that you dear friends will support both me and this work by buying a copy or hundreds of copies ☺

I will have a flyer and information available by the next issue of newsletter.

Please continue to support my work, it has been really slow financially so I need your to help. I also need you to continue praying for me and those who come to me for help whether abortion matters or sexual abuse matters. Please pray for Christine, Chris, Susan, Marlene, Marilyn, Greg, Kerrie, Jess, Chloe, Barry, Amy, Leanne, (new) Melissa, (new) Yvonne, Joy, "Charlie" (new) and please pray for me too.

Till we meet again, love you all.



**Anne Lastman**

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## **Broken Branches – By email!**

Dear Friends,

Please email me at [anne@victimsofabortion.com.au](mailto:anne@victimsofabortion.com.au) to be added to the email list.

