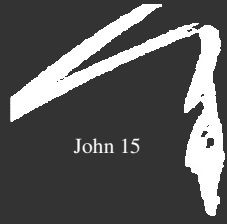


# BROKEN BRANCHES

Issue 70

June/July 2009



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

**This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to the loving memory of Rev. Fr. Des Jenkins, who entered eternal life on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2009. Rest in Peace dear friend.**

*Thank you dear and precious friend for your love and support over the many years of my doing this work. Now enjoy the company of our Saviour. Anne.*

## Thank You

*From Jenny.*

Thank you to those who read “Please Hear What I am Saying” in Broken Branches issue 69.

Anne has since told me many people have spoken to her about 'my story' and that many people are praying for me and offering open hearts and love for me. And there were even those people who took the time to write to me as an offer of support (you know who you are - I thank you).

I can only say to you all - Thank you for Hearing me. I can feel your prayers and care. It's so important to know that you are there for me.

Yet, I am terribly humbled by your kindness. Do I deserve it? Do believe that my journey towards the healing of my spirit and heart would have been impossible without Anne by my side. I was truly at the end when Anne found me; for in my mind and spirit - my life was over. But, Anne heard me, and 15 months later she still hears my pain - a pain no-one else could hear or ever cared to listen to.

Anne has struggled and battled with me to keep me going, to keep me believing that my life could be different. She has heard the depth of my grief. She has fought to keep me going when I truly

believed I could no longer go on. Time again, she has stood right by me and watched as I fall down into the hole of never ending darkness. Anne has then picked up the pieces - of me - and gently taken the shattered me back out of the hole.

Now, together Anne and I are beginning to win. Just like Anne believed I could! When I fall I don't fall as far. The darkness does not remain like it did. It is no longer a never ending black journey. Yet, I still stumble.

Each day now, I find a little light worth living for. Some days I even find a little joy. Then there are even brief moments where the light shines! I get all excited when it shines. But I remain very very scared. For I question - How can I trust? What if my world falls apart again? What if I fall apart again? Just like it always does. Just like I always do. I am still on the journey back.

And, I thank you all so very much for being there with me. I am so grateful that you can hear me with such kind loving open hearts. I'm healing but not yet healed, Broken, but no longer shattered. I'm sad, but not longer alone.

Jenny.

*Thank you darling Jenny, I need to say that whilst I have crawled into the mire with Jenny and at times together we sat there, she herself is the heroine. She herself has done so much work. She has not balked at moments and times which were very painful.*

*This is the programme I work with, that we deal with all areas of pain because otherwise the temptation will always be there, in times of difficulties, to begin to believe that healing was only temporary. That suffering is “my punishment from God” etc. God doesn't punish in a hate filled manner. Anne*

## Heather's story

My name is Heather I am in my 50's and I have seven children. Four living and three in heaven.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ P/C \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_ I *would/would not* like to be on your mailing list.

Send to:

**Victims of Abortion, National Office**

PO Box 6094, Vermont South, Vic, 3133, Australia.

Email: [annevoa@bigpond.net.au](mailto:annevoa@bigpond.net.au)

The first time I became pregnant I was seventeen years of age and this pregnancy ended in miscarriage then at eighteen I became pregnant again. I tried to hide my pregnancy from my mother for as long as possible. When she did find out I was already about 20 weeks pregnant and I didn't care because I thought it was too late for her to do anything about it but I was wrong. My mother took me to a local GP and between them they arranged for me to have an abortion, by this time I was 22 weeks pregnant when I had abortion.

From the time my mother found out I was pregnant to the day I had to abortion I would cry every night in bed, in the shower, and anywhere I was alone. The night before the abortion lay in bed and didn't sleep all night. I just lay there with my hands over my tummy holding on to my babies. I didn't want to have an abortion but my mother told me that I had to have one or I would have to move out of home.

I had no where to go and no money and no one I could turn to so I did. But after the abortion I was told to move out anyway. So I really was tricked into it.

Ever since the abortion I have lived with the feelings of shame, guilt, and have thought of myself as a murderer but one of the worst feelings I have had is the feeling of being abandoned and rejected by my own mother.

Two months after the abortion it all became too much and I tried to end it all. Then about 5-6 weeks after that I did a runner. This was on the day my babies would have been due. Yes I say babies because it was twins that were aborted. (I found this out later).

There is one other thing I would like to mention, I told the abortionist I did not want to go through with it, just as he was about to give me the injection to put me to sleep, but he would not listen to me and this has always been difficult for me to deal with. You may say to yourself she was eighteen why listen to her mother but you have to understand that back in those days the legal age was 21 and not 18.

The abortion is not the only thing I have had to deal with over the years. My life began to change forever when I was about 8 years old when I began to be sexually abused by four members of my family

This life of abuse happened both in the family home, and one uncle would also abuse me at other places including church. This last part about the Church upsets me lot. It's also difficult to talk about my aunty abusing because we don't expect aunts to abuse. The sexual abuse in the family went on for about 6 years.

I thought that my life would be so much happier and better when I

married but I was wrong. My first baby was born very prematurely and the doctor said that this was probably due to the abortion.

When my new baby was 6 months old I experienced another sexual abuse, this time by an older member of my family. On a visit to his home (with my baby and husband) and while my husband had gone to shops for supplies, he raped me. I felt so sick and dirty.

When we went home I told my husband and together we went to tell my mother that I had been raped by a member of her family she called me a liar and a trouble making b..... She also called me a filthy name. My father stood by and listened and didn't say anything and my husband too. I cry a lot about all this abuse I have gone through and at times feel like I'm living a shattered life.

I have good days and bad days

I just wish I could wash away all my memories.

I have good days also where I try and think of good things in my life like my own children and grandchildren.

Until I started seeing Anne I would only think about the horrible bad things but now I try and focus on some of the positives in my life because there have been some nice things in my life. My children bring me happiness and my grandchildren are a joy to me. I am so lucky to have them

I was also attacked and sexually abused by two teenagers in my own home about 12 years ago and this resulted in some physical injury. This time I went to police and the boys got charged and all they got was a warning and good behaviour bond (what a waste of time!)

Also in Nov 2007 when I was going on my daily walk I again was raped (outside a church). I reported this to the police but the person responsible has not been found.

As a result of this I began reliving everything from my past. All these things which have happened to me resulted in me turning my back on God and the church. I used to continually say "God why me, why have you let this happen to me?"

But I have to say that I have also met a very nice priest who has helped me so much and he referred me to Anne and we have done a lot of work together over the past year.

Importantly we have laid the children to rest, and have given each

of them a name and a resting place. They are not lost and alone anymore. I have had made for them a beautiful plaque with their name on it. They won't be forgotten now.

I am slowly trying to return to the Church and God and I try and no longer blame God for what's happen to me instead I believe that what happened to me was a result of evil working in those who did the wrong things to me. God would not want that to happen to me.

I would love to learn how to forgive, mostly for my own peace of mind, but I don't know how, or if I can do this yet, and I don't think I am strong enough at this point to be able to do it. I hope that one day I will be able to ask the Lord to forgive them, and also for me to be able to forgive so that I can leave the past behind. For now I keep going and I keep seeing Anne and I hope one day that I can feel really good about myself.

*Thank you Heather. For the sake prudence I have edited the story. Names have been removed and actions modified. However, the gist of the story is exactly as written by her...Anne*

## Sexual Abuse

What I want you dear reader to see in Heather's story is the damage and wounds that sexual abuse of children can inflict. Also it's important to see that the protective boundaries which a child develops with the help of parents and loved ones are usually absent where sexual abuse is present and this loss of boundaries and "open doorways" leaves open the child and then adult to further abuse and in and including abortion/s. At times multiple abortions in the hope of attracting attention to deeper pain. Its almost like an unseen sign saying beat me I am fragile.

That Heather's life has been filled with all manner of abuse is not surprising. It would be surprising if this were not so. That her mother did not support or protect or believe her, left her vulnerable and unprotected and she "wore" an invisible sign speaking of her vulnerability, of her being abandoned by everyone thus making her a wandering and alone soul.

Sexual abuse is as destructive as abortion and more endemic abortion. It has been reported that 1 in 3 females are sexually abused before the age of 18 and 1 in 6-8 males are likewise abused. This is a monstrous degree of abuse in our society.

This type of abuse sets up the child for a life of suffering. Sexual abuse, especially by supposedly loved members of family (intrafamilial), is so much more destructive because family is the place where safety and love, nurturing, protection are expected to be found. Sexual abuse of a child by family member is a violation of that right order of love and protection by family. It is a violation of all that is expected for healthy maturation.

Intrafamilial sexual abuse imprints into the psyche of the child a pattern for trauma. Trauma is any experience which overwhelms an individual's (or child's) coping skills thus leaving the person both psychologically and spiritually fragile and depleted. Trauma always debilitates its victim rendering them weakened and vulnerable.

Once embedded into the psyche of the child, a traumatic event (like sexual abuse) renders the child and later the adult with a deficit and reduced capacity for making sense of and dealing with traumatic experiences because "normal development" is frozen at the point of abuse. Normal development has been interrupted and never resumed.

Sexual abuse of the incest variety is more terrifying for a child than anything else because it is the introduction of something so alien and terrifying that the child's natural design is thwarted and never the same again. There is a betrayed trust and from this betrayed trust, flowing in an outward flow, betrayal of trust towards all life.

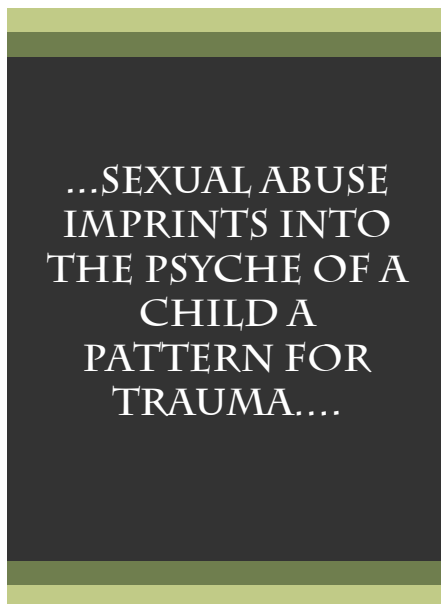
For the sexual abuse victim this loss of trust impacts in a manner indescribable because for the child being abused, it is difficult to understand (not cognitively developed yet) how a loved member of the family, someone who is loved, trusted and respected could do such a "yuk" thing to her and cause her pain and fear.

The victim of sexual abuse cannot understand and then begins to blame herself. She/he begins to think that maybe she has done something bad which has led to such an event happening to her. It is simply too much and the resulting fracture of the victim's psyche and experience often leads to a debilitating post-traumatic stress disorder that affects every domain of the victim's functioning, and lasts for years and

years, even long after the abuse has stopped.

Please allow me to explain, through imagery, the result of a psychic disarranged by sexual abuse. It is going to be a trip through a traumatogenically constructed, psychological hell in which the development and experiences of self are distorted, and terrifying flashbacks unexpectedly pop up from out of nowhere. The wounded one lurches from one emotional shock to another in an atmosphere of darkness and alone ness, an atmosphere punctuated by memories and distortions which a have monstrous quality about them.

When a child or young person is being abused, the psychological shock is so enormous that the "normal self" cannot understand or make sense of what is happening to it. The child's emotional memory is flooded with information which is alien to it, and interferes with verbals. In an attempt to cope or even deal with the overwhelming hyper-stimulation, and flooding with this new information, and sense of fear and betrayal embedded in sexual abuse and its attendant trauma, the self (or ego) can split off using



the psychological mechanism known as dissociation. The workings of this self protective mechanism comes into play when there is a need to cope with something out of the ordinary and the coping skills are not available to do so.

Disassociation is only meant to be a temporary coping mechanism and where over utilised great dangers are possible. For the victim of child or adolescent sexual abuse, dissociation is an exponentially more dramatic process, one that serves as both a blessing and maybe even a curse. Blessing because of the temporary protection of the self (by removal of oneself from the cause of the trauma-abuse) but curse because there is introduced into the child a method of alienation from "self" and learning how to escape and never learning how to deal with pain.

This type of escape (often to a self designed happy place) of a victim of sexual abuse can, without a lot of help, condemn the victim to a state of lifelong unreality. To an existence of perpetual fear, seething anger, rage, and a type of grief which can at best be termed complicated or at worst indescribable. This "happy place" of illusion is the place "where the people don't hurt children and where the pleasantness is the normal. Where people are good." (Michele)

Replacing the "safe place" of childhood, which should be the norm, with a new 'safe place' where the person is able to explore, rest, and meander backwards and forwards to the traumatic experience but feel utterly "safe" from this vantage point is the role of the counsellor. Safety in a place where there has never been safety. So this time as the journeying back to the trauma takes place the person is accompanied by someone (counsellor) who is "trusted". The therapeutic alliance must be established before the going back can be attempted. The trust between counsellor and counselee must be firmly established otherwise what will result is that the traumatised one will be wounded again and trust even less. Further, the therapist and counselee must be in harmony with one another so that counselee is able to rebuild "trust" which was lost as a result of the sexual abuse.

A strong therapeutic relationship must exist before the journey is even attempted. The environment must be established where there is not even a slim chance that the therapeutic relationship is false or even risky.

The child who has developed a "safe place" to retreat to when around the abuser or when the abuse was happening will find it difficult to completely return to reality even when danger has been removed. The life of this child has been lived in a dimension where all is well within that fantasy world. No hurts or harm is ever done in that 'safe place'. It is a place of safety. This child will not easily relinquish this existence to return to an existence in which the memories are shocking and painful.

Assisting someone traumatised by sexual abuse or abuse must include acknowledging past realities in all their ugliness and then assisting the person to see that even present fears, behaviours difficulties, sorrow can be traced to that past trauma of abuse. It is important to help the individual to see that all actions, beliefs, about self, absence of self worth have been coloured by the existence of that trauma and pain and its attendant after-effects.

Trauma occurs when internal and external resources of the individual are insufficient to cope with an event of a magnitude outside of the individual's knowledge and understanding. Sexual

abuse of a child is so much outside of the "normal range" of not only the child, but also of general humanity, that suppression becomes a necessity in order to safeguard society as well as the individual well being.

Because we understand the importance of attachment for the wellbeing of the human person, it is important to begin by re establishing a good "attachment" with therapist. A good therapeutic alliance is important to the work of healing of wounded ness of spirit. We understand the importance of attachments to safe place/person because even children who have been abused have a need to firmly attach even if it is to the abuser (these are distorted attachment bonds) and these attachments have to be helped to be uncoiled and straightened and more secure attachments be formed if healing is to have any effect.

Both trauma and grief and losses are so alien to the human person that they cause or create disintegration or disorganisation of all the domains of the human person. However, where a "loss" is expected or anticipated and prepared for, or even considered as "normal," then the individual's internal domains are not necessarily overly challenged. However, where LOSS is sudden, violent, unexpected (violations) then the disruptions within the domains may be profound.

Because the trauma of sexual abuse and its "unexpected ness" nature, it impels the brain to process the event/s quickly and in a state of hyper arousal (high arousal) and confusion and without the help of logic and verbalizing pathways which are either not available or bypassed. Instead, the sexual abuse/s is encrypted by the child according to the child's minimal and confused capabilities but which later serve to influence the behaviour of the adult survivor (person) as non-verbal, highly disorganized feelings, anxieties, recurring nightmares, flashbacks, and sometimes dangerous and self defeating behaviours. *And* emotional stuntedness.

Emotional stuntedness then results in serial failures of relationships and thus more losses, because the person is looking for someone to fulfil the need, rather than a mature or "real" relationship. An emotionally stunted individual whose emotionality is encrypted as very young cannot know how to engage in an adult emotional relationship. Sexuality and its understanding is still undeveloped and still instinctual. The desires of the individual's spouse (who is not emotionally stunted) may be rebuffed or not even understood, not because of lack of desire but because of immaturity in understanding the nature of the intimacy inherent in sexuality. Again, this is because natural and ongoing maturing has seized at the time of the abuse. Somatic development has proceeded but psychological development was violently seized at the time of the first episode of abuse.

The losses experienced by a child who has been sexually abused are many. Beginning with the loss of trust, loss of childhood, loss of opportunity for development, loss of innocence, loss of joy in life, loss of opportunity and learning the how of forming friendships, loss of identity and overriding all these losses is the loss of sense of meaning leading to hopelessness.

This hopelessness is a spiritual wound leading to the greatest fear, that even God has made a mistake with "me" and has abandoned "me" Abandonment is a core life experience. It is an inner experience. Its presence prevents and perverts "connection" or possibility of healthy, loving bonding to form.

A most frightening type of abandonment is the abandonment by parent or parents of children through abuse and sexual abuse. This abandonment presents the child with a loss of unimaginable dimensions. Psychological, spiritual and abandonment by sexual abuse renders the world of the child in this situation as very destructive, painful and frightening.

Not only is the child being abused but with this also is accompanied by the sense of not belonging to the family, of being an alien and outsider and when this belief is taken on board and accepted then all violations become possible for this child because there is no one to protect her not even she herself.

Abandonment also comes in the form of a parent (usually a mother) not believing the child if the child dares to tell someone about the abuse, and this closes all doors of belonging and possible help and introduces an alone ness of unimaginable dimensions.

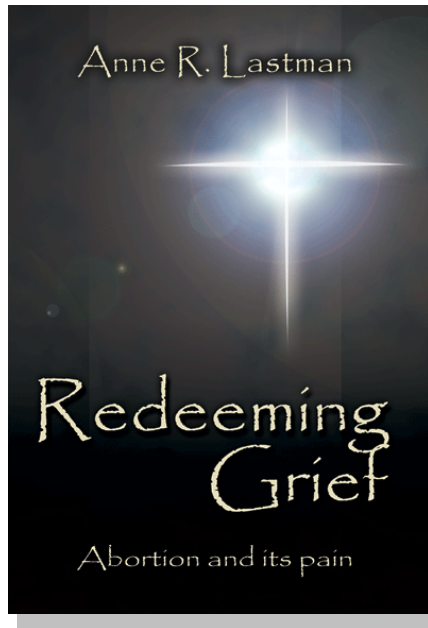
Dear friends, we have worked very hard over the last 14 years together to bring to attention the effects of abortion on women, men and society, the destructiveness of abortion. Today we are beginning to really see that what is considered a "minor procedure" is indeed not a minor procedure but a death not only of the infant but all including society.

It is also important to begin to raise awareness of the damage which sexual abuse does, especially when abuse is of a child who has not the cognitive ability or maturity to process such an action.

Today it seems that we do talk about sexual abuse of children but only when it refers to the church. Many reasons for this including dollars.

However, I believe that when it comes to sexual abuse of children the largest percentage is committed within the child's home environment (familial and friends) and because it happens in the home environment it remains taboo. Just as abortion was a taboo subject a short time ago.

I have recently read a book by a Doctor of Psychology, a specialist on Trauma, and whose workshop I attended here in Melbourne, that 1 in 3 females experience sexual molestation before the age of 18 and 1 in 6-8 males will also experiences the same type of abuse before



**Redeeming Grief** is a reflection of 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 1000 personal stories and listening to the expressions used by the women as they spoke 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. 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.

**AUD\$29.95 (inc GST)**

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To order your copy of Redeeming Grief, please complete this order form, detach, and send with Cash, Cheque or Money Order to:

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they are 18 years of age. Imagine the enormity of the problem. And I am not surprised that abortion has become endemic, if sexuality is so abused, if children are so abused, why should we be surprised that children will be killed in the womb?

As pro lifers we have to take this scourge on board and do something about it, because not only does this kind of abuse lead to abortions and at times multiple abortions (I have seen someone with 11 abortions and sexual abuse as a child; another with 5 abortions and sexual abuse; another 8 abortions and sexual abuse; and I have also seen many with two abortion and sexual abuse) but sexual abuse *kills* just as much as abortion does. Sexual abuse kills the child's life as designed by God, just as surely as abortion kills the infant. Sexual abuse kills at many levels, and many times also kills literally through suicide. Sexual abuse kills via the girl/woman's own self destructive mechanisms of which several are prostitution, and even drugs and life on streets.

One of my former clients said "it was taken from me for years by my father, now at least I get paid for it" Can you hear the pain in those words? Can you hear the self loathing?

I have printed Heather's story so that you could see how sexual abuse sets up a child for all manner of suffering both as a child and as an adult. The story is not meant to be a voyeuristic journey, but a sense of what is out there. The suffering which is present in our society.

I am of the opinion that sexual abuse of children is on the rise and many reasons can be posited for this from break up of families, to disenchantment with life, promiscuity, pornography at all levels of growth, a sexuality which is treated as recreational activity, just an instinct and nothing more, blatant/explicit sexual imagery on all forms of media, and so on.

Children have become the scapegoats of a society whose morals have decayed. Where a child escapes the human abattoir (abortion clinic) it then is forced to endure a lifetime of suffering. So please we need to begin to open our eyes and say "no more sexual abuse or emotional abuse of children". Between this kind of abuse and abortion the future (if any) is one which will be filled with pain.

## ***Who Will Cry***

A Poem by Heather.

Who will cry for the little girl lost and all alone?  
Who will cry for the little girl abandoned without her own?  
Who will cry for the little girl as she cries herself to sleep?  
Who will cry for the little girl inside the woman?  
Who will cry for the little girl who hurts with so much pain?  
Who will cry for the little girl who has died and died again?  
Who will cry for the little girl, the little girl she tried to be?  
Who will cry for the little girl who cries inside of me?

*I will cry for that little girl inside of me.*

## **Human Abattoir**

*In brief this word means "slaughterhouse."* How apt is this word for an abortion clinic.

A slaughterhouse is the place where animals are slaughtered and prepared for human consumption. A human slaughterhouse (or abortion clinic) is a place where human infants are killed and at times disposed of, for creams, and body parts sold for large amounts of money.

Why this topic and this word slaughterhouse? Because dear friends during the past week I have had to argue with a young pro abortion Miss that abortion clinics are not pro woman but are in fact anti woman. I have had to try and change a young Miss's mind who believes how wonderful it is that we now have clean, sterile, places where "mothers who don't want to be mothers can terminate their pregnancy safely" Even the language used is hypocritical. "Mothers." "Terminate safely?" Safe for whom?

This young Miss (Janet, 23 yrs) acknowledged that being pregnant means being with child and that it is a child that is being killed, but "that doesn't matter, it's the woman's choice. Always her choice and no one else's. So it's good that we have clean sterile conditions in abortion clinics with doctors to terminate pregnancies" She said coolly.

"OH!! You don't mean medical clinics surely" (says me, by now tongue firmly in cheek) "you must mean human abattoirs, don't you?" And the phone slammed down and I am still recovering my hearing. End of phone call.

Dear friends I don't know if I changed her mind (suspect not) But I couldn't let it pass and her arrogance was annoying.

## **Prayer to our Heavenly Father, to make abortions cease.**

*Heavenly Father, dearest Abba, Creator of all,*

*We pray that all who promote abortion may receive, through our prayers, the light of truth, and that those considering abortion will find loving helpers, guiding them to be willing to receive the gift of life. For those who have had an abortion we ask that you grant them in their remorse, Your healing Blessing of peace.*

*Amen*

*Sr. Philippa.*

Thank you dear Sr. Philippa, beautiful.

**...CHILDREN HAVE BECOME SCAPEGOATS OF SOCIETY...**

# Letters

Dear Anne,

*I usually read your newsletter and like what I read and then pass it on to other friends who also read it and pass it on But this time I feel I have to write and express how I feel about your latest issue. Most especially the story written by "Jenny" What an amazing woman!!*

*You must be so happy with your work and seeing the outcome. Please tell Jenny that she is an amazing woman and I am pleased and happy to read her story. I know that everything will be alright for her.*

*God Bless you dear Anne and keep doing whatever it is you do.*

*Mavis K.*

Dear Anne,

*I have just finished reading Broken Branches passed on by Errol. Jenny's story struck me. It has been such a desolate life for her.*

*Within the first two paragraphs it came to mind from Where the two criminals hang with Jesus The knowing that he was being punished for his sin, said to Jesus "Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom" Jesus replied "I tell you the truth this day you will be with me in paradise."*

*He was accepted immediately by Jesus when he repented. He was loved unconditionally by God and Jesus died for that sin. So it is with Jenny.*

*God identifies with us, He sent his son to be killed, he knows the grief and through his son we are healed.*

*What we need to understand is God Convicts:*

*Let's us know when we have done wrong and loves us anyway, with his help we turn around.*

*Satan Condemns: Makes us feel guilty so we are forever living in his world continually thank him. One way I have learned to turn this around is when the guilt starts I start Thanking God for that time and the lessons I have learned. I whenever the condemnations starts I have spent entire days praising and thanking God, gradually Satan gives up because we are no longer living in his world.*

*I too have aborted two babies. However it was due to contraception which I learned made my womb uninhabitable to my babies. The first was aborted on the pill. (I carried the placenta full term along with my second child). The second beautiful baby I held in the palm of my hand after he aborted he was 10 - 12 weeks old because he was unable to attach to the womb due to having an IUD, Copper 7. I then felt God's audible conviction "contraception kills." I do not have enough time to go into all the details.*

*I am also very blessed to have had 6 beautiful children as well. However I have lived 52 years (I am 56 now) in fear and bondage with emotional and mental abuse and in the past year have had God's greatest blessings. I have also attended "The Healing Rooms of Australia" here in Adelaide and had prayer every couple of weeks God has done some amazing*

*work through his son Jesus. I praise him for his goodness.*

*May God's love come down upon you and wrap you up in his perfect peace and love. May his light shine out and may all who come to you see and feel his awesome love. May the death of his son Jesus whom he sent to be killed for our sins be understood in the fullest in those who continue to be condemned. I seal this prayer in Jesus name Amen.*

*God's Many Blessings*

*Alison*

Dear Anne,

*Thank you, to read the poem and to realize that God takes our small plants and lets them grow encourages me in a difficult time. God bless you and your family. May the eternal light of Easter be with you.*

*Love Angy*

Dear Anne,

*Another wonderful issue of "broken Branches."*

*Jenny's article should be compulsory reading for all those who think abortion is a commodity of "whims and fancy"*

*Please keep swimming against the tide!*

*A donation is enclosed to help with your life saving ministry.*

*God Bless*

*Errol D.*

*S.A.*

*Thank you dear Errol for your ongoing and constant support and words of encouragement. I appreciate your care very much. Anne*

Dear Anne,

*Issue 69 one of the most powerful issues of your newsletter.*

*Well done and keep going.*

*Susan D.*

*NSW.*

Dear Anne,

*Jenny's front page story Apr/May issue of Broken Branches was a really good witness to the 'modern (feminist) woman.' I feel this story should be published 'out there' in a secular publication. One can just imagine how many women/girls/families are living in denial/pain due to 'the secret.'*

*I enclose a donation.*

*One in Spirit,*

*Monica.*

*Dear Friends the last issue brought a huge response to Jenny's story. Thank you for taking the time to share with me and her your thought. I will pass on to Jenny your comments.*

*Anne.*

Dear friends, as I come to the end of this issue of the newsletter I wish to say thank you to those who contacted "Jenny" (via me) and those who have appreciated her sharing of her feelings. I know how much she has appreciated your care. I think it's important that you hear the pain directly from a wounded one but also that we do work hard and often there is much success.

Between the Lord, my girl and myself we do some tough work, but marvellous work too.

Thank you for your support of me also, this is why I don't charge because the work is slow and it takes a long time and I don't want to lose someone or she leaves because she can't afford to keep coming.

I also want to have the freedom to be able to speak about healing of her heart and spirit and to do this I have to speak about God and having spoken about God, how do I then charge a fee? Not possible. So thank you for your support.

During these financially difficult times I would especially appreciate your care for me, this work and the lives and hearts of the girls. Together I hope that we can do something for the sexual abuse issue also. The pain experienced by these victims is horrific and I would like to help even in this, together with the abortion pain.

Dear Friends this week I had several calls asking where my book can be bought, so herewith is a list of some places and their numbers.

John XXIII Bookshop... .03 95782706  
Freedom Publishing..... 03 9326 5757  
Hampton Marian Centre..... 03 95970333  
Central Catholic Bookshop 03 9639 0844  
Divine Grace Publications (new place) 0408 321 013 (Inaam) or  
Martina on 0433 449 632. Please buy millions!!! Yeah!!!

Please continue to keep this work in your heart and prayers and continue to pray for Amanda T, Julie, Suzie, Heather, John, Jenny, Maria (Rome) Mel, Rula, Stephanie, Caroline, Gloria, Kim, Gabby, Ronnie Sophie, Paul, Michael, Antoine, Andrea (new) Gayle, Maddie (new) Paula (new) Derek,(new) Anna (new) Erica (new) Luci (new).

I have also been asked to advertise a fabulous event which will help all pro life initiatives. If you live in Victoria and would like to assist or attend a "Dinner for Life", see Below.

## DINNER FOR LIFE

JUNE 12, 2009

Keynote Speaker: Mike Willesee

Contact Phyllis Restall @ Australian  
Family Association on (03) 9326 5757.

Tickets \$75.00 Adults  
and \$50 Students.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO  
TOWARDS EFFORTS TO  
DEFEND LIFE!

Dear friends it's a night of fun and the cause as you know is the best on earth. Life!

*And guess what? We'll get to meet!*



**Anne Lastman**

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## BROKEN BRANCHES · BY EMAIL!



Dear Friends,

In an effort to help reduce the costs and time put into preparing each newsletter, I am now able to email it out to you in Adobe Acrobat format (.PDF). So if you would prefer to receive Broken Branches electronically, please email me at [annevoa@bigpond.net.au](mailto:annevoa@bigpond.net.au) with a request to be added to the email list.