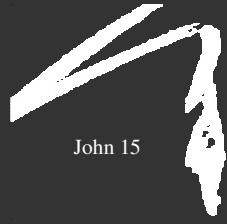


BROKEN BRANCHES

Issue 83

Aug/Sept 2011



John 15

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

What's happened?

Today I am really angry and upset. . As I write this newsletter I feel a sense of anger rising and almost hopelessness.

Last night I saw on TV the news of the funeral of the young mum of 3 children who was stabbed to death a week ago by a 14 year old as she ran to confront him and his mates about their egg splattering episode over her house. She ran to confront a 14 year old and his mates and she was stabbed to death. A 14 year old stabbed to death a young woman.

And my anger continued to rise. Why are 14 year olds carrying knives in pockets and using them to kill? What kind of society have we developed that young kids carry knives as weapons and use them indiscriminately? Why was this young boy (not even a full teenager yet) needing to carry a knife?

And my anger increased further. Where have we, as a generation gone wrong? Was it the past forty years of lunacy which saw discipline fly out of the door?

Was it parents both going to work and leaving young children almost from birth and having no one to teach them the right and wrong? Was it parents too blasé about child rearing so that the child was not raised up but “dragged up?”

Was it governments getting too involved in the running of households? Was it the lunatic fringe in the world of psychology or sometime known as “do gooders” who interfered in the raising of children and putting the fear of Big Brother into the hearts and minds of parents, so that parents no longer knew how to discipline their own children? Or worse still were too afraid to do so?

Were these same “advisors” who removed all manner of discipline from schools and homes so that children no longer know how to behave? Was it those same advisors who advised so much that all advice is now laissez faire? Or nonexistent?

What's happened to us that a 14 year old carrying a knife in his pocket is able to stab a mother to death and rob her three children of “mum?” What is he doing carrying a weapon in his pocket? Why need he have a weapon? Unless he meant to use?

What lunacy has overtaken our society that children, and he is still a young child just barely a teenager, can stab intentionally and adult woman? What anger is there in that young boy (14 years old) which made him take out that knife and use it so deftly that it did not injure but killed?

I am angry because of not only this incidence but of the many other incidences of very young people just barely out of childhood, all round the world attacking with weapons. Our suburbs are not meant to be war zones but places of rest and family, and community and not war zones. What changed these suburbs all around the world that they now have become places of terror for all? What's happening that such young people need to do this? Where is their knowing how to be human?

And always we go back to the generation which has decreed that to terminate the life of a child is a “right” and legal and for the parents and a “good” and if this is so, are the children turning back in rage on parents? Just anywhere and everywhere expression of their lack of morality, their lack of empathy, their lack of social skills their lack of knowledge of boundaries which indicates for them how far to go and no more.

What's happened to the teaching of young children right and wrong? What's happened to young people that there is no respect not only for themselves but for elders and others? What's happened to the young people hearing and listening to the voice of authority and being obedient to that voice? What happened to young people recognising the sound of pain and stopping from further inflicting of pain? What happened?

Not only are children now being aborted ad nauseum and in numbers too large to even contemplate or begin to visualise (what does 40,000,000 look like?) , but those who are allowed to be born turn into something unrecognisable? What happened?

This young person who murdered a young mum, how is he going to live the rest of his life having killed a “mum?” and the young

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daughter of the mum, how is she going to live and make sense of the rest of her life seeing her mother die in her father's arms? And this mum's sons, the same age as the perpetrator, how are they going to process the violent death of their mother by someone their own age? Will the sense of revenge ever cross their minds?

And the husband of this woman, what about him? One moment they were watching television together eating and talking as a family and the next his wife is dying in his arms, stabbed to death by a young boy. What's happened? And what about the rest of the family and neighbours and friends of this woman? What about them? One moment she is there in their midst the next she is dead? How can that happen in a quiet suburb?

What lunacy has overcome our society? What abandonment have we brought upon ourselves?

We have asked God to stay out of our bedrooms, conceptions, our lives, our constitutions, rules, governments, schools and now we have this? Has it been worth it?

I am sad and angry and filled with other emotions which I cannot even name, because I battle daily to restore peace to hearts and minds of wounded people and it just seems to continue worse than before.. If it isn't a young person out for the evening with friends and ending up dead (knifed) because of being in the wrong place at the wrong time then it's a young mum who is confronting an egg thrower who is killed.

What lunacy has befallen our society? What's happened?

Violence, Abortion & Society

By its very nature abortion is a violent act which can only be paralleled with the type of violence used for sacrifice and maybe even genocide.

Episodes of societal violence have increased parallel to abortion and it would appear that there is an increase, violence against those who are for life and their belief that a human being has a right to its life. Pro lifers may now not have their beliefs without being attacked by the anti lifers. Violence is best understood as the "fruit" of the industry of violence and the nature of its work. It cannot be seen as anything else.

The systematic condoned violence of the "trade", known as abortion which is really the death of in utero fetuses, innocents, is now carried out unhindered and with the law to protect it every moment of every working day of the year. Abortion can now

boast that it has the law on its side and it may be carried out without impunity. This now legal violence is a malignant type of violence because it is carried out openly and in approved and sanitized conditions.

The relationship between abortion and violence share many similarities and is strong. Both populations afflict children, women, men, family and society. Abortion is certainly the ultimate form of violence against children, it simply it terminates their life. It is violence against women because women who acquiesce to an abortion develop malignant syndromes and such anguish of heart that never again will their life be the same. It is violence against men because either willingly or unwillingly the male in acceding and conceding to have his child killed or actually participating in the killing of another's child, also loses his own sense of maleness His own masculinity is deeply wounded and it is violence against the family unit, the "Pearl of great price" which has been designed, by God, for the enhancement and wellbeing of the human creation.

Looking at the meteoric rise in abortion over the past 30 years it would be easy to suggest that abortion is the only culprit leading to this miasma of suffering, and this culture of death, and it would be easy to say that its only one of the many other new fixtures within society. Yes it would be easy to say this, but we can surely say without hesitation that abortion **is the main one** because of the change of thought of woman and man and society in general. the change leading to the belief that abortion is the "right" of every woman because it has the power to enhance her life. This is a lie and the violence done with this lie is of gargantuan proportion.

Abortion is a violence done to woman because a change in her psychology has been deftly achieved. From nurturing and defending her child to a rejection of her child. A forgetting of her child. We are reminded here of Isaiah 49: 15, words said by God in a tone of almost in disbelief that it would be impossible for a woman to forget the child of her womb, and yet here it is. A refusal to share her body with the child. A refusal to give hospitality to her infant. This is not only a psychological violence but also more importantly a spiritual violence leading to the change of the original design of the creature of God. His beautiful creation called "Woman."

For the woman, the violence done to her design is disastrous because it creates in her a new and flawed understanding of her being. The subtle corruption of her feminine being can only lead to a self created vacuum, a lifeless (or infant less) model of her original feminine nature. It is this corruption which then leads to the radical feminism of our day. This type of feminism is not

“feminine” but hybrid, devoid of any of the original feminine qualities, which were meant to be the anchor and safety of society. Indeed this abortive society is slowly attempting to remodel “mother” from the “nurturer” the “carer” the “love dispenser” into the “commercialized” mother whose fulfillment must be found and maintained through her value as a commercial asset. This systematic deconstruction and transformation has been possible courtesy of a society experiencing a moral malaise and overcome by apathy, and underpinned by guilt. The deconstruction of a system requires tenacious adherents and indeed radical feminism has many of these.

Abortion is violence not only of the physical but also of the emotional, because abortion means humiliation, failure, disintegration and silence and aloneness. This not only by those participating in the death of the in utero child but by the society which stands by and enables the norms irrespective of the right or wrong . Abortion can only continue because of the ensured

silence and compliance by the existing population.. And indeed as I have said on many occasions abortion is called for by those who have themselves been allowed to live. No person who has died is calling for abortion; it is only those who are permitted to live that have demanded this outcome. Their “right” to life was protected and respected, that of others is not.

Abortion is violence at its most grotesque because it assaults that mysterious instinct called “mother love” and nullifies its influence towards goodness. The assault on the mother instinct is clearly visible with post abortive grief prone individuals especially in the mother’s relationships with other existing children and future children. Future children especially suffer because of bonding difficulties. And present children suffer because of guilt felt. Woman was not

designed to take her child to die but to protect her offspring, the child of her womb.

Her design was to protect at all cost. The turning in on self, through self wounding is also apparent in the increase in depression, substance abuse, relationship difficulties, malignant cancers associated with reproductive organs that is breast, ovarian and uterine cancers.

And it needs to be remembered that abortion actually alters societal understanding of intrinsic worth, so that temporarily at least, the extrinsic worth is valued. Wholesale acceptance of abortion, as we have it today, has trivialized women (not empowered them). Has turned children into expendable commodities. Has attempted to wrest from God His authorship over life and death and has installed in its place a “god” too grotesque to be sustained.

Abortion violence has allowed to creep into our makeup loss of empathy leading to all manner of violence.

Loss of recognition by my “I” of another “I”. Another “I” who thinks, feels, senses, sees and wills just like ‘me.’

Apart from the death of babies, the deeply wounded parents of the babies, we are slowly losing the sense of our connectedness to one another. Our being the same and feeling for the other because we recognize one like us.

I think that perhaps this is what God meant when He spoke the words in Isaiah 49:15. The impossibility of such an idea that a woman would forget her infant in the womb because the infant was created one like herself. Her “I” would never reject the other “I” because it was part of and like her.

Sadly over this past Generation this seems to have happened and very rapidly too.

Win a baby.

Further to the above our weekend newspaper headlined a story

which chilled the heart and perhaps shows clearly how expendable, tradable have children become

“Win a Baby”

And sub liner “Bizarre IVF lottery may come to Australia”

Apparently the organizer of the world’s first IVF raffle which gives the winner a chance to “win” a baby. This lottery whose cost is £20 per ticket has Britain’s Gaming Commission’s approval and will begin sales of these tickets On July 30th, 2011.

The idea is that the winner of the prize of (£25,000 or \$A37,000) can have this amount of fertility treatment to “realize their dream of parenthood”

How interesting it is that the “brain” behind this lottery is a female whose own IVF has

failed and has set up this kind of facility and hopes to bring this to Australia because she gets many calls from Australians.

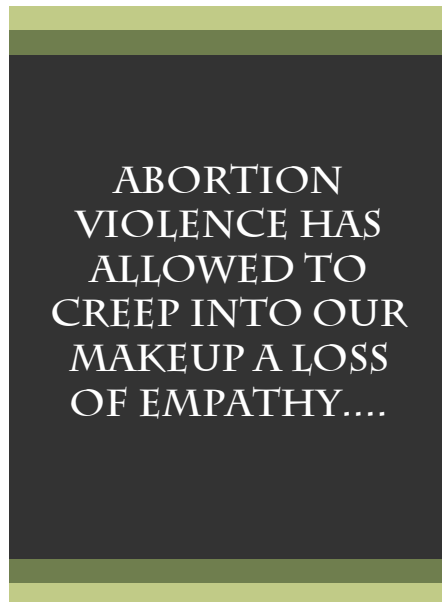
How interesting, listen to the dialogue. She organizes the deals with those willing to participate in what she offers. I am reminded of slave traders of past eras. Wilberforce where are you?

And she is offering to manage how someone’s hopes for a baby will be worked out. (playing god? Which god?)

Thankfully Australian, Assisted Reproductive Authority personnel have distanced themselves from this commercial exercise and have gone so far as to call this “ethically murky” and the clinics in Australia have sought to distance themselves from this lucrative scheme.

Of course we thank God that there has been a rejection and outcry against this horrible idea. But I am not surprised with the idea at all. It had to happen. What is the measureable distance from being able to abort to sell in whatever way it comes? Not much!

If it becomes possible to abort an infant from conception to 40



weeks gestation then it becomes possible to run lotteries of this kind. It becomes possible to make in utero infants tradable commodities. It becomes possible to play Russian roulette with the life of the infants and with the life of parents.

I must admit that whilst I cringed and my BP rose, in the end I was not surprised because it has been heading that way.

Sex Education...Again

I recently read of a study which spoke of females with a history of casual sex suffer most depressive symptoms. As the number of causal partners increases so do depressive symptoms. According to this study and other studies it showed that a majority of adolescents become involved in active sexual behaviour during their high school years and up to 70% of college students admit to having become involved in sexual intercourse with individuals not because of love, or emotional attachment or relationship but because of the hormonal activity within their bodies. These encounters were simply because they wanted to and at times because of substance abuse (e.g. alcohol, drugs)

In this study the researchers sought to identify the reasons and factors and circumstances associated with those who were involved in casual sex and the link between casual sex and depression.

Using a questionnaire as the mode of inquiry the researchers found that casual sex was a very quite common occurrence among the 404 sample. Out this sample 76% reported engaging in all manner of sexual behaviours and activities and more than half of these respondents admitted to having sex with someone they were not involved with. The majority of respondents who admitted having casual sex said they knew it was casual and had no expectations of a relationship but that it was simply a physical affair.

These researchers also focused on link between casual sex and psychological functioning and found that for females as the number of casual sexual partners increased, symptoms of depression also increased. Females who had the greatest number of partners also had the highest symptoms of depressive pathology. The researchers noted that the association of casual sex and depressive symptoms in females is worthy of further investigation

This is only a brief outline of the paper which may be found here:

“No Strings attached: the Nature of Casual Sex in College Students. The Journal of Sex Research, Vol. 43. No. 3, August 2006, pp. 255-267.

I have brought this to your attention, dear readers, because having read the above précis I then noticed that in our daily newspaper The Herald Sun Tuesday, 30th, 2011, deeply embedded within this epitome of news, was a small article titled “Tots ready for sex talk,” by reporter Lucy van den berg (medical reporter). And of course this article spoke of the new sex education guide produced by the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society which says that “discussing sex is not going to make kids go out and do it”

“Talk Soon. Talk Often” author Jenny Walsh, of Latrobe University, writes that talking about sex with young people actually had the opposite effect. (not according to the above study).

The author of this booklet which by the way has the approval and imprimatur of Family Planning Victoria, goes on to say that parents still find it hard to speak to their children about sexuality and their bodies and babies and love and sexual feelings and recommends that children as young as 2 years old should be spoken to about sex and continue this talk till they are about 17”. By that time, I suppose, they should be primed and ready for when they go to school and then college to have sex with anyone as they want because mum and dad have spoken to them about sex since they were 2 years of age. As we say in Australia, to toddlers.

Apparently this new booklet covers everything from children playing doctors and nurses to other activities.

According to these illumined researchers and authors there should be a whole process where the issue of sexuality comes up as a natural conversation.. I imagine they meant around the dinner table, where Mum and Dad can speak about sex.

This of course (according to them) would be better and not so stressful for mum and dad. And for the children who have been taught by mum and dad about sex it won't be the highly stressful like the “let's sit down and talk”

The CEO of Family Planning Australia said that parents still felt embarrassed to discuss sexuality issues with their children but it was changing. How interesting that its changing along with the idea about abortion and life itself. (Thanks I)

And then we wonder why young people are getting pregnant at 12 years of age and then aborting. And then we wonder why young people are adultified and lose their innocence. And then we wonder why young people lose their sense of joy in being young. And then we wonder why young people have lost their sense of right and wrong if they ever had it. And then we wonder why young people do not value, honour, respect love their bodies but instead abuse them. And then we wonder why young people live a life that ages them too soon. Then we wonder why young people are surrounded by confusion because between the TV, games, DVD's, movies, adult themes and violence these young people end up doing adult acts and even using a knife to kill or become pregnant and need an abortion.

Shhhhhhhhh

“Shhhhhh it's our secret, I find that I cannot have strong or lasting relationships with anyone and my sharing is only superficial because I remember that I have to shhhhhh because “it's our secret” and you can't tell anyone or I will be in trouble.”

These words were said to me in my office by someone who sounds like a very young child or young person even teenager, but in fact these words were uttered by a 62 year old lady Judith.

Judith timidly called me and asked me if she could come and see me for a very private reason.

As I spoke with her on the phone I wondered if it was a real call because she sounded so immature and youthful and yes she did arrive to her appointment and it did surprise me when I saw her because I had expected a very young person. But instead here was a very mature looking older woman.

I tried to make her comfortable but she didn't want to be comfortable she wanted to tell me how the session would be conducted and how long it would take etc.

I must admit I was taken aback as in 16 years I had not encountered this before and I could not immediately make sense of it.

However as she settled down and hesitantly began her story, with eyes down, these words made sense.. The "shhhh" made sense.

And what also made sense was her very deep fear. As I assured her that she could speak and would be safe she looked up for a brief and distant moment as if to believe me but wasn't quite sure.

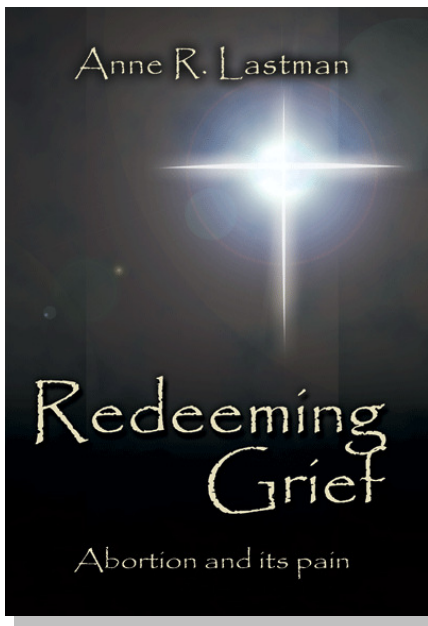
There are many deep wounds I am sensing, and no trust and a total absence of sense of security. Much work is needed to help this wounded human being and much prayer but I have a sense that she will not make a commitment to continue. It's a sense that I have. It's almost like fear of opening Pandora's Box for her and she is afraid. Please help me with your prayers for her and me.

Abortion Situation Specific

At a recent talk I had used the term "abortion is situation and time specific" and was asked during question time exactly what did I mean when I said that abortion is situation and time specific?

When I say situation and time specific I mean that the abortion decision is usually made at a time when the whole life of the woman/girl is turmoil. This huge decision is made under duress and often with fear attached to it.

A young woman who is threatened or afraid of being pregnant because boyfriend, husband, parents, or even career issues the easiest decision to make regarding an unplanned pregnancy would be abortion because those threatening her or causing her anxiety will no longer be threatening her.



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.

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And these at times need not even know of her pregnancy.

Abortion appears, for her, as the “saviour” of this moment in her life. BUT this “saviour” is only temporary because her age, her fear, her parents, boyfriend, husband, or career, will not be the same in five, ten, 15 years time or even more in fifty years time. The very fears confronting this person seeking the abortion or deciding that abortion is the best decision for this time will look back into that time and see what changes that decision has wrought. What might have been if her decision had not been so determined and if she had not been so coerced by her fear into making a decision against her pregnancy.

The situations which presently exist and which bid the woman towards abortion will not exist in the future and with maturity the fears that she has now, will seem so small will not even eventuate but the abortion has been carried out. The fears of abandonment, of punishment and of difficult life will seem small in comparison to the decision which she made and the outcome which has followed her throughout her life.

This is what the abortion providers and the counsellors they employ appear to work on, that is, to highlight the difficulties and diminish the positives of the pregnancy and the reality that the difficulties which exist at this time will not be present in time to come.

This, together with using a language not life friendly and imageless, e.g. “embryo” “tissue” “foetus”, and of course the necessity for speed in order to “save” the woman from ongoing anxiety and grief with the decision to be made, ensures that the decision is made not with real consent and understanding of what is to happen but made with ideas underpinned by the necessity for speed and fear.

Ambivalence is an awful situation because it means that there is an uncertainty in the existing situation and the ensuing decision to be made and it is this uncertainty that will eventually come back as a form of complicated grief.

Ambivalence means that there is something within the being of the women seeking an abortion which is in contradiction of her conscious with her unconscious beliefs. Perhaps it is that her inner “I” is recognizing another “I,” that of her infant, and does not want to cause harm to the other “I.”

Perhaps we could say that ambivalence is an alert from the subjective to the objective that something is wrong with the reasoning and not to proceed, but because of the speed and the fear experienced at this time, this alert is overridden for the time being only to return at another time as a grief for the loss. As an anger against the self for not listening to her instinct. Anger against herself for not having courage to defend her child. Or as one of my women said, “I didn’t defend the babies; I should have fought harder for them. They should be here today.”

Every decision to have an abortion is made either for the woman by others thinking that they are doing the right thing or by the

woman herself because of her own reasons and fears, but the decision is always made with the present in mind. Not one woman I have met over these 16 years has made the decision by looking forward. And not one woman has considered that the future may have been a successful one even bringing carrying her baby child with her.

If only we could assure them that the sun will rise again as usual, her boyfriend or husband or parents will survive the decision to keep the child. Her career will be there or a better one awaiting and she will never have to have a nightmare of a dismembered infant. If only.

Tears

Standing and perusing the shelves at a newsagency several weeks ago, I notice a middle aged woman reading a magazine written for new parents. She seemed deeply engrossed, and nothing strange about that, except that tears were flowing down her face. Unashamedly flowing.

Not a single tear or even a hint of tear or watery eyes which I probably would not have noticed, but tears running down her face. For a while I stood back and also pretended to scan a magazine. After several minutes of observing her and seeing her distress I moved towards her and touched her elbow and moved her towards the back of the shop so she wasn’t in such obvious place. Very docilely she moved. She continued to hold the magazine with an image of a healthy baby on the front cover; I asked her if I could help her.

Her answer was a flat “no thanks no one can. My baby would have been about this age and size now”.

And with this she started to move, she didn’t want to say more, and I didn’t continue but she put the magazine down and with head down left the shop. I had a sense that she was either mourning loss through miscarriage or an abortion but either way her grief was palpable. No one looking at her would have missed the sorrow on this woman’s face. It was deeply etched.

Those who say to someone who is grieving an abortion “move on and get over it. Or worse still get a life” really do not understand the nature of grief or our ties with our children and with one another and how loss affects us even when it seems that a right decision was made at the time.

The grief of a woman for her child is so strong that only by disconnecting is she able to continue with life and even a magazine can be a trigger which instantly brings to mind a memory of that loss, even to the way the child would have looked or been like.

Every woman recognises her own infant and never loses its place in her mind and heart.. Even when its death is by abortion. And especially, women with an abortion history more so, because there is always the sense that I am responsible for the loss of that child or my baby not being here.

...PERHAPS IT'S HER INNER "I" RECOGNIZING ANOTHER "I" , THAT OF HER INFANT...

Letters

Dear Anne,

Congratulations! This time you have really said it like it is. Your newsletters are always full of truth, heart rending as it may be but having recently read this last one has made the way we are living seem to accept all the changes we know are against the law of God. Its unbelievable.

You are so right when say that it is “no love in abortion, no love ion euthanasia, no love in homosexuality how could there possibly be?.” These acts are totally against the creation of mankind. Even to the lack of value on the sacrament of marriage. This is part of all the families today. Even where our children and grandchildren have been reared in Christian families

We have recently read about the partial birth abortion procedure and wondered how men and women can commit such acts and sleep at night. Treating animals in such a way would render the culprits punishable by law yet it seems we can do this to infants in the womb.

Thank you for your care so willingly for so many hurt mothers my dear. It must be very hard on you for so many years. Enclosed is a small donation and may you be blessed.

My love and prayers
I W (Cowra NSW)

Thank you, Anne, for another newsletter that is brutally honest about our society and our deception of ourselves when it comes to the issue of abortion.

Be encouraged - know that you are doing God's work. We pray for you and with you and against your detractors. Most of all we pray that God will encourage your heart, himself and through his people that he brings around you to support you.

Thank you Kerrie..love hearing from you.

Dear Anne,

Hello! I totally believe in God's will for your life and because He needs you to be a “voice” in the wilderness I am sending you a donation towards the rent. I pray for the Lord to have Mercy on all those who oppose your work and bring about a St Paul experience in their hearts. May peace reign in your heart also

Love from Monica

Dear Anne

Please send your superb newsletter to our granddaughter (name deleted) she is a young married and involved with youth work in a school and thank God she is very Catholic. I have sent her our newest issue.

As regards to your latest edition there is no doubt God inspired you to write it-Hallelujah! But please don't get downhearted by being attacked by that twit.

After 30 years of fighting in spiritual warfare one thing became crystal clear, the only positive that satan (with a little “s” he doesn't deserve a capital) gives us, is that by attacking us, he proves beyond doubt that we are doing God's work. And if God is with us, who cares if that slimy one is against us.

You are doing God's work supremely and uniquely, and although you will struggle in many ways (emotionally and financially etc) your reward will be outa this world!!!

Keep up your brilliant work and may our great God saturate you and your wonderfully supportive husband and family with His warm love and rich blessings.

With great admiration,
Michael L..... SA

Thank you for your beautiful words Michael, you made me laugh about the “twit” and I also use a small “s” because he doesn't deserve a capital, and I will put your granddaughter on newsletter list.....Anne

Dear Anne,

Thank you for the latest issue of Broken Branches-as usual excellent and I have to say that for one outstanding point you have told it **as it is**. It is a sad sad day when we, anyone is upset with the truth. Only this morning in the Divine Office, in the reading from St John's third letter he mentions the word IN THE TRUTH. For your own heart and mind keep on telling that truth and if a million people object, we are sad for them. My heart did an extra beat to read that you have bravely signed up for a few more years. Thanks to the Holy Spirit for A.L.

With love and prayers

Fr. P K.

Ps but that new signing does not mean you cannot take an extra day or so off. I insist OK?

OK Father Chewy. How can I argue with you?

The Human Body: Life in the Womb.

On Thursday evening (July 21 2011), we pro lifers had an unexpected and wonderful roundabout sort of win.

On prime time TV Channel 7 about 6.45pm a current affairs program ran a story about unwanted billboards which are over sexualised (true) and distracting of motorists. But dear friends amongst these “unwanted billboards” was one which said ABORTION: 1 DEAD 1 WOUNDED: and cameras flashed to this twice in a matter of a short time. Imagine in prime time viewing what an advertisement! We could never afford to pay for this, this kind of exposure.

And to make the evening better later that evening here was a TV show on 8.30pm called The Human Body and it showed life in the womb. And what magnificent imagery of life in the womb. And the marvellous work foetologists and foetal surgeons can do. I wept almost through the whole show and at one stage had to move out of the room because I was holding my breath with the surgery which was being performed on an in utero infant. Imagine having the skill to take the womb out of its place, perform surgery on an infant and then return the womb to its original place and the baby lives. There were so many images of the infant in the womb at various stages and I wondered how many women would be looking and weeping because of the decision made.

How can abortionists and others perform abortions knowing such beauty? How is it possible to struggle so hard to save a baby because its parents want it but to terminate the life of another because its parents don't want it?

Is this the lunacy of a society which calls good evil and evil good?

Dear friends as I come to the end of this issue of the newsletter I want to say thank you to all those who wrote, rang and emailed me following the last issue. It seems that when I think it's not that good an issue then it's apparently most satisfying.

Apparently my article titled “A Matter of Size” was really liked and well received, and one of the callers even said “more of that Anne”

I must admit I had to re read the newsletter again because I had forgotten what I had written so perhaps it was helped by the Holy Spirit. Can I give more of that? I don't know, we will leave it to the Holy Spirit and see what happens.

I also want to thank those who contacted me regarding that awful website. The calls letters, emails were very supportive and whilst

advised not to concern myself with someone who has nothing to do with his/her life, the reality is that girls who need my care and read that site will be hesitant about coming to me. If it wasn't for that I wouldn't care. But in a state of grief a woman or man seeking help wouldn't stop to think that this is an atheist's website whose sole purpose is to destroy my work and the work of other pro lifers because they (and me) have a belief in God and the necessity for stopping abortion and healing abortion grief which happens as a result of abortion.

This anonymous author (how cowardly) would hope that people like me go away or are pushed away so that I don't make him/her uncomfortable. There is no other reason to attack me apart from this. It would be good if it could be removed but if not well God can deal with him.

Thank you for your ongoing support, I don't ask for financial help anymore because you know that I have financial needs which need to met every month (office running needs, phones newsletter etc) and if there comes a time that this support stops it must mean that the Lord is saying “No more Anne, go weed the garden” So I leave it in your hands.

Keep well and pray for me and those in my care.

Please also pray for our Austrian Pro Life friends Dietmar Fischer and The Helpers of Gods Precious Infants. There is enormous persecution there www.HLIWorldWatch.org. Please pray. The persecution against us proliferates is mounting fast. You see it with that website with me and others. We work at the coalface and pro abortion voices seem so strong these days.

Ann, Natalie, Margaret, Merrilyn (new) Greg (new) Sara, Marlene, Sarah, Helen, Heather, Linda, Roger, Jane, Dave, Cathy, Jacquie, Nancy, Tracy, Rebecca, Diane



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 anne@victimsofabortion.com.au to be added to the email list.