

# BROKEN BRANCHES

October 2012  
Special Edition

John 15

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

## Special Edition

### October Breast Cancer Month.

#### Remembering those touched in any way by this Disease. Breast cancer

Hearing the word “cancer” is one of the most horrific words that a woman can hear and hearing the words from a doctor after what was supposed to be a pesky must do annual mammogram, “sorry Anne it’s not good. You have two tumours in your left breast. I have made an appointment for you with a breast surgeon Dr..... for this morning at 11.30am “ This appointment 2 hours after the scheduled appointment to check what I thought was to be a normal routine outcome from a mammogram and be told to come back next year and do another one. “And Anne from here on you are in the hands of Dr. K.R. Anne Dr. K.R. is at this address and you need to get there urgently they have fitted you in between other patients,” said my very worried long time family doctor who himself has battled prostate cancer for 5 years. I looked in his face and I knew that he was worried and said to me that he never thought that he would have to say those words to me.

It seemed strange. Almost immediately I think I disassociated because I felt like I slipped out of myself and was listening to my doctor but not hearing him, Just hearing droning sound from someone speaking from a distance. I could see myself sitting there looking at my hands and the tears running down my face. Cancer means death doesn’t it? I heard “me”

say. Am I going to die Constantine? (doctor) Am I going to lose my breast Constantine? And still the unreality of it all.

After he wrote down instructions for me and I stood up and somehow went to my car and sat there for a while I think. I think I rang a friend but not sure. Friend didn’t seem to be able to help. Silence. I have breast cancer I said! Still stunned and not quite “with it” I drove home and I thanked God that my husband had not left for work yet so that we could get to the appointment. I could not have made it on my own and the friend I rang didn’t ring back so no help there. I didn’t know what to do and all my counselling, managing, coping skills flew out of the window and I couldn’t think of anyone else or anything else that/who might have helped me.

The words “you have two tumours” echoed strangely. It wasn’t me he was talking about surely? There is no breast cancer in my family. I check myself regularly for lumps and I tell my clients daily to check their breasts regularly especially after an abortion. “check your breast for lumps every week. During shower check your breasts. It’s important. Once a week lie down flat on your bed and check your breast for lumps it’s important.” These words were droning in my head.

However it seems I didn’t do such a good job on myself, maybe I hadn’t checked so well. Though my surgeon said she is proud of me because I listened to my body well and perhaps we may have caught the cancer in the 1-2 stage level. Early Stage Cancer where the survival rate is good.

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As someone who has done much study into trauma (I have done over 150 hours of formal studies plus practice, into trauma and its effects) was not quite prepared to see the effects of it on me. Horrified at its impact on me and then thought of the other lives who experienced the same. Other lives who experienced this trauma on hearing the word "cancer". I would call "trauma" a cancer of the body and soul. Both the mind and the body remember a trauma. In fact trauma when severe, is capable of shutting the mind down or, the mind is capable of shutting out the whole trauma (amnesia) in order not to remember because remembering will cause a meltdown. It is the psyche's attempt or mechanism at self protection. This is what happened to me when I disassociated and shut down so that I couldn't hear after hearing the words "you have two tumours."

I have been told by the after care nurse at the Hospital where I had surgery and am now being cared for, that this is a normal occurrence and that other women also experience a time of "being out of self" so as not to hear.

The appointment with the breast surgeon and then appointments with other services for biopsies, cat scans, MRIs and tests, and blood tests and core somethings or others all passed in a blur and within a week I went from my usual counselling days, planning my next newsletter, planning a trip, planning a dinner out, to lying in hospital waiting to have a part of my feminine self removed because of invasive cancer in duct and as it turned out after a second surgery a week later, Sentinel Node and few other nodes around the Sentinel node.

At first it appeared good and my surgeon thought we got it all and I went home after 2 days in hospital but two days later (Monday morning) I got a call from her saying that I would have to return to hospital for second surgery to take out more tissue that was found to have traces of cancer. This time I stayed in hospital

6 days and was still stunned.

I have spoken so much about abortion and breast cancer. Every public talk I give I speak about the abortion and breast cancer connection and now I was brought face to face with the reality.

My thinking did wander to God and I remembered Teresa of Avila's comment to Jesus in a moment of exasperation "Lord if this is how you treat your friends no wonder you have so few" and I did go through some days of darkness when I contemplated what breast cancer meant for me and the reality that I might die from it.

"Dr Katrina, because you took the lymph nodes out does it mean it had reached there and cells may have escaped into the system and return elsewhere?" I asked.

"Yes but that's why we will keep a close eye on you for some time. We will continue to do tests and scans and when you recover from the surgery 6 weeks of daily radiotherapy and monitor you constantly. Don't worry I promise all will be well."

I now have appointments with oncologists, radiotherapist and others whom I can't remember.

Trauma is strange it changes one's idea of what "day" means and I have decided to change my "day" "life."

My beautiful surgeon is happy for me to continue working, because when I took three weeks off for all the tests and surgery it got so bad I planned my funeral including the homily! (sorry priest friends!!)

So I knew that I couldn't retire, not even for golf! but I will continue working because I love what I do and I love my clients, and I now have more reason and be able to speak loudly that there is some link between abortion and breast cancer...I know and it's painful. When I speak I will highlight this aspect about abortion. The physical pain of breast surgery is unlike any other. Its awful.

I want to outline that there is an alarming development in the number of studies which appear to show

abortion breast cancer link and which have been in medical literature for at least 45 years with a more recent meta analysis (Brind, Chinchilli, Severs, Summy-Long, 1996; Daling et al 1994.) of all worldwide data spanning three continents implicated abortion as a significant independent risk factor in developing early breast cancer.

The findings of the meta analysis demonstrate that abortion is found to be a causal factor in the development of breast cancer with a statistically significant 30% increase in those exposed to induced abortion. More alarming is the finding that some studies within the meta analysis showed an increased risk of up to 80 % in women who have a family

history of breast cancer.

There is no family history of breast cancer in my family and I am the only one, who has had abortion so it seems likely, and no I don't blame God, or even anyone, but if we continue with abortions in the volume of today then we can expect breast cancer, ovarian cancer and uterine cancer to become the scourge of women for this twenty first century because post menopausal women (the women who began with the "pill" and open abortions are now coming to the age when cancer will show itself.

In the last issue of the newsletter I

told you about two new studies showing deleterious effects of abortion on women both coming out of China and published in the Bulletin of Clinical Psychopharmacology 2012;22 (1) 51-58, In the first study I spoke about that the authors looked at the psychological effects anxiety and depression symptoms during subsequent pregnancy following abortion.

In the first study the authors proposed a hypothesis that ***there is a difference between induced abortion and spontaneous abortion (miscarriage-my words) in terms of impact on pregnancy and women's mental health***"

I said that there were two studies and ***the second study*** information I held back for the next issue of the newsletter, this one (because of space) and guess what the title of this study is? And I hadn't it noticed at the

time, and it was also published in 2012 "***Abortion and Breast Cancer Risk in Premenopausal and Postmenopausal Women in Jiangsu Province of China.***" Authors of this study Ai-Ren Jiang, Chang-Ming Gao, Jian-Hua Ding, Su-Ping Li, Yan-Ting Liu, Hai-Xia Cao, Jian-Zong Wu, Jin-Hai Tang, Yun Qian, Kazuo Tajima. And published in Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, Volume 13, 2012.

These authors looked at spontaneous abortion (miscarriage) and found that there was no alteration in significant risk of breast cancer. However, "in this study we found that induced abortion was associated with an increased risk for breast cancer with a dose response relationship. The results of our study supported the hypotheses that prior induced abortion

represents significant risk factors for later development of breast cancer." (pp33-35).

This study was not done by western ideologues or religious researchers but a group of scientist from an unexpected quarter looking for something to explain breast cancer and it joins the number of other studies which have been in literature for the last nearly half a century.

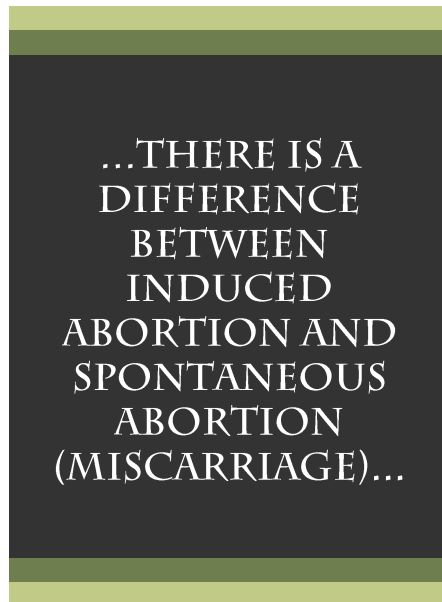
Abortion can very much lead to breast cancer, another suffering for woman and again I know personally what this means. Breast cancer.

My question now must be if the

medical profession knows this, if cancer specialists know this, if governments know this why has abortion been made a "right" and "legal" which gives it a status of legitimacy? ***Did our society need to make the high potential for breast cancer legal?*** Is this what our governments want for 50% of its population? ***Why does the government recognise that cigarettes cause lung cancer but will not recognise that abortion can cause breast cancer? Why?*** Politics of the feminist kind?

Imagine 50,000,000 abortions per year globally every year! What will this mean for increase in breast cancer in both early and post menopausal women? Is this what the feminist movement and governments want for women?

Breast cancer is a hormone-related cancer says this study early breast cancers are found to have hormone



receptors (mine does). This study also “supported prior studies that found that induced abortion was associated with increased risk of breast cancer and with dose response relationship. The results of our study supported the hypothesis that prior induced abortion represent significant risk factors for later development of breast cancer” (p35).

Why do induced abortions increase risk of breast cancer? Because the female hormone oestrogen is connected with preparing breast for its work of feeding a child and when unceremoniously interrupted by abortion these residual cells remain in breast making breast susceptible to carcinogens.

At the very beginning of a pregnancy and while still unbeknownst to the woman her ovaries begin producing extra oestrogen and within a very short time (days) after conception the levels of oestrogen in her blood have increased enormously so that by the first trimester levels have reached about 2000% , a level six times more than in a non pregnant state.

An abortion leaves the breast with undifferentiated cells which have been stimulated by the pregnancy in order to feed the child after birth; however, the undifferentiation has been interrupted and it is these undifferentiated cells which become vulnerable to cancer.

However, and most importantly to know that during the end stage of pregnancy other hormones differentiate these cells into milk producing cells and thus stem their growth potential, their cancer forming potential, which is then turned off and thus the reason why full term pregnancy lowers the risk of cancer in later life. So full term pregnancy is good! Helps Mum and baby.

Where is the sisterhood who called for legal right to abortion? I didn't see one of them visit me in hospital. There is silence about this topic of abortion and breast cancer?. Where are the politicians here in Victoria who voted for abortion to 40 weeks just 4 years ago and gave abortion total legitimacy and the worst abortion laws in the world after China? I didn't see one come to the hospital to visit me or anyone else for that matter.

And the Cancer Council which refuses to even consider abortion as a risk factor because of the politics attached to the topic. Again I didn't see anyone come and say “I'm sorry Anne” and it is painful. Six weeks after surgery and I am in physical

and emotional pain which I have not known before.

However, I do need to say what wonderful staff, nurses, doctors, cancer carers, hospital care that I have received. Even Berlei Lingerie contributed to special post operative garment. I was amazed! And the cancer sufferers' network is made up of beautiful people who have all experienced this in one way or another and offer so much support.

One of the things experienced is the thought or idea that no one else knows what it feels like to receive such a diagnosis, but I found that others experience and speak the same words.

Similar to the people I speak and write about who suffer post abortion “syndrome” we speak the same words, same language, same expressions. Indeed one could even say “Post Cancer Diagnosis Syndrome” because as I said we use, feel, experience, same language. Describe things the same way and perhaps look to each other to heal in the same way.

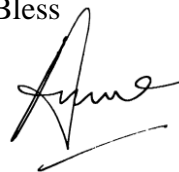
Post abortive women use the same words to express their pain. Breast Cancer diagnosis women also use the same words to express the pain.

Please also understand that not all breast cancer is abortion related but hormone related. I do not mean to imply that all who have suffered from this have had abortions, but abortion is definitely one of the risk factors, and a risk factor which needs to be brought into the light and not hidden because a woman has a right to know what might occur and the agony involved with this outcome.

***Dear Friends this is going to be a short newsletter just to let you know what has transpired and no I am NOT quitting or retiring just slowing down for a few weeks till end of year to recover and hopefully with your support and the Lord's, will fire up next year. Please pray for me and my clients on the client list and please walk with me through this.***

Your support in all ways is needed and appreciated. I will write a more detailed newsletter in December.

God Bless



**Anne Lastman**

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