

Broken Branches

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

ISSUE 136 – April/May 2020

"I like to think that the most important work that we have to do today, among us, in humanity, is the work "of listening": listening to each other. Listening to each other without rushing to give a response. Welcoming the words of a brother, of a sister, and then thinking to offer my own. But the ability to listen: this is very important. It is interesting: when people have this capacity for listening, they speak with a low, calm voice.... Instead, when they do not have it, they speak loudly; they even shout. Among brothers and sisters, we all must speak, listen to each other and speak slowly, calmly, seeking the path together. And when you listen and you speak, you are already on the right path."

"The apostolate of the ear"

His Holiness Pope Francis

Beautiful words from the Holy Father Pope Francis. The work of a counsellor is to listen and deeply hear what is both said and unsaid. Bearing this in mind it's good to have my charism affirmed. I listen and mostly I hear and I believe that I am able to hear clearly what is not being said because of shame and fear.

Having read these words from the Holy Father Pope Francis led me to think about "shame" and even embarrassment. And fear. Are they the same? Do we simply tend to use embarrassment today rather than shame? Are these words interchangeable?

Embarrassment as I understand is an emotion which depicts negative self-consciousness. It's an emotion that could be said to be akin to shame, guilt and even wounded self-esteem. Embarrassment presents as a fear of public humiliation and a thought that public judgement is present. The event which caused the sense of embarrassment can be something very minor but affects the self-worth of the one involved.

Embarrassment like shame and guilt alert to failure of behaviours expected by normal standards and leading to belief of personal failure and personal self-deprecation because of the belief that public and social image of self has been damaged.

Embarrassment similar to shame is an emotion which has both negative and positive aspects resulting from an innate knowledge of wrong done even if accidental, but also a sign of personal humility—a sign which endears one to others.

Shame on the other hand whilst so similar to embarrassment and even guilt has written within it a finer sentiment, or soul understanding which can lead to soul neurosis.

Recently Pope Francis said that to feel shame is a "great grace." This of course caused social media to go into overdrive.

In his book *"The Name of God is Mercy"* he again says that shame is a grace we should ask for (p25).

Indeed, quoting the founder of the Jesuits (his order) St Ignatius Loyola, who also said that shame is one of the graces which he asked for himself of Jesus.

From a faith perspective to ask for and receive the "gift of feeling shame" means that if and when received we will be able to clearly see our wrong doing and its total effect not only on the self but on all others and feel the weight of the wrongdoing. To ask for and see and sense the feeling of shame is not to parade a charade of false humility but a request for insight which can lead to genuine holiness.

Is there a difference between shame and embarrassment?

Indeed, I believe that there is.

Shame announces that something within our being, essence, soul has been made to feel diminished.

Shame has a fear attached to it, whereas embarrassment does not. Shame is deeply connected to human integrity and dignity which are vital for human connection and interaction and honour with others and shame wounds our essence called human. When integrity and dignity are wounded shame presents itself as the cover or even the "fig leaf."

The experience of shame leads to loss of freedom and this followed by barriers and conditions placed on future behaviours especially when interacting with another and puts into place an innate need to hide. (Gen.3:8)

The inherent difference between embarrassment and shame is "flight" and "withdrawal" and says "I am not like I used to be. I am no longer innocent. This event has left me diminished and changed forever."

Why would Pope Francis suggest that knowledge about shame be a great grace? Because I believe that recognizing the signs and symptoms of shame can begin the road to recovery. The need to acknowledge our weakness and need of the other. The need to forgive self and forgive the other. So important in post abortion and sexual abuse life.

Understanding shame assists to recognise the weakness of another because we recognise the same weakness in our self, and then not only forgive myself for the terrible mistakes made, but also be able to forgive the other and hence remove between us all the fig leaves.

In 24 years of post-abortion grief counselling I cannot remember one client ever saying "Anne I'm embarrassed"

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because I've had an abortion/s" but I would say that probably 100% of clients have said "Anne I'm so ashamed, I've had an abortion/s"

Shame has tears which help to wash and cleanse and has a need to reconcile and no longer be isolated from the other, and to do this requires taking humble steps to acknowledging faults and failings.

Embarrassment does not need these steps because embarrassment is of lesser weight. It occurs when some act has been found to be and shown to others as something unworthy of "me" and which lessens me and this revelation leads to fears of my being found less in the eyes of others. It's in some ways a selfish thought. Not a fear of harm done to others but a harm done to my reputation.

"Anne I am ashamed of myself I allowed my baby to die" This is beginning of recovery. "Fig leaves off"
"Anne I'm embarrassed I had an abortion" says I did an act which I'm embarrassed about but no emotion present. Distance. Fig leaves firmly in place.

Pain during abortion

The Pro-life world recently welcomed help from a source totally unexpected, that is, a "pro-choice" scientist who is urging the medical community "to put politics aside and consider the growing evidence that unborn babies may feel pain as early as 12 weeks of pregnancy."

In a recent article (Jan 2020 Journal of Medical Ethics) Stuart Derbyshire, a professor at the National University of Singapore and expert in the science of pain, said the issue of fetal pain during abortion procedure deserves further deliberation and thought.

We who have worked in pro-life have known this and spoken about it for many years and more loudly as the gestational age for abortion stealthily climbed to full term, and this we had hoped would make our voices heard and understood that dismembering a baby in the womb or a potassium injection in the heart or even saline solution procedure would cause so much excruciating pain to the very alive infant. We had hoped for this but ears unhearing.

I remember in particular when 2008 abortion laws in Victoria were changed one of the amendments was to allow the infant

being aborted to be given pain medication before the procedure but NO this too was firmly rejected by pro-abortion parliamentarians who had fought so hard to get new legislation passed.

Professor Derbyshire and his co-author John Bockmann said that evidence is now available which definitively shows "that unborn babies' brains and nervous systems are developed enough to experience pain prior to 24 weeks." The UK and many U.S. states, Australia, New Zealand et al. allow unborn babies to be aborted for any reason up to 24 weeks and in some cases to birth. So, it cannot even be imagined the pain endured during the procedure.

Their research paper pointed to new studies that indicate unborn babies may feel "something like pain" by 12 weeks of pregnancy. And if unborn babies can feel any pain, they would certainly experience pain during an abortion. According to these two researchers a "balanced reading" of the evidence "points towards an immediate pain experience mediated by the developing function of the nervous system from as early as 12 weeks," "The two authors came together to write this paper through a shared sense that the neuroscientific data, especially more recent data, could not support a categorical rejection of fetal pain.

In the past it has been thought that the cortex, the outer brain layer that deals with sensory information, is not developed enough for pain to register. However, recent studies clearly show 'that the consensus is no longer valid'.

The two researchers say their own 'stark differences' on the morality of abortion 'should not interfere with discussion of whether fetal pain is possible'.

Given recent advances in understanding, 'acting as if we have certainty' that fetuses cannot feel pain before 24 weeks "flirts with a moral recklessness that we are motivated to avoid."

They said abortion providers and pregnant women should take fetal pain into account and should ensure fetal pain relief, for the unborn baby who is to be aborted.

Their research adds further validity to the work of the pro-life movement that abortion is cruel, painful procedure that kill violently living unborn babies.

In the second trimester, strong evidence shows that unborn babies can feel pain and the most common abortion method is dismemberment. This means that tens of thousands of unborn babies are made to suffer excruciating pain. No animal would be permitted to be killed/put to sleep so viciously yet a human

infant does not rate such sympathy. What horror we have launched onto society. Killing sacrificially, infants.

Significantly Professor Derbyshire is “pro-choice” and he has been a consultant for several pro-abortion groups, including the Pro-Choice Forum in the UK and Planned Parenthood in the U.S.

In 2006, he even argued against telling women about fetal pain prior to their abortions due to the lack of evidence at that time, when he said there was “good” evidence that fetuses cannot experience pain.

However, based on the new research, Prof. Derbyshire’s thinking appears to have changed. And the evidence certainly is mounting that babies do in fact experience the most unimaginable pain.

Concluding thoughts by these two researchers are that they cooperated to write this paper through a shared sense that the neuroscientific data, especially more recent data, could not support a categorical rejection of

fetal pain and both grew increasingly dissatisfied with the rejection of the truth that fetal pain is felt during an abortion.

And further according to these two researchers, what is now needed is the courage to make this new finding known to the medical profession, abortionists, and women contemplating abortion. Especially for women to be advised that their baby will feel agonizing pain while it’s being dismembered or burned alive.

...Every child is a
precious gift from
God...
President Trump.

Roe v Wade (January 22, 1973)

America has recently marked the 47th year anniversary of legalized abortion in all fifty states. Abortion at any time for any reason throughout the term of pregnancy.

Since that fateful date, there have been approximately 50-60 million abortions which have destroyed the lives of unborn children in that country alone.

The number is the equivalent of a whole big nation which has been wiped out.

Over double the population of Australia (25 ½ Million) has been decimated. Or the whole population of Italy legally killed because they were unwanted and it has been legal to kill babies in the womb. Not rats or other animal but human babies legally killed.

Abortion has taken a terrible toll on America and other nations. There has been a huge loss of future citizens.

And perhaps today God has heard the cry of the babies and pro-lifers because in their current president they have for the first

time an openly pro-life, proactive President who is on side with pro-lifers and babies in the womb.

Mr Donald Trump President of USA

“Every child is a precious and sacred gift from God,” he said during his speech “Together we must protect, cherish, and defend the dignity and sanctity of every human life.” (President Donald Trump at pro-life rally)

“When we see a baby in the womb, we glimpse the majesty of God’s creation,” he added. “Every child born and unborn is made in the holy image of Almighty God.”

The president thanked the millions of Americans who are pro-life and the march participants for showing up to fight to fight against abortion.

“It is my profound honor to be the first president in history to attend the March for Life!” Trump told the crowd.

“We are here for a very simple reason: To defend the right of every child – born and unborn – to fulfill their God given potential,” he said. “Young people are the heart of the March for Life and it is you who is making it the pro-family, pro-life generation.” President Trump defended his pro-life record, starting with taking action on his first day in office to defund International Planned Parenthood.

“From my 1st day in office I have taken historic action to protect the unborn,” he said. “Unborn children have never had a stronger defender in the White House... As the Bible tells us, each person is wonderfully made.” (at Pro Life March 2020)

Unborn children have never had such a strong defender in the White House. No former President has showed himself to be so publicly and openly pro-life.

The president railed against the Democrats for pushing abortion on demand and continuing to demand abortion and euthanasia of viable infants and infants born alive following abortion procedure.

Appointing good Supreme Court Judges, Defunding abortion facilities etc. being seen to be pro-life. These qualities in possibly the most powerful global leader gives pro-lifers some encouragement and hope.

Mr Trump continued with *“together, we are the voice for the voiceless. When it comes to abortion – and you know this, you’ve seen what’s happened – Democrats have embraced the most radical and extreme positions taken and seen in this country for years and decades, and you can even say, for centuries.”*

God bless him and keep him safe.

And can we please pray for him and his safety and his return for another term to complete that which he has started.

We pray.

Male and Female He Created them.

A critical moment of change occurred in 1920. A moment which planted the seeds for the future moral change and decline in the human person and family and society when the seed sprouted.

In 1920 at the Lambeth conference the Anglican Church broke away from all other Christian denominations and introduced into their church and Christian families the belief that the contraceptive Pill could be used in marriage to space out children.

Whilst this sounded good because a woman's body would be given break from pregnancy to recover from the previous one, the reality is that this introduced a legitimacy to the idea that children were negotiable. To be accepted or rejected until a "more opportune time" (Lk4:13).

The introduction of "the pill" contraception not only made conception a negotiable matter but opened the door to a change in family and morality of society. It opened the doorway to the sexual revolution.

Following the introduction of contraception and negotiable children, abortion became, over a short time, a demand (after all contraception refused children) and thereafter in a short time, abortion as a female right. First a rejection of life even within marriage and then slowly slowly the introduction of the "right" to kill an unwanted child.

First rejection of the child via "a pill" (contraception) and then more open rejection and slow alienation of children via the medium of death in utero to today open calls for death to full term even post birth babies if born alive and a death was the demand.

Having reached this stage it would've been easy to imagine that there isn't much left to be done to harm, women, men and children. Or is there?

Introduction of transgenderism, that is, removal of aspect of gender so all things re relationships become possible. Legalisation of abortion the mother says this is my body and I don't want yours. Transgenderism says I don't know what I am "boy" or "girl" and "I know I feel different than I am" and "I would feel better being him/her instead of me" Like abortion, and other sterile relationships "feeling" is paramount. Confusion of the young leading to life changing decisions and sterilisations, and artificial hormones, and puberty blockers to disrupt the beautiful natural development and growth as mandated in the original design.

Transgenderism is now the latest assault on human beings. First rejection, then abortion, then other sterile couplings, now changing of existing aspect of "the image and likeness of God" The creative life engendering ability same as the creator. Desire to change the "male and female He created them." The human beings in being able to recreate another continue the creating work of God.

Disturbing of this activity ensures that the words "be fruitful and multiply cannot be fulfilled.

Slowly very slowly the words "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" (Gen 1:28) are being made more and more difficult. 30-60 Million abortions annually, unknown numbers of chemical abortions, loss through drugs and trafficking, losses through illness, wars, terrorism, ensures that the words "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth are getting harder and harder to achieve.

Transgenderism? Another ensured sterility and further refusal to be fruitful.

What is important to note is the fact that in the anti-life progression over the last 100 years the aspect of the human person which has been most under attack is its life-giving aspect. Its sexuality. The conjugal act leading to life.

Progressively the boundaries have been pushed further and further and without much commotion and with the help of media and other powerful individuals and lobby groups, until this moment in time when gender itself is being manipulated to accommodate demands of some controllers. Some who would relegate God and creator to an antiquated notion?

Following the rejection of in utero conceptions via Pill/artificial contraception, then abortion, then IVF, then changing the very essence of human male/female into fluid and convenient matter (biology embedded in the human discounted) and then the straining of relationships with child and parents via parental delegation to others for child raising, has led to separation rather than communion of the human family and others taking total control, and perhaps even preparing of immediate up and coming society to be fully controlled by some entity/s who have agendas to fulfil.

Transgenderism whilst at first seemed to be thought of as another passing fad may in fact turn out to be "the nail in the coffin" because the consequences following ensures that human nature as designed in natural law and undisputed and accepted and known throughout human history is now to be controlled by "Caesar" What belongs to God has finally been given legally to "Caesar" ((Mk 12:17).

Like the abortion laws, euthanasia laws, IVF laws, SSM laws, transgender laws are being forced onto the many to accommodate the very few.

However, the frightening aspect for me is the virulence with which those who do not go along with this new story are treated. "transphobic" is the name. The very loud and well-funded lobby group like the other lobby groups of recent past are determined that biology is no longer the benchmark but "feelings" generally of young children traversing the vagaries of normal developmental years and further very young children who seem to demand change or believe words used and told to them by significant others and this in order to please.

At this point it's important to acknowledge that gender dysphoria has long been recognised within the mental health field. Gender dysphoria is the distress that the person feels due to the belief that there is a mismatch between their gender identity (feel like boy/girl) and their biological sex causing identity confusion and much suffering especially in the teenage years when development, beginning with puberty, are very

fragile years and with these individuals it is important to show best care and concern.

Many other concerns follow this gender identity ideology affecting all manner of life behaviours, from partners, sports, *a new and more destructive sexual revolution* and ultimately destruction of the human being.

As His Holiness Pope Francis said recently on this topic, “allowing children to be able to pick their own gender is “an epoch of sin against the creator” and further he continued “gender identity is a global war against marriage and transgender is evil” He does not mince words on this topic.

My concern is that this new “non binary” narrative is a return to that moment in 1920 when children were first made legally negotiable. We have done the full circle and returned to rejection of life and children as and when given to us.

Further my concern is the physical, emotional and spiritual damage done to them and their future life when confusion about their own essence leads to God knows what.

Male and female he created them (Gen 1:26-28)

A Child in Pain

Dear friends in a recent counselling session I was confronted with a type of client which I have not really experienced much during my 24 years of counselling work.

A lady asked to see (Perth) for a session. I presumed that it would be an abortion or even a sexual abuse issue however it was not.

This was a young mother of a daughter aged 7 years of age who had changed dramatically since the breakup of her parent’s marriage and her father had moved out of the family home.

The lady (I’ll call her Marie ...not her real name) was referred to me by a friend of mine who thought I might be able to give Marie some ideas about how to handle her daughter’s behaviours.

“Marie” mentioned a litany of difficulties with her daughter and her daughter’s change of personality. Some changes being weepy constantly, refusing to go to school, having huge tantrums, rebelling against all that was asked of her, fear about going to sleep, fears of the dark, dislike of her previous good friends, refusing to talk about her dad, being very needy, and the list goes on.

As I listened, I could hear signs that the child (for ease I’ll call her Kate) was grieving deeply the loss and security that her father brought to her life and her fears are a sign of other fears of possible further loss of her mother.

Not dealing much with child grief I really did have to think hard about my readings and learnings about childhood grief and remembered that for a child suffering this, in this case Kate, and her fears what is most needed

1. To know that she will be cared for and safe.
2. To know that she didn’t cause the problem
3. To be told clearly about the reasons for the Separation and the continued love of both parents for her. This never to change.
4. To make her feel important and involved. Not left out or feel she has to take sides.
5. Continue with normal daily routine of activities including school and friends and parties because she is not alone.
6. Assure her that always either parent will be available to listen to her questions and fears and to speak about them which is very important.

This young child had experienced a loss similar to death. Her world had been turned upside down and at such a vulnerable age she could not understand the reason for the change. Her perceived loss of her dad, her fears that her mother would also leave her and she would be alone, and her fears that her friends wouldn’t want to be her friends anymore.

Explaining these things to “Marie” and explaining to her how to gently handle this time in her daughter’s life, that is, to be her emotional caretaker and her continuity and to model stability and respect for her child’s father would help her daughter “Kate” slowly regather her sense of security. Further and importantly not to use her daughter to “get at” her husband. Her daughter is the result of a moment of absolute love and joy between them, irrespective of what occurred later.

When a separation/death occurs in a family a child (especially young ones) blame themselves. They believe that the rupture occurred because they were “naughty” and if they hadn’t been “naughty” or “bad” then this would not have happened. This is where it’s important for parents to care and understand as well as possible that children have a need not to be ignored in the processes of the moment and to understand what really happened.

At times it might also be found that the child reconnects and “pretends” that the absent parent has returned and talks to the absent parent. Indeed, telling that parent of daily events which have happened to her just as if that parent was still there. This is her way of coping and keeping bonds strong. This is not a deep psychological problem but a way of keeping the absent parent totally with him/her at least until slowly the separation becomes the normal and her fears of loss no longer wound as deeply.

The session with Marie went well and she was happy with the discussion. I have asked her to let me know, if she wants to, how things progress. For my own interest and understanding.

Letters

Dear Anne,
Thank you for your little magazine I just love it . It's very informative. Could you please send me a copy of the two books Hidden Pain and Redeeming Grief, I want to put them in our Church.
Praying for you that you can keep going and continue this most important work.
I enclose money for books and a small donation.
God bless you
Carol B. NSW

Hi Anne
Thank you for yet another thought-provoking Newsletter. Ironically, both Alison & I have had our share of physical pain in recent months, so we knew exactly where you were coming from!
Included with my issues, I have a crook left hip, but continue to walk (having treatment at last for it) and try to offer it up to Jesus, but not always easy is it?
Presently, I am reading a most absorbing book called "The Day Is Now Far Spent", and Vatican African Cardinal Sarah outlines how the world is now going off-compass, forgetting about God, but rather wishing to become it's own Gods.
We are presently fighting here in SA against a proposed Bill from the Greens to approve full-term abortion??
About 3,500 people marched upon the steps of Parliament House (including our Bishop O'Kelly) last Saturday morning, but the whole exercise barely rated a mention in any form of press?
However, if you tried to terminate a baby Koala under the same mantle, you may well be sent to prison??
It's all so so so very wrong, but we Christians just have to stick to our guns!
The Eternal Reward awaiting us will be indeed worth every effort made here on earth.
With our love & God's blessings always Anne,
Errol & Alison Duke x

Dear Anne,
Thank you for your continued sending of your news bulletin I look forward to it every couple of months. You keep us all in the know about what is happening out there and I particularly appreciate it very much.
Keep it up dear we need voices like yours
Bless you
Carol G (Vic)

Dear Anne,

Thank you again for another interesting newsletter I particularly liked two of your articles in recent newsletters. The first one about the Bird in the News (Dec/Jan issues) and the one about "Conjugal Honour" Now that is one that should be read out in every church and understood by every priest. What beautiful words and manner of explaining you have. That to me seemed an inspired article.
Enclosed a small donation, I hope it helps a little.
Bless you dear,

Peter K. (Qld)

Thank you, Peter, for your kind words and donation. Much appreciated. Glad you liked Conjugal Honour. Yes, I received many comments about that article. Humbly I also think it was inspired because I didn't set out to write anything about "conjugal honour" I came across the words Conjugal Honour in Casti Connubii (encyclical) and loved them and the rest just flowed. Anne

Dear Anne,

Thank you for your hard copy newsletter which I read as soon as it arrives (make a cuppa and sit and read from front to back) but what I can do to save you \$\$\$\$ is perhaps to receive it via email. I'm sorry I hadn't thought about this sooner. I absolutely want to still receive it and then I may also forward it to some of my friends. My email is

God Bless you my dear,

Joan K.....(NSW)

*Hi Joan I'm happy to continue sending hard copy however it would help a little if you receive via email. To join the email list can I please ask you to go to my website <https://www.victimsofabortion.com> there you will find subscribe and unsubscribe facilities. And after you do this could you please let me know so that I can remove your details from hard copy.
Thank you
Anne*

Coronavirus or Covid19

And Lord help us with this new suffering of Coronavirus. I'm seeing clients but we sit distantly with only coffee table and box tissues between us and course use lots of hand sanitiser. For now. If needs be, I will need to ease back or find a different way.

My advice from my peak body and my supervisor is to take utmost care both for myself and for client.

Recently when I briefly visited Melbourne to see my existing clients there 4 of them cancelled and I was pleased with that because they have children and I was able to return home before borders closed.

It seemed providential that I was there because I was able to see a new "one off" young man whose girlfriend aborted their baby and then left him.

He was most distressed as he did not want the abortion and was willing to do all that was necessary to ensure that both his girlfriend and the baby had all they needed and were safe. He offered his friend that they begin the process of marriage (engagement) but all to no avail.

As I listened to his sadness at the loss of both, I realised that we don't often hear from the other side of an abortion decision. We tend to hear what "she" feels and thinks and how it was "all his fault" and for me it was good to see that the father of the child can also be left with what this young man called "an empty hole in my heart and my being"

Further as I listened, I was able to discern that maybe there were other issues in the relationship and pregnancy and abortion were used as the reason for severing of what had been a 3 1/2-year relationship.

What this young man really needed was someone to listen to him. To know that he hurt. That he had done all possible to save his baby.

I helped him a little to just talk things out and to even hear himself say the words that he had done all he could to save his baby whom he believed was a girl. He said that he had tried to speak to his friends about how he felt but they didn't help because they thought he was better off without the problems of being a single father especially if his friend wanted to end the relationship. With these thoughts in his mind he told me that it was useless trying to make them understand that it was his baby. His child and "she" was killed.

I began this short piece with Coronavirus and then wandered off to male client so I want to say that the Coronavirus whilst virulent doesn't prevent a father from grieving for the loss of his baby. And I must admit that I was really happy that I was in that place (my office) at the right time to be able to give him a platform to let him speak. And I did also leave with him the permission to call me while I'm in Perth if he needs to talk again, and if needs be, when I return again (I say this to all my clients there) we could meet again. I want to introduce him to the idea of humanising his "daughter" in the usual way when we grieve for a baby (e.g. name etc).

Please pray for him (Peter)

I don't know what will happen with this virus but I will keep going whilst trying to observe the requirements imposed on us and encourage fulfilment of directions from our churches and government. Perhaps we might be one of those who haven't taken this seriously but maybe we should.

Dear friends as I come to the end of this newsletter, I realise that it's different but I felt it important enough to share with you. please pray for those on the list and for me. I'm one of the more vulnerable ones.

PLEASE, please, please, the "tin" is really empty. With thanks to the several who have helped.

Thanks especially to Margaret, Tim, Paul, Laurie, Christopher.

Without your support I wouldn't be able to continue.

God bless you and please keep safe.

Till we meet again.



Anne Lastman

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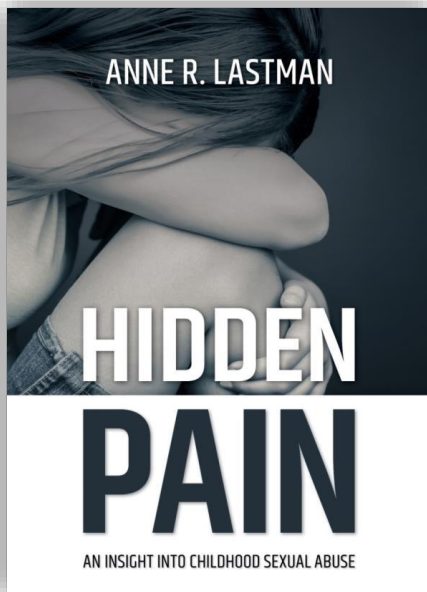
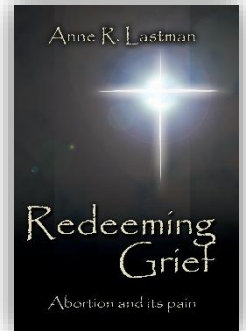
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CLEARANCE!

There is a limited number of the first edition of Redeeming Grief to be cleared at a reduced priced of **\$10.00** including postage within Australia.

If you or anyone you know may be interested, please pass this on to help me clear them.

AUD **\$10.00** (Including free postage within Australia)



HIDDEN PAIN is written about memories which are hidden and cannot be spoken out loud. It is a book about shame, pain, sorrow and lives which have gone wrong both for victims, families, and perpetrators. Sexual abuse of children is common in all communities, in all societies, and yet it's still one of the last remaining taboos. It is something which cannot be spoken about because it's so awful, so inappropriate that it cannot be discussed. Yet discussed it must be, because the children are crying and pleading to be helped.

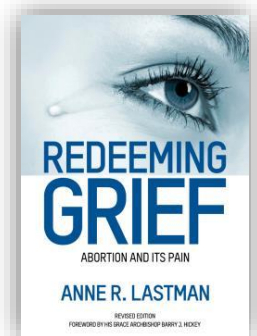
This is not a step by step guide to dealing with abuse. It is the result of my engagement with those who have come to me originally for post abortion counselling and on further investigation it was found that abuse (especially in cases of multiple abortions) existed in their history. It is my hope that **HIDDEN PAIN** can be of help to those who read it and more so be vigilant and not to turn away when a child is suffering.

AUD **\$20.00**

(Including free postage within Australia)

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.

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