

Broken Branches

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

Dear Friends,

This is probably the hardest letter I've written in nearly 30 years.

This is to say goodbye to all, especially those who receive the hard copy of my newsletter, *Broken Branches*, and of course to those who receive email copy but who can read some articles I intend to write and place on my blog.

It's been a very difficult decision to make to close down the two offices in Melbourne and Perth, especially as I still have three clients in Perth and two in Melbourne who still require time, but financially it has become very difficult to continue.

Since mid-Covid pandemic, like other small "charisms" we have not really recovered. I am also very tired and my health not so good though I'm doing all I can to get better.

Sometimes I think if I could take 3-4 months off and give my mind and body a rest, I would be able to continue but in this work it's not possible to open wounds and then say, "I've got to go and have a rest".

With the remaining clients both in Perth and Melbourne I will complete with them slowly and see them in a coffee shop. There is one which has a nice quiet secluded area, and we can talk there. Likewise in Melbourne.

I've suggested another counsellor, but these have said no they would like to complete their work with me, and they have agreed with my suggestion.

I've spoken to the office agents and have told them that I will probably return keys about 22nd November, and they are amenable to that.

I am not leaving this work completely. I hope to be able to continue writing on matters abortion, sexual abuse, suicide, even violence. I have several outlets who still publish my writings.

I have two more books on the go, and I hope this will give me time to work on them. I hope to also continue learning more on and about trauma and why and be available for presentations if asked.

I can do all the above from home office which won't demand a certain amount of dollars for monthly expenses.

I want to thank each and every one of you who have supported this journey, helped, wrote, encouraged me when things got hard and especially during my cancer and when my son suicided. For a while I was lost there (probably still am). Sometimes I think I've worked to save life but could not save this one. So, I want to look deeper into the "why". Every year there are over 800,000 suicides that we know of and more that we do not know of, and the many more attempted and yet, "why". I'd like to try.

Counselling a not-completed suicide is so hard because there is still a deadness in their eyes. Like a part of them has been left behind somewhere and this must be found and retrieved. But like abortion, sexual abuse, euthanasia, it does not only affect the person but those loved ones and those surrounding them. The why of suicide is so important before we can know what to look for signs.

Again, I would like to thank all who have helped and thus helped the over 2000 women, few males and 23 babies be born because I helped their mother.

Having heard that I am retiring a long past client wrote and said, "thank you for your help to me about 15-20 years ago." Another wrote, "thank you for being there when I needed someone who understood and who didn't hurry me just let me walk in my time." And another, "thank you for having the courage to help with my sexual abuse story and helping me to understand and not hate anymore" and a few similar letters.

As the Lord tapped me on the shoulder those many years ago, so I am sure that he will tap others as

abortion grief is now well known and rampant and there's a world of women who haven't coped with their decision.

When I started there was no one doing much of this work professionally in Australia. Today it's known and spoken about. Still largely debated but known. Many years ago, at a conference in London I asked a speaker grief lecturer, who knew about this type of grief, why was it that grief students weren't taught about this disenfranchised type of grief and help them learn ways to deal with it. His response has always remained with me. "Anne it's because no one is prepared to lose the chair" (university) and I suspect that no one is still prepared to lose their "chair".

I have begun a small booklet which might be able to help other counsellors to counsel. However, there will probably be difficulties because if counsellors depend for counselling for their income, it will be difficult to give clients all the time needed to complete the work and wave goodbye to client knowing she will be well and re-enter life. Happy.

I have been blessed because my husband and family were always happy for me to do this work and husband dealt with family funds, so I didn't have to rely on clients for income. Plus, my newsletter and supporters, half dozen who have been with me from the very beginning. Thank you to these especially because they kept things running when things got tough (you know who you are) and few times husband stepped in when urgently needed.

As I said from the beginning, I made a "deal" with the Lord - "you supply the help \$\$\$ and I'll do the work."

When help stops it must mean that you want me to stop." And so, it has been.

Together with writing on abortion (and Eve wounded), sexual abuse (life principle wounded) and suicide (psychic wounds) I hope that I can still attend conference and keep up to date.

My interest in suicide has been coming and going not only with death of my son but there have been nine women who have suicided because of abortion. The last one about five years ago. For those who might wish to keep in touch, the post office box number will be available for another 8 months. I'll continue to add writings and new articles over time, direct to my website www.victimsofabortion.com.au. Please check in every now and then.

And I would like to ask those 3 supporters who have direct credit facilities to please cancel them and thank you, they were my "insurance".

Thank you. I will miss you.

God bless.



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