



National Campus Life Network

Building a new generation of pro-life leaders.

Dear Supporters,

Spring 2011

It has been an eventful semester for pro-life students across the country, for National Campus Life Network, and for my family as well. With the support and training of NCLN, campus groups across Canada have worked hard to get the pro-life message out where it's most needed: the university campus. The efforts have been fruitful, changing hearts and minds on the issue of abortion. The clubs are creative and engage their universities on life issues through a variety of means, some of which are highlighted in the article on pages 1 -2.

We have also assisted with the formation of a new campus club, this time out west. With the support of NCLN's Western Office, students in Winnipeg have started up the University of Manitoba Students for a Culture of Life.

In March, my husband Matthew and I welcomed the arrival of our first child, Cohen Hall. The past few months have certainly been an exciting time for our family! I will be on maternity leave until next spring and, during my absence, the Maritime campuses will receive support from NCLN's Head Office as well as from Stacy Anderson, our Maritime board member.

Thank you for partnering with us in the work that we do. We look forward to your continuing support as we continue to forge ahead, supporting the pro-life message on university campuses and building a new generation of pro-life leaders.

Sincerely,

Sara Hall, Maritime Campus Coordinator



Sara and Cohen.

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Getting the Message Out Where its Needed Most

"I completely changed my position on abortion." This was something we heard a time and again across the country this winter as pro-life clubs hosted events to educate their peers on the issue of abortion.

As I mentioned in the winter newsletter, I worked with Dalhousie students throughout the fall to assist them in forming their club, 'Pro-Life at Dal'. I continued to work closely with them as they became an active and dynamic presence on campus, despite encountering opposition from some of their student body as well as the campus paper. (continued on page 2)



Student look on at a debate on the morality of abortion at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

Getting the Message Out, continued from front page

This winter, Pro-Life at Dal hosted a debate on the morality of abortion, featuring Stephanie Gray to represent the pro-life position and Mark Mercer, a philosophy professor from St. Mary's University, to represent the pro-choice position. Despite some disruptions from pro-choicers, such as setting off stink bombs, the debate went smoothly and helped educate the student body and many community members as well.

University campuses desperately need to hear the pro-life message, whether it is through a debate or through other educational campaigns. We know that the demographic is incredibly vulnerable to abortion as the majority of abortions are being performed on university aged women. They also face enormous pressures that, combined with the prevalent pro-choice rhetoric on campus, encourage abortion.

Students, trained and equipped through NCLN can make a much needed difference on their campus. This can be done through debates, such as at Dalhousie, through information tables, through raising awareness on alternatives to abortion, and campaign such as the Silent No More Awareness Campaign (SNMAC). This campaign consists of women and men who share their abortion experiences: the regret and the pain they've experienced, but also the healing and forgiveness that is possible.

This year we saw clearly the impact that the SNMAC has on campus. The personal testimonies of the SNMAC break through the pro-choice rhetoric, showing the students that abortion is not the answer and that there are real alternatives. It offers to all post-abortive men and women an opportunity to begin the healing process. The event is also important because it literally meets the students where they're at. These events are designed to be open events, in the sense that they occur in an open space—usually in the student centre. Students may simply be studying or walking to their next class and then they encounter these women giving their testimonies.

This year, the SNMAC visited campuses in B.C., Alberta and Ontario, changing hearts and minds on abortion whether it went. It is NCLN's hope that we will be able to assist Maritime campuses to host this important event here as well.

2011 Fredericton March For Life

Stacy Anderson, our Maritime board member (picture on right), and I were pleased to attend the 2011 Fredericton March for Life, entitled "A Child's First Right: The Right to Life", on May 19th. Over three hundred people gathered in front of the legislature to show their support for life. As a speaker at the event, I was able to speak to the youth and young adults in the crowd, encouraging them to be actively involved in the Movement.



Angelina Steenstra, from SNMAC, shares her abortion experience with on-looking students.

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