

PRO LIFE NONVIOLENT ACTION 1526 East 35th Ave. Denver Colo. 80205

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*Open your mouth for the speechless, In the cause of all who are appointed to die.  
Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.* Proverbs 31.8-9 (nKJ)

*For this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth.* John 18.37

*Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.* Matthew 25.40

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Abby Johnson still thinks it is wrong for anti abortion protestors to use *horrible graphics* even though she admits that it was looking at an abortion on ultrasound which made her quit the abortion business. Without that *horrible graphic*, she would still be working at Planned Parenthood, despite all the prayers aimed at her.

Christians have a serious moral obligation to *Bear Witness* to the horrible truth about abortion by bringing it out on the public sidewalk. It is the concealment of the truth about abortion which keeps Planned Parenthood in business--*it's just fetal tissue*. Abby Johnson was part of that concealment and still does not recognize that abortion bound women **need to see just what she saw**. If all you do is pray, you are complicit with that concealment.

David Bereit claims that **40 Days for Life** has prevented **7000 abortions** by people just praying. A nice round number. How about an illustration or two as to how this is supposed to work--*I was on my way into Planned Parenthood to have an abortion when I heard someone 300 yards away quietly praying. That is when I knew I couldn't do it . . . 2. Mary was standing right in front of me with signs saying Don't Do It! Let Your Baby Live! conjured up by all the prayers . . .*

**SIDEWALK COUNSELLING** is the effective way to turn women away from abortion, as we have proven over the 24 years of our daily effort in front of the Planned Parenthood abortuary here in Denver. At 20th and Vine we averaged two babies a week saved by using graphic displays, handing out **Alternatives** leaflets, talking quietly to customers, when we got the chance, and calling out to them when that was the only way to communicate. We have the pictures to prove it. On December 26th 1999, three babies were born on the same day to three different women we had Sidewalk Counsellled at 20th and Vine.

It is wonderful, I suppose that people who never came out before are actually coming out in front of the abortuary on one of those special 80 days a year, even if they won't do anything except pray. What is supposed to happen on the other 285 days of the year? The abortion bound babies are on their own? How about passing out pro life leaflets and **Alternatives** leaflets on some of those days? Does that violate the rule of *All You Should Do is Pray*? Even if you balk at handing out *graphic* abortion leaflets, there are **positive graphic** leaflets like *The First Nine Months* [ the Spanish language version is *Los Primeros Nueve Meses* ] which simply show the reality of the developing embryo child by the wonderful Lennart Nilsson **fiber optic** photographs.

**SIDEWALK COUNSELLORS** are well aware that getting a woman to go to an alternatives center for a free ultrasound can be the clincher in turning her away from having the abortion. But it is sometimes hit or miss as to whether we can find a free ultrasound on that particular day. They aren't open, or they don't have an operator etc. **THE FIRST NINE MONTHS** is in effect a **generic ultrasound--in color!** It costs 25c. It is portable. And you don't have to wait until they are on the way into the abortuary. You can hand it out in front of high schools and other places before they even make that appointment.

Jesus calls us to *Bear Witness to the truth* about abortion and gives us his Spirit and his Mission. John 20.21-22 and 18.37. We have no right to reverse that by calling upon Him to do what we are too chicken to do. There is no **power of prayer** in idle words used as the excuse for refusing to Bear Witness. **Just Pray** gives people the excuse for their lack of that Holy Spirit of Courage which is necessary to confront abortion. It is superstitious silliness, a doctrine born of *Quietism*. It cripples what pretends to be a serious pro life effort. As James 2.17 tells us. *Faith without works is dead.*

*Terry Sullivan*