

We Remember

Wake up at 5 a.m. Coffee is on. Make-up and hair is next. Visit three bedrooms to rouse four sleepy kiddos. Drop them off at school and walk across the parking lot to my office. A typical start to a September day. Then the calls started. "Turn on the news," folks are saying. We gathered in Bro. Jeff's office to witness the horrific images of victims jumping from hundreds of feet to escape the flames. Then there were images of those running into the building, the first-responders. The bad news kept coming and disbelief spread like the flames in the buildings. Could there really be a terrorist attack on American soil? Later, many weeks and months later, the confirmed death toll was given at 2753. Nearly 3000 innocent lives snuffed out.

Two weeks ago I read an article on the 10th anniversary of that fateful day. I started thinking about the innocent lives lost and brave souls forging through chaos in an attempt to rescue them. As you might expect from me, my mind was then turned to innocent pre-born lives and those who spend their lives to save them. Each year at the one remaining abortion clinic in Louisville more children die than the number of people who were killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Over 3000 babies have died each year in the 10 years since that September day. If you've ever experienced an abortion or spoken to someone who has, you know the babies are not the only victims. Left in the rubble and ash of pain and hidden grief are moms, dads, aunts, uncles and grandparents. When thinking of how the friends and family members have been affected, I also considered how our daily lives have changed in this decade. Go through an airport screening and you'll understand my point. Also, now there are "Acts of Terror" riders that you must accept or decline when purchasing commercial insurance. In so many ways our lives "look" so different after the it-can't-happen-on-our-turf bubble burst.

What about our daily lives in relation to providing life-affirming alternatives to women in need? Do we see impact in the way we live and go and do? These thoughts challenged me. I have a full-time career in a life-affirming ministry. But does the atrocity of 300 abortions per month happening right here in my community really have an impact on my day-to-day existence? Did you know that in a wide-reaching survey over 64% of women who had chosen to terminate their pregnancies said they would have carried the child to term if someone would have offered them help? Help! Not yelling and screaming and condemning. Help - prayer and kindness and listening and a shoulder to cry on. Help just like the first-responders on September 11, 2001. Pro-Life first responders are running into the lives that are crumbling and set ablaze when impacted by an untimely pregnancy - running in while the whole world seems to be running out on them. Obviously, pro-life organizations like Choices for Women are in the ministry to save babies, but we really can't. Only their mommies can save them. We are saving the mommies. Pre-born babies and their families are worth getting into the heat of the battle and coming out weary. As you commemorate the 9/11 tragedy and pay homage to the innocent and the brave, will you remember and pray for the other innocent victims and the other brave responders?

If you would like to make a special donation to help our Pro-Life First Responders reach out to even more women in crisis, or if you would like to become a first-responder (volunteer) give Rose a call at 812-941-0872 or email director@choicesforwomen.org.