

July 2021

Abortion is Not the Easy Way Out

Brittany stared with disbelief at the pregnancy test in her hand. It was positive. Fear ran rampant throughout her body. *This wasn't part of the plan! She was too young to have a baby! She was still in college; she wanted to be a pharmacist! She couldn't provide for a child!* The adrenaline. The emotion. Deep breaths. Deep breaths. She needed to think ...Maybe an abortion. She could just go in, have it done, and get on with her life as if it never happened, right?

"Throughout that day, I thought more and more about it," she recalled. "I Googled everything, so I decided to look up what occurs during an abortion, as well as the physical and emotional effects." Her research led her to abort73.com, a site where people share their abortion testimonies. "I saw a common theme among the testimonies on this site: *I realized I made a mistake, but it was too late.* Women in their 60s posting about the abortion they had in their late teens/early 20s. The pain, heartache, and regret they feel on a daily basis, decades after having their abortion," Brittany said.

"As humans, we make mistakes on a daily basis," she continued. "We learn from our mistakes and most of the time we are able to fix our mistakes. Having an abortion is a mistake we can't fix or 'undo.' Once it's done, it's done." As Brittany took in these stories, she felt her heart breaking. "I knew that if I had an abortion, I would be haunted by it forever, like these women," she said. "Thankfully, I gave myself some time to think through all of the consequences before rushing to get one." This revelation was *not* welcome news to her boyfriend and father of her unborn child. When Brittany had first approached him with the idea of terminating the pregnancy, he had expressed relief and support. But the idea continued to feel worse and worse to her. "If I had an abortion, I knew I would spend every single day for the rest of my life thinking of all the 'what-ifs' and wondering what could've been: Was it a boy or girl, what would (s)he look like, what would my life be like, (s)he would be one, two, three, etc. years old right now," Brittany said.

The next day, she told her boyfriend about her doubts. It didn't go well. "He was upset," she recalled. "He tried to change my mind with the initial fears I had." But she was armed with an idea. "I remembered that the mom of a girl I cheered with owned a pregnancy center just 15 minutes from campus," Brittany said. "I talked him into going with me, to explore our options and keep an open mind, hoping maybe this would change his mind." The pregnancy center, Hand of Hope, warmly welcomed the couple. Hand of Hope Pregnancy Center is a group of North Carolina pregnancy help medical clinics among some 2,700 pregnancy centers nationwide who assist and support women and families. "They talked with us about the pregnancy and assured us that this baby was no mistake. God planned for this baby to come during this period of my life," Brittany said.

Any chances of Brittany having an abortion were gone when at the pregnancy center she was given an ultrasound to see how far along she



was. "I was only six weeks pregnant, but I remember seeing a flickering heartbeat on the screen," she recalled. "Even though my baby wasn't formed yet, the organ that keeps us alive, the heart, was beating so strong. I saw true love for the first time on that ultrasound screen." And that was it. "I knew that it was my job to protect this baby, with or without the support from my (now) ex," she said.

It was time to speak with their parents, which would result in a dramatic decision. Her dad was upset with the news but grateful she didn't go through with an abortion, offering support whether she decided to keep the baby or go the adoption route. Her ex's mother, on the other hand, wasn't quite as kind. "She asked me what my plans were," Brittany recalled. "I told her that I wanted to keep the baby and continue school the following year. She laughed and said, 'If you take a year off you won't go back to school.'" The elder woman was steadfast in the idea that adoption was the *only* way the child could have a decent life and told Brittany it would be "selfish" to keep the baby.

(continued on page 2)

“While adoption is a great option for women, I knew in my heart that I was meant to raise this child,” Brittany said. “I had my parents’ support and stayed strong with my decision. I told his mom that I planned on keeping this baby, whether she supported me or not.” As a result, Brittany never heard from her child’s father, or his mom, ever again. “They cut off all communication with me,” she said. “Blocked me from everything and continued on with their lives. While this was hard, looking back on it now, I’m glad they did. For the remainder of my pregnancy, I was surrounded by support from my family, without the pressures of abortion/adoption that came from his side of the family.”

Brittany had lost her relationship, but now it was time to roll up her sleeves and get to work. Although she had already taken all of the classes to qualify for pharmacy school, she still had to take the required entrance exam, the PCAT, and complete the necessary application materials. “I remember walking in to take the PCAT with a big belly, getting strange looks from everyone,” she said. “It was difficult to finish all of this before he was born, but I kept telling myself that it would all be worth it.”

She was also working full-time at a CVS drugstore while pregnant. But when pharmacy school started, she had to significantly cut her hours. The pressures and levels of sacrifice were intense. “I continued to remind myself that if I can push through these next four years, it will all be worth it,” she said. “I told myself that I will be able to provide for my son and show him what hard work and dedication looks like.”

Brittany’s son Noah was born on Thanksgiving Day 2016.

Brittany graduated from pharmacy school in May of this year. And a certain someone was brimming with pride at her achievement: her son, Noah, now almost five. And the future looks bright. “I have been offered a job as a pharmacist at CVS,” she revealed. “I take the NAPLEX and pharmacy law exam in mid-July to become a licensed pharmacist. From there I will transition into the pharmacist position at CVS.”

She and Noah live in an apartment complex just five minutes down the road from her parents. “It’s nice to be close to my dad and brother, so Noah can have some father figures in his life,” she said. “He feels all grown up when he gets to hang out with them.”

As far as a father for Noah in a more traditional sense of the word, Brittany is putting any prospect of finding a partner in God’s hands. “Right now, I take each day as it comes,” she said. “I am happy with the way life is going. My hard work has finally paid off and I was able to do it with Noah by my side.”

Words of wisdom from Brittany

Speaking from direct experience, Brittany wants pregnant women out there who are contemplating abortion to think about it before making any rash decisions. “Abortion is *not* the easy way out,” she said. “There are so many emotional and physical consequences that women go through after getting an abortion. I know that a baby is not part of the plan for this time of your life. However, God’s plan is bigger and better than what you can imagine. God has trusted you with this baby. Please choose to give your own flesh and blood the gift of life.”

She wants to remind women of the many pregnancy centers out there that will help them. Look them up online. Make a phone call. And, of course, Heartbeat International and its OptionLine contact center are tremendous resources.

Brittany was lucky enough to have a supportive family. Not everyone has that. But no matter what, a pregnant woman is *never alone*. “If you feel like you’re all alone, remember, you have a little baby growing inside you that’s always with you,” she said. “Having a baby, raising a child, is hard, but so worth it. You will experience a love like no other. You will want to be better, do better, because you have a child looking up to you.”

“Noah was my motivation to go back to school. He makes me want to be a better person every day,” she added. “You are much stronger than you think you are, and you *can* get through this.”

Source: Pregnancy Help News. Written by Chris Alexis.

MATERIAL DONATION FYI...

BPRC keeps it’s boutique stocked with your generous donations. Receiving baby items from this community makes this possible. We always appreciate the following new or gently used items:

- * children’s clothing (preemie—3T)
- * maternity clothing
- * strollers
- * swings
- * bedding
- * diapers and wipes
- * most any baby or pregnancy related items
- * we cherish home-made items



Because of safety reasons we cannot give out used car seats, cribs, walkers, or breast pumps.

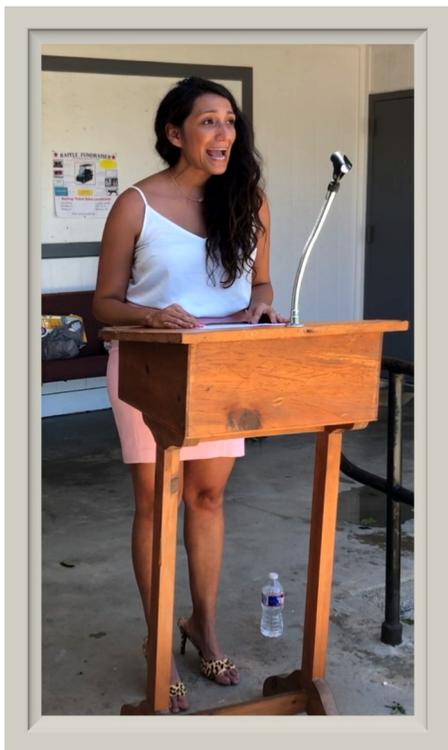
BPRC OPEN HOUSE—A HUGE SUCCESS!

BPRC held an open house on May 29th. We would like to thank all who attended. Members from the Grace Mennonite Church in Bastrop came and helped throughout the event. They also recently held a “Bottles for Babies” campaign. Thanks so much to all of you!

Thanks to Dell Children’s Health Plan who donated baby rattles, backpacks, and thermometers to give away at the open house. There was food, face painting and more. A great day!

Amanda Hewitt, pictured left, gave an awesome testimony of her experience as a very young mother who was faced with many obstacles. She was able to bless and encourage our guests with her life story.

The open house was a huge success!



BABY SHOWERS HELD FOR TEENS

BPRC delivered gift bags filled with blankets, bottles, outfits and other items to expectant teens in our area high schools. The high schools included Smithville, Bastrop, Giddings, and Elgin.

The young ladies were encouraged by these gifts and were informed of the many ways that BPRC can support them.

Praise be to God! They have chosen life for their babies!



Thank you for your continued support

To make one-time or monthly recurring donations, go to www.bastropprc.org

-Or-

You may mail a check to
P O Box 2192, Bastrop TX, 78602
512-409-3400

SUNDAY MORNING AT BASTROP CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

On Sunday, May 30th, Bastrop Christian Outreach Center (BCOC) blessed us by giving Catina White-Higgins, Director of Development at BPRC, the opportunity to speak to their congregation.

A video presentation was shown and Catina shared about our free services that are provided to many families in nearby communities and counties.

An offering was taken up and given to the center along with many boxes of diapers. We are so grateful to have received such generous gifts. Thank you BCOC!

Thank you to all the churches that support us with your prayers and gifts. You are truly blessing many lives. We would love to host a “Bottles for Babies” campaign at your church. Call us for more information.

Also, thank you to the many individuals and businesses who support us. Our doors would not remain open without our donors.

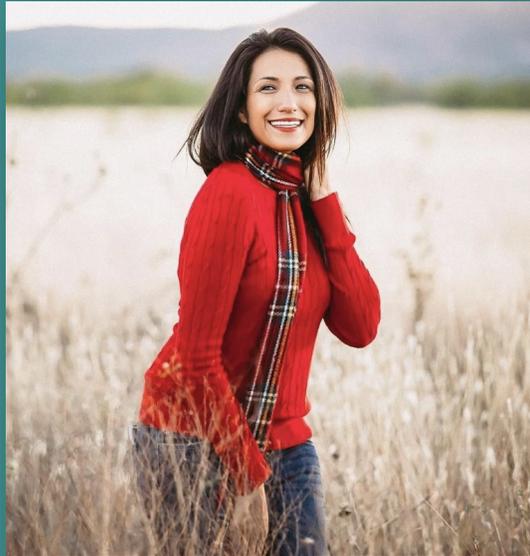




Welcome to BPRC
Amanda Hewitt
Director of Operations

Website: bastropprc.org
Email: admin@bastropprc.org
Phone: 512-409-3400
Hours: Mon 9-3, Tues 3-7pm
Wed / Thurs 9-12

Hi! I am Amanda Hewitt. I am married and have a teenage son who will be a sophomore in high school this fall. I love God with all my heart. I have over six years of experience working in the non-profit world. I have a bachelor’s degree in psychology. For the past seven years, I have been a blogger, influencer, and speaker. My heart for helping and empowering women has never faltered. Being a young mom and having my own pro-life story has always sparked an interest in giving back and helping moms like myself. I am so happy to be the new Director of Operations at BPRC and my hope is to be impactful and to make a difference!



Save the Date

5th Annual

“Golf for Life”

Tournament

Friday, September 24, 2021

Shot Gun Start—1:00 pm

ColoVista Golf Club, Bastrop TX

Please consider sponsoring
and/or golfing.



Bastrop Pregnancy Resource Center
2007 N Main Street
P O Box 2192
Bastrop, TX 78602



Become a Volunteer at BPRC
You Can Make a Difference!