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## When Hope Dwindled, You Inspired a Mother to Choose Life!

Alone and depressed, Francine thought she needed abortion. Your generosity transformed her future.



An orphan, an unexpected child, and you. Sound like a novel? It's

really your story.

It begins in Rwanda...

Francine secretly decided to get an abortion.

She didn't like the idea. When her first child came unexpectedly, she chose life. But a second child? It was too much to handle.

#### ABORTION SEEMED LIKE THE ONLY OPTION. UNTIL YOU ENTERED HER LIFE

Both of Francine's parents died when she was

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When you opened your heart to her, Francine opened her heart to her child. Dear Friends in Christ,

You accomplish great work.

Sometimes, the pro-life movement can feel overwhelming. There's so

much to do. Often, it's easy to overlook the fruits of your labor. Today, however, I'd like to invite you to reflect on the lives you change.

You help many people. And each of these is an individual, with their



Fr. Shenan J. Boquet President

own hopes and needs. You enter into their story. And you change their lives for the better. Without you, Fe would still carry her heavy burden (pg. 5). She finally found peace because of you.

You touch many hearts. And you dry many tears.

Thank you for all you do.

Yours in Christ,

Father Shenan J. Boquet

Human Life International<sup>-</sup> 4 Family Life Lane Front Royal, Virginia 22630 USA



Phone: 800-549-5433 Website: www.hli.org E-mail: hli@hli.org

## Because of you, Francine has two beautiful children. And she will raise them with faith.

just a baby. A friend's family raised her. But when Francine became unexpectedly pregnant, they rejected her. To them, this pregnancy was a burden.

Francine left their home. She'd rather keep her child than stay. She moved in with one of her friends. During the following year, she raised her child as best she could.

But Francine faced another problem: she'd never learned about chastity. Soon, she realized that she was pregnant for a second time.

Another unexpected pregnancy seemed like the end of the world.

Alone, Francine couldn't face raising two children. Without finishing school, she couldn't support herself.

The pressure weighed on her. Francine struggled against hopelessness. She fought depression. But she couldn't see another option.

As much as she hated the thought, Francine decided to get an abortion. Having a second child seemed impossible. She felt alone.

Luckily, she wasn't alone. You were there.

## WHEN FRANCINE FELT ABANDONED, YOU PROVIDED HOPE

Francine met your missionaries. They persuaded her to come to their office instead of the abortion clinic. They listened to her story and offered support.

Francine decided to go to them for help. Maybe she could raise this child if she had assistance.

Because of you, Francine received counseling. Your missionaries showed her that her pre-born child was a tiny, living, human being.

Thanks to you, Francine chose life. You helped her afford quality medical care. You provided baby clothes.

But her story didn't end there. Your missionaries knew she needed something more.

#### YOU PREPARED FRANCINE FOR A NEW WAY OF LIFE

Your missionaries described God's plan for the family. They showed her that she needs to live chastely.

Chastity education protects girls like Francine. When young



Thanks for helping my mom choose life!

people understand God's intention for marriage and a family, they wait until the commitment of marriage. This prevents accidental pregnancy for single mothers.

Thanks to you, Francine finally understands the need to live a chaste life.

She also understands the importance of prayer. Her child was born this summer, and Francine plans to educate both her children and pray with them. Thanks to you, these children will be raised in a faith-filled home.

Without you, Francine may have gone through with abortion. She would have lost her child. She would have suffered the trauma of abortion.

What's more, she never would have learned about God's wonderful plan for marriage and the family.

Because of you, she has two beautiful children. And she will raise them with faith.

You made it all possible. Thank you.

### **Two Years Later: Your Impact Expands**

How one conference continues to transform pro-life work in Asia.

You began this story two years ago. Now there's a new chapter. In early 2020, Asel went to a conference you sponsored in India. It changed her life. Afterward, she brought your message to her country.

Kazakhstan has pro-life leaders. But Asel had something new to share.

Because of you, Asel learned that contraception is a root cause of abortions. Without a chaste culture, it's hard to get rid of abortion. Even though she was Protestant, Asel recognized truth.

#### ASEL BROUGHT YOUR MESSAGE TO HER COMMUNITY

She knew that rejecting contraception is a game-changer.

But when the pandemic struck, lockdowns stranded Asel and her husband in Namibia—they were stuck on a different continent!

Inspired by you, Asel helped the families of Namibia. She saved at least three children from abortion. While still in Africa, she and her husband also converted to Catholicism!

Eventually, she returned to Kazakhstan. Finally, she could



Your conference changed Asel's life. Now she's bringing the pro-life message to others.



share your work with her own country.

Your conference in India affected Asel so strongly, that she decided to host a similar conference for pro-life leaders in Kazakhstan. She knew the influence it might have.

You inspired her to transform her community.

Asel needed someone to explain God's plan for the family. Addressing root issues is a vital step to ending abortion. She also didn't know how people would react. Most pro-lifers in Kazakhstan are Protestant.

She needed backup.

#### YOU EMPOWERED PRO-LIFE LEADERS IN KAZAKHSTAN

Your generosity allowed Fr. Giordano of HLI Rome to travel to Kazakhstan. He knew Asel from your conference in India, and was happy to partner with her on this mission. Dr. Vladislav, from HLI Belarus, agreed to speak as well.

Because of you, they hosted multiple talks at various locations in Kazakhstan.

## After someone attends an event you sponsor, they bring your message back to their homes. You empower them to transform their communities.

They spoke to Catholics, and they spoke to Protestants. Everywhere, they were welcomed.

Asel discovered that Protestant pro-lifers are more than happy to learn about God's plan for the family.

Because of you, pro-life leaders in Kazakhstan know how to help families choose life and reject contraception. They can stop abortion laws from endangering their country's children.

Conferences and educational events may not seem like a big deal. But they have an enormous impact.

## ASEL IS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT YOU MAKE POSSIBLE

Asel attended one of your conferences a few years ago. Since then, she has saved multiple children's lives, helped many families, and now is inspiring other leaders to have a similar impact.

After someone attends an event you sponsor, they bring your message back to their homes. You empower them to transform their communities.

In Kazakhstan, because of you, couples reject contraception. You strengthen their marriages. You empower them to counsel women with crisis pregnancies. You save those children's lives.

Asel is just one example. You impact countless other people like her.

With your help, she is bringing your message to the people of Kazakhstan.

Your generosity has ripple effects that will continue for generations.

Thank you.



You inspired these pro-life leaders to embrace *all* of God's plan for life and family.

### You Soothed a Fifty-Year Wound

Abortion left Fe broken. Because of you, she finally found peace.

Fe smothered her tears.

For decades, she'd held these tears back, continuing on with day-to-day life. Her actions were impeccable. She lived a pious life. She was a leader in her parish.

## But Fe had a secret. When she was eighteen, her mother forced her to have an abortion.

For half a century, Fe carried this burden in secret. No one knew. No one even suspected. She suffered from this open wound in silence.

#### SHE WAS ALONE. UNTIL SHE FOUND YOU

Her story begins fifty years ago:

While a naïve college student, Fe dated an older man. Soon she became pregnant. Her mother feared for their social position in the Philippines. As leaders in their social circle, they couldn't risk the disgrace that would follow once their town heard of Fe's pregnancy. Abortion seemed like the solution.

Fe was still a teenager, and she didn't know how to stand up for her child. She was young, afraid, and had no support. She needed someone like you. You care about mothers who are unexpectedly pregnant. You know that they need support. But Fe didn't have anyone.

Unwillingly, Fe had an abortion.

And she never told. Years went by, and Fe's mother and the abortionist were the only other living people who knew her dark secret.

As the years passed, she suffered terribly from post-abortive syndrome. Outwardly, Fe had the perfect life. Inwardly, she was a wreck.

#### YOUR CONFERENCE CHANGED HER LIFE

Now a 68-year-old woman, Fe

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attended a conference you sponsored in the Philippines.

As she listened to a discussion about the dignity of the human person and the truth about abortion, she finally let her tears flow. The decades of pain and shame finally broke through.

After the conference, she sought out one of your missionaries. Fe told her story.

Your missionary listened compassionately, comforting Fe and counseling her. **Fe finally met someone she could trust.** Your missionary shared resources with Fe for post-abortive women. She talked with her about her child.

#### **BECAUSE OF YOU, FE TOOK THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS HEALING**

Your generosity allows women like Fe to finally begin the process of healing. Abortion leaves trau-

matic scars. You bring these women hope.

Compassionate people like you care deeply about women. And you know the impact abortion has on the mother as well as her child. The missionaries you support know this as well. And they know exactly how to counsel these mothers.

Your missionary shared St. Pope John Paul II's "Letter to Post-Abortive Women" with Fe. She also encouraged Fe to consider counseling other women in similar situations. Maybe someday, Fe might be able to counsel other mothers enduring the same pain.

God's grace is always present. And He uses every opportunity. Because of you, Fe is free from her solitary torture. And now she has the chance to touch many more lives.

Thank you for your generosity. You make it possible for women like Fe to find the healing they need.

#### **THANK YOU for making change possible!**

Every story you read in Mission Report is a snapshot of your impact. Your gifts are saving lives and souls all over the world. None of this amazing work would be possible without you.

Thank you for building a pro-life world. Please pray for the mission. I'll be praying for you.

Fr. Shenan J. Boquet