



Dear Church Awareness Project Participant:

Thank you for taking part in the Church Awareness Project, sponsored by the Elliot Institute. Most people – including many pro-lifers and people of faith – haven't heard that most abortions are unwanted or coerced, or that forced abortions happen in our own circles. Many haven't heard about the harm abortion has inflicted on women, men and families in our churches and communities.

Many people are not aware that women and girls in our churches and communities who are experiencing a difficult pregnancy may be encouraged, pushed, pressured or even forced to abort – or that there are many women, men and families hurting because of a past abortion.

We can open the door to help, hope and healing!

Whether you are a church leader or minister, pro-life activist, pregnancy or post-abortion counselor, advocate, volunteer, or simply someone concerned about this issue, there are many ways you can participate.

See our Activities and Ideas List at www.afterabortion.org/churchawarenessproject for a list of resources and opportunities for individuals, small groups and entire churches to take part in the Church Awareness Project. This includes:

- Sharing a copy of *The Jericho Plan* pastor's guide (written by Elliot Institute director Dr. David Reardon) with pastors and church leaders;
- Encouraging leaders to address this issue and offering them new evidence from a respectful pro-woman/pro-life perspective;
- Letter-writing campaigns to make leaders in your community aware of how abortion endangers and violates the rights and lives of both women and their unborn children;
- Downloading free resources to print, copy and share in your church;
- Talking points to help pastors and preachers write sermons that raise awareness of these issues, including important evidence about unwanted abortions and aftereffects that, in some cases, may even put teens and women among us at risk of suicide.

You will find links to lots of free, easy-to-use resources on the list!

If you are a member of a church or faith community, we especially ask you to share these resources with your faith leaders, pro-life committees, outreach groups, youth group leaders, educators, and others in your church and encourage them to become a part of this effort.

The single, most important way to get the message out to people in your church or faith community is to have your pastor or preacher talk about it from the pulpit. This lets people in the pews know that they are not alone, that help is available, and that they will have the support of their entire faith community behind them.

We are very excited about the Church Awareness Project, and we hope you are too! Please share these ideas and free resources with others and feel free to send us your ideas. You can share your thoughts and ideas on our blog at www.afterabortion.org/churchawarenessproject.

Thank you from the Elliot Institute and the Church Awareness Project

P.S. If you haven't yet joined the Church Awareness Project, please do! Your participation is needed to shed light and share hope with those affected by these issues. Join by visiting www.afterabortion.org/churchawarenessproject.

When you join the project, you will receive a copy of the Church Leader's Kit to share with your pastor, church leaders and others in your faith community. Please encourage your pastor or other faith leaders to join us, too. The more churches, faith groups and individuals that participate, the more light we will be able to spread to those around us!