

Abortion Memorial Website Helps Families of Unborn Heal

A website that launched this week will allow individuals who have had their babies aborted a chance to acknowledge and grieve their loss, as well as memorialize the unborn child—without guilt or politics.

Located at www.unbornmemorial.com, the website provides a wall where individuals can post thoughts, poems, images or video—whatever they consider a fitting tribute—to honor the life of the child that could have been. The site serves not only parents who've experienced abortion, but also grandparents, siblings and extended family and friends, who are invited to post in the baby's honor, acknowledging the loss that they, too, may feel because of the relationship they would have had with the child.

In addition to memorializing children lost to abortion, the site offers healing, as individuals are able to share their post-abortion stories in a safe and non-political environment. Visitors to the site will see that others have had similar experiences and that acknowledging the loss and hurt has helped those others find peace and comfort.

"Many parents who chose abortion for their child later deeply regret it and have a really hard time forgiving themselves for the decision," says Brian Fisher, co-founder and president of Online for Life, a life-affirming educational nonprofit responsible for . "This site helps them realize that forgiveness is available for themselves, from others and, most importantly, from God. Sharing their heart, pain and thoughts in a safe environment is a vital step toward healing."

Those who choose to make a donation in a child's honor receive a packet of wildflower seedlings they can plant as an ongoing and living memorial to the unborn infant. This not only

provides a practical action for the person to take, but also adds beauty to the environment and an ongoing testimony to the child's life.

Posts can be made anonymously or using a first or full name. People may choose to share just a simple statement, while others are posting full stories of their past history with abortion.

"The site was inspired by the National Memorial for the Unborn in Chattanooga, Tenn.," Fisher explains. "That physical memorial and chapel is simple, quiet and serene. It's also very moving. With , we attempted to provide the same sort of environment virtually. It's meant to purely be a place of healing and comfort—the kind of comfort we can only receive from others who share our experiences."

Fisher estimates there are 30 million post-abortive parents and untold other relatives of aborted children in America today. "We believe there is an enormous need for a site that allows grieving people the opportunity to remember the loss of aborted children," he adds.