

A Second Chance

Submitted by Peer Counselor Nancy Cardillo

I first met "Jen" in May of 2006. She was almost 6 weeks pregnant and undecided regarding her pregnancy. Her boyfriend was with her and said he would support her either way, but seemed excited about the prospect of being a dad. Jen wanted her baby, but did not feel ready to be a mom and wanted to pursue her studies.

Jen's biggest obstacle to parenting was her mother. Her mother worked at an abortion clinic and took Jen to the clinic to witness her sister's abortion several years ago; in hopes of showing Jen what the consequences would be if she were to get pregnant. This was the driving force behind Jen's decision to abort, despite weeks of follow-up from our office.

Eight months later, Jen returned to our office with another unplanned pregnancy. She and her boyfriend were hurting from their previous abortion experience, and although she was very scared, she vowed never to experience that again.

Today, God has done a tremendous work in this young woman's life. Jen is more than 5 months pregnant and is planning on attending the "Heart" program for post-abortive women after she delivers her baby. Personally, she has experienced a renewed passion for God in her life. As a result, she hopes to volunteer at Choices of the Heart and share her story to help other young women who find themselves in similar situations.

** 43% of all abortions are repeat abortions (women who have had at least one previous abortion)