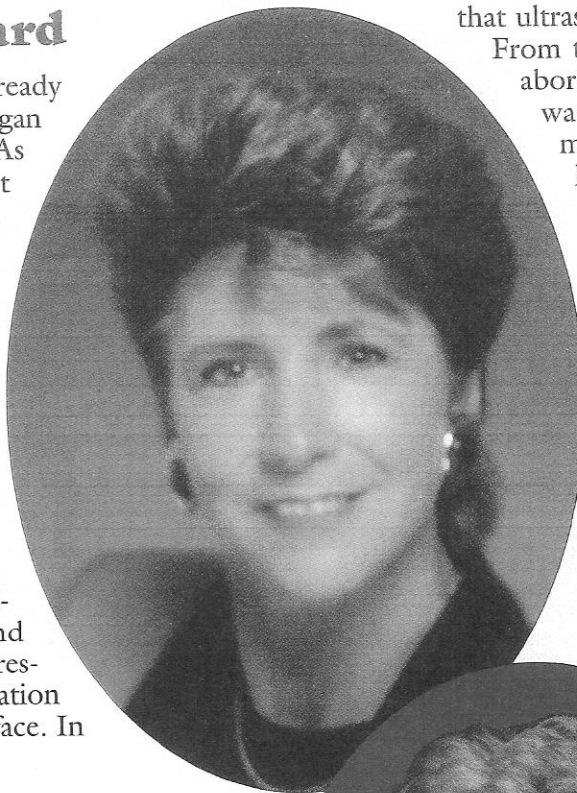


Shari Richard

IN 1979, after I had already had two abortions, I began ultrasound training. As I performed my first ultrasound exam on a nine-week pregnant woman, the screen revealed the image of a fully formed, active, tiny human baby. I saw the fetus jump, and I could identify the beating heart, fingers, toes and eyes. My instructor then informed me that the fetus measured approximately one inch, and that every organ was present. This day of revelation was like a slap in the face. In



that ultrasound image I saw a reflection of my past. From then on I was daily reminded of my own abortions as I performed ultrasound scans and watched the preborn babies living in their mothers' wombs. My nights were filled with haunting dreams; during waking hours I would fluctuate between fits of rage, grief and hostility.

Having been raised a Christian, I remembered my childhood friend Jesus. I went to a quiet place on a beach and opened my heart to Him. I poured out tears of repentance as I gave Him all my pain from the past. I prayed for the children I had aborted, asking Jesus to take care of them. All the pain, grief, anger and hatred were gone, replaced by total peace and love that we know only through Christ.

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Carol Everett

I SAID IT. I told my church that I had killed my own baby. They would never be able to forgive me. In my mind, abortion was the unforgivable sin.

As I walked off that podium, I was met by the loving—yes, forgiving—arms of the people who had loved me out of the abortion industry and now were willing to love me through the eyes of a forgiving, loving God. I could not believe it. I cried uncontrollably.

At that moment, through the acceptance of His people, God washed me in His love—His unconditional love. I knew that night that the blood of Jesus Christ,



shed on the cross for me, covered me completely, all my sin. Now I was no longer the Scarlet Lady, covered by the blood of over 35,000 aborted babies, nor even the blood of my own child, but the Scarlet Lady, covered by Christ's blood.

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