



CERVI São Paulo, Brazil



LIFE International

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Brazil

- Brazil is the world's largest Catholic country.
- Brazil has the 2nd worst record in child sex trafficking (Thailand is 1st); 250,000-500,000 children are prostitutes.
- With vast natural resources and a large labor pool, Brazil is South America's leading economic power.
- Brazil suffers under highly unequal income distribution.

Brazil and Abortion

- Brazil has the 17th highest abortion rate in the world (the U.S.'s rate is 36th), with 1-4 million abortions annually.
- Religion and tradition have long kept abortion outlawed except for extreme cases.
- Abortion is a leading cause of maternal death.
- Public debate over abortion has swelled recently amid moves to lift bans on ending unwanted pregnancies.
- CERVI is the sole pregnancy resource center in São Paulo, a city of 19.1 million inhabitants (2008).

Teenage Mom Discovers God Cares

Kelly came to CERVI alone and afraid. She was 16 and had been dating Carlos for 18 months. When the pregnancy test came back positive, Kelly got depressed and desperate. She wanted an abortion—soon.

The counselor talked with Kelly about abortion's consequences and invited her to watch a video. In the midst of it, Carlos called. Kelly left. CERVI's intercessors started praying.

Two months later, Kelly called. She had decided to keep the baby, but her mom wanted Kelly to get an abortion. She talked with a counselor for a long time. Again, our partners prayed. If the Holy Spirit could convince Kelly, He could convince her mom as well.

Kelly called back. God had answered their prayers and her mom had accepted the baby, but now it was time to tell Carlos' family. Would they press for abortion too?

Days later, Kelly and her mother-in-law came to CERVI for counseling. Carlos' mother thanked us for helping Kelly avoid an abortion. Kelly was happy—her family supported her, and she'd learned God would take good care of her.

CERVI Client Statistics opened 1999				
	2005	2006	2007	2008
Client Visits	577	368	383	1,695
Pregnancy Tests	200	150	149	53
Abortion-Minded Clients	40	9	11	6
AMC Decisions to Carry	40	7	8	1
Gospel Presentations	182	319	192	37
Decisions for Christ	173	31	50	8

CERVI Accomplishments

- Abstinence presentations in three schools
- Adolescent Health Conference
- Four sets of pre-natal courses
- Six TV interviews/magazine articles
- Moving to a new building

CERVI Goal and Prayer Requests

- Reach more abortion-minded women.
- Increase the number of local and international donors.
- Recruit and train more volunteers.
- Build relationships with baby/maternity shops to increase the material services available to pregnant clients.

How Can You Partner with LIFE International?

Individuals, churches, centers, and businesses can partner with LIFE through prayer and financial support. Every prayer offered and every gift sown into LIFE helps make possible ministries like CERVI. Will you join with LIFE and help nationals establish life-giving ministries wherever abortion exists?

Questions? Want more information? Contact us at info@lifeinternational.com or (616) 248-3300.



—Rose Santiago, director