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But camp also makes an undeniable impact on the lives of campers, many who build lifelong friendships while attending.

"You don't realize the investment you are making in a child's life," Tubby says. "They build self-esteem, character and morals, learn about the Bible, independence and gain confidence."

The effects continue long after the week is over, especially as campers transition into their teenage years and come back to work at camp and mentor others, completing the circle.

"Former campers make the best counsellors," Tubby says. "They know what they loved as a camper and can give back to others."

Parents love to know their teen is working at camp, she says. Often kids come home and their parents can't believe the change. "They're doing dishes without being asked," Tubby says.

"There isn't a better job for a student, to work in a Christian environment and learn to be a servant of others," Tubby says. "It's the best summer job ever."

Heath Heagle, Ontario Camps Association executive director, says options are available to parents with tight summer budgets, as well as those looking for camps outfitted for special needs. "Some camps are more expensive, but we have a lot of camps that provide a great experience for a great price," Heagle says. There are also many subsidies and a child tax credit that parents can apply for, though Heagle says parents should apply in early spring to take advantage of the assistance.

Considering the investment, Heagle says, "camp is the best deal in town."

Men: the hidden victims of abortion

Bradley Mattes Sponsored Feature

Vick Predessi was living in Minneapolis when his girlfriend told him she was pregnant. He was elated but she was not, and without his knowledge she had an abortion.

Vick was furious. After arguing, he told his girlfriend he was going to kill her 18-month-old daughter from a previous relationship because his girlfriend killed his baby. Vick then shot the young child in front of the mother before pointing the

gun at his head and taking his own life. He let the mother live to mourn the loss of both a child and a former lover.

An extreme case? Yes, but Vick is just one of millions of men who seriously suffer emotionally after losing a child by abortion. Vick lived in a society where men have no rights over the life or death decision to abort their babies.

Who will speak up for these grieving fathers? Who will defend their cries for justice? Who will minister to them as they deal with their

anguish? Most men suffer in silence because they are the hidden victims of abortion.

Alliance for Life Ontario is shining a light on the little-known realities of men and abortion with the upcoming Men and Abortion Conference June 11-13 at the Crowne Plaza in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Experts in the field of men and abortion will discuss why men are affected, the symptoms they experience, as well as the best ways to help them. Catherine T. Coyle, RN, MSN, PhD and Vincent M. Rue, PhD will

share existing research on abortion's effect on men. Dr. Kevin Burke will delve into abortion and the prison population while Scott Miller will talk about the perils of misdiagnosis.

Be part of the solution in helping men after abortion. Contact Alliance for Life Ontario for more details or to register: 866-LUV-BOTH or aflo@ mgl.ca.

Bradley Mattes is the Executive Director and CEO of Life Issues Institute, an organization serving the educational needs of the pro-life movement from its headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio.

