

## YOUTH SYMPOSIUM ON EUTHANASIA



On Thursday, Feb. 24th, Right to Life Mississauga & Area successfully sponsored its first Youth Symposium on Euthanasia, in conjunction with the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board. The event was attended by 350 students representing 25 schools from Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon and was headlined by Kevin Dunn, the producer of

Vulnerable: The Euthanasia Deception.

Kevin screened the movie for the students and teachers at the John Paul II community Center in Mississauga. The movie Vulnerable is an exposé on what many would call the failed experiment on Assisted Suicide enacted in the Netherlands and Belgium over 10 years ago. The purpose of the event was to educate the students on the truths and injustices surrounding Euthanasia and to in part combat the misinformation which has exploded since the Supreme Court struck down the prohibition against assisted suicide.

In an interactive presentation between moderator and audience, Kevin highlighted the three main myths perpetuated by the Euthanasia lobby; that euthanasia and assisted suicide are a form of compassion, the second is the myth of autonomy: that decisions made between doctor and patient operate in a vacuum and finally, that government 'safeguards' can truly protect the vulnerable. The movie detailed case after case on how families were negatively impacted and often kept in the dark about requests for assisted suicide and how the vulnerable, the aged, infirm, depressed and disabled have become categorized as expendable. The movie also provided inspiring cases where individuals suffering from disabilities or degenerative diseases have risen above their affliction to deliver and receive love and care as members of the human family. Throughout the film, Kevin solicited feedback from attentive students and delivered a number of moving personal stories.



After a brief lunch period, students walked over to St. Maximilian Kolbe Church for a question and answer session with Kevin and Cardinal Thomas Collins. When Cardinal Collins was preparing to celebrate mass, students were introduced to Sister Magnificat Rose, a Sister of Life, who was visiting from

New York. She gave a compelling talk about how each and every one of us is uniquely loved by the Father. Birthright Brampton and Mississauga, Alliance for Life, Sisters of Life, and Campaign Life also participated in the Symposium distributing literature from their booths. In addition to making contributions to these worthy organizations and covering over various Symposium expenses, Right to Life Mississauga & Area also donated an honorarium fee to the Coalition for Healthcare and Conscience on behalf of Cardinal Collins.

We hope that this ambitious educational event will be the first of many important pro-life events directed towards youth within the School Board. Copy the following link into your browser to see the trailer for the movie Vulnerable: The Euthanasia Deception: <http://www.vulnerablefilm.com/trailer.html>. Copies of the movie are available from Right to Life Mississauga & Area for local pro-life group and church gatherings.

**These types of educational events are made possible through the generosity of Right to Life Mississauga & Area members.**

---