

Ministering to Those Hurting from Abortion

Men in Black

They walk in groups of one,
These men in black
Messengers of God,
They have the power,
To heal or hurt
With a glance
A word
The wave of a hand.
Through the power of one,
I condemned them all.
They walk in groups of one,
These men in black
Servants of God,
They have the power
To break your heart
Or help heal your soul.
Through the power of one,
I forgive them all.
Who could have thought
I'd find deliverance
In the eyes
Of
A priest?

*Written after a
healing experience*

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There is no single profile of a woman who approaches a priest for post-abortion healing. She may identify herself as Catholic, but have little formation in the faith. Or she may exhibit overly pious or scrupulous behavior, or even be deeply involved in Church business as a form of atonement for her abortion. She may attend Mass regularly and be raising her children Catholic. Or she may not have stepped inside a church since the day of her abortion. She may never have confessed her abortion, or she may have done so numerous times.

But she is certainly a woman who believes she has committed a grave sin, even an unforgivable one, a woman who fears rejection by the Church, but at the same time desperately desires healing and reconciliation with God.

She needs to know immediately that there is hope. There is healing. And the promise of help and reconciliation from a Church that cares about her.

A woman who has had an abortion may approach you at any time. She may do so in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Or she may be referred to you by a friend or by the local program of post-abortion ministry, Project Rachel. The following information will assist you to minister to those hurting from abortion, whether through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or through pastoral counseling (often in conjunction with a local Project Rachel).

I feel more like a priest when I'm involved in Project Rachel than perhaps at any other time.

Jesus is still at work in the world: in Project Rachel situations, it is obvious that he is acting through his priests.

The one who calls Project Rachel is often "dead" spiritually and emotionally, but happily, Jesus still raises the dead to life. ...
