



You're making a huge difference

Carrying an unplanned pregnancy can be a costly choice for many. Below are four diverse stories that unfolded at First Place this year. While their stories are very unique they all shared the reality of an unplanned pregnancy and nowhere else to turn. **If not us, then who?**

*Thank you for making **US** possible for them...*

We're married with a young child and we're pregnant again. I'm open to continuing but he doesn't want any more children. I love him more than anything and I don't want to cause him any stress. At this early stage of my pregnancy he sees it as a biological process; nothing more. We spent a couple of hours at First Place and it had a huge impact on us. We left unsure of what we would do but a couple of weeks later we decided to continue the pregnancy and parent. [True Story]

I'm a single mature male with grown children. My ex-girlfriend informed me she was pregnant. I felt overwhelmed. I was embarrassed and felt trapped and had no one to talk to. I tried to pressure my ex-girlfriend to consider adoption. I was just making things worse. I found First Place and accessed their counselling services on three separate occasions. I felt like it gave me a place to honestly share my thoughts and feelings. Talking things through allowed me to face and embrace the situation constructively. [True Story]

I'm a mature woman with three children. My partner and I just recently reconciled after a lengthy separation. I just found out I'm pregnant and booked an appointment at the Morgentaler Clinic to terminate the pregnancy. I then realized I didn't want to be awake for the procedure so I changed my appointment to the Ottawa hospital. My partner is supportive of termination. I'm struggling to understand it all and can't help but wonder if getting pregnant is a "sign". I booked a pre-natal meeting with my doctor as well. I'm worried about my emotional well-being if I go through with the abortion. I will always wonder if this baby would be as wonderful as my other three children and who he/she would look like. [True Story, ongoing]

I'm in my early 20's and have been living with my partner for a few years. I just found out I'm pregnant. This is my second pregnancy, the first one ended in termination. I can't believe I'm back in this situation again. I feel very responsible and do not want to negatively impact my partner's life. I feel overwhelmed. I do want children at some point in my life but now is not the best time. I'm a little worried because the doctor who performed my previous abortion told me multiple abortions could create increased scarring in the uterus and potentially limit my chances of getting pregnant in the future. My partner is being very supportive in fact he believes all of our plans are still possible with this unplanned pregnancy, and says they just may look a little different. I'm interested in accessing post-abortion support because I feel my previous termination is making this decision very challenging. [True Story, ongoing]

