

Abortion survivor talk given from balcony after college claimed it was misled

BY MARY O'CONNOR

An American abortion survivor - who was to speak at NUI Galway last Thursday night as part of a tour of six universities organised by the pro-life student group Ultrasound - addressed her audience from the balcony of the college's lobby after the university cancelled the booking claiming it was misled.

Gianna Jessen (28) who was born in California and who survived being aborted as an unborn baby of seven months, was to speak at the O'hEocha Theatre at 7pm.

A spokesperson for NUI Galway explained that a representative from "Ultrasound" had booked a lecture theatre but said it [the college] understood it was for a different meeting.

"The university was led to believe that the lecture was to be on

cerebral palsy. However, as soon as publicity of the event appeared, it became apparent that the person who booked the venue had misrepresented the facts and the booking was

cancelled," she alleged.

A spokesperson for Ultrasound said it was delighted that Ms Jessen, who has testified before the US Congress, managed to address

"hundreds of students" in the university despite being without a formal venue.

"Ultrasound had booked a theatre in NUIG for the evening but a university administrator told them this week [week of November 24] that the booking would be cancelled. No satisfactory reason had been given for the cancellation," the spokesperson claimed.

"Ms Jessen delivered an impassioned address from the balcony of the lobby to the assembled students who gave her a warm reception. A victory for free speech and the right of this incredible woman to be heard."

Ultrasound was formed in March 2002 and consists of pro-life students across various universities. This is its third college roadshow but the first featuring international speakers.



Gianna Jessen.



Fingers on the buzzers for Who Wants To Be A Thousandaire - which will take place on December 6 at the Radisson SAS hotel Galway. The fundraising event in aid of Galway Rape Crisis Centre is being supported by Galway's top companies (from left) Sinead McGovern of Galway Advertiser newspaper, Frank O'Connor of Thermo King, Noel Fogarty of Boston Scientific, Gerry Kilcommins of Medtronic, Rory O'Connor of HP, and Helena McGann of Net IQ. Photo:-Mike Shaughnessy

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Galway Rape Crisis Centre
WHO WANTS TO BE A THOUSANDAIRE

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