



Fathers in Crisis: Dads are Key to Preventing Abortions

by Michael Leaser, volunteer at APHC & LCRC



Michael Leaser

Walking into APHC, FPHC and LifeChoices, you enter an attractive

waiting room with a coffee table holding a variety of magazines, including titles such as New Man or Sports Spectrum, some magazines that men might be interested in. Why would magazines geared toward men be found in our centers? To keep them occupied while their partner has a pregnancy test? Of course, but also because Christian men's magazines are a way to reach our clients' partners.

Since the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, all decisions regarding pre-born children rest with the mother; but in reality, the father may carry the most influence over whether a baby is brought to term. The Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood's own research organ, conducted surveys of approximately 2,000 women who went to Planned Parenthood for abortions. In summary, the institute stated that on average, women give four reasons for choosing abortion:

1. Concern for or responsibility to other individuals
2. Cannot afford a child
3. A baby would interfere with work, school or the ability to care for dependents



4. Do not want to be a single parent or are having problems with their husband or partner.

The fourth reason obviously points to the absence of a father who is willing to provide physical and/or emotional support, but so do the other three reasons.

Women who "cite concern for other individuals" are often concerned with the reaction their partner might have to a pregnancy. They will often perceive anything other than a positive reaction from their partner as a sign that he doesn't want the baby. Because the Roe v. Wade decision has stripped fathers of all rights regarding their pre-born children, many men have been conditioned to detach themselves from crisis pregnancies, saying that it's "not my choice," even though an expressed desire to keep a child may be all a mother needs to dissuade her from having an abortion.

Women who say they can't afford a child often lack the financial assistance that a father can provide to help with the costs involved with child rearing. Those women who assert that having a child would interfere with work may need to work full-time to support themselves because they don't have a partner who can bear the primary breadwinning responsibilities while they give a child the near-constant care and attention he or she needs.

MISSION STATEMENT

Sanctity of Life Ministries exists to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by compassionately offering biblical, life-affirming alternatives to people facing unplanned pregnancies and other sexual crises/decisions.

Sanctity of Life Ministries

10875 Main Street, Suite 109, Fairfax, VA 22030

www.slmgetinvolved.org slm@maranatha.net

P 703-278-5433 F 703-278-8645



Alexandria Pregnancy Help Center



Fairfax Pregnancy Help Center

Men at Work

We desire to use male counselors to reach out to fathers. When a female client comes to us with her partner, a female counselor will take a client back to a counseling room while a male counselor will sit down with the male client and discuss the crisis pregnancy situation from the male client's perspective. The aim is to help uncover in the client a sense of God-given responsibility at the prospect of being a father, to help guide them into constructive solutions, whether that be adoption or raising the child, and if the client is inclined to raise the child, to give him support—through resources and the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Having an integrated men's ministry also helps centers reach young men and women before they face a crisis pregnancy situation. LifeChoices Resource Center, for instance, sends its male and female counselors out to college groups to discuss the risks of premarital sex, including the risks involved with using contraceptives and the ravages of STDs. The center serves as a resource for any questions or concerns regarding premarital relationships and actively seeks to promote sexual purity among both men and women.

The Value of Men

We believe that a men's ministry can have a great impact on saving lives, born and pre-born. It is difficult to quantify the influence a



father has over a woman's decision to bring a child to term, but the power of a man's declaring, "This is my child—my joy and my responsibility" cannot be denied.

Michael originally was asked to write this article for Celebrate Life. Reprinted by permission from Celebrate Life (July-Aug. 2006), the magazine by American Life League. See the entire story online at CLmagazine.org.

Living with Integrity

**A BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN
Led by Michael Leaser**

THURSDAYS 7:30-9:00 PM



RSVP

LifeChoices
resource center

703-323-8060

Post-Abortion Bible Study

Saturdays, April 14th - May 19th

LifeChoices
resource center

Would you like to heal from a past abortion?

*Do you experience guilt and shame
from a an abortion decision?*

*Do you feel isolated or unable to
talk to anyone about your abortion?*

*Is your relationship with God
affected by these feelings?*

Please join us for a free and confidential Bible study for a safe time of support, sharing and prayer.



RSVP: SLM 703-278-5433

Volunteer In-Service Discussing STDs, HPV Vaccine... & KISSN With Your Client

March 19th, 7:30pm

Burke Community Church

Special Speaker: Susan Kruchten

Susan has been involved in KISSN (Keep It Simple Say No) for several years. Her heart to share God's message of abstinence before marriage & purity during marriage is evident to all who know her.

RSVP:

Melissa Jansen
703-323-8060

melissa.slm@maranatha.net



SLM Praises & Prayer Requests



Faith & daughter Nevaeh
FPHC client

Thank God for...

- ♥ The gospel of Jesus Christ and for giving us an opportunity to share this good news with others
- ♥ Faithful, godly, compassionate volunteers
- ♥ The DVD players that have been donated
- ♥ The Lord's healing in the Post Abortion Bible study and the Sexual Healing Bible Study



Evan - baby boy
of LifeChoices client

Please Pray that...

- ♥ God will bless all our clients with a deeper relationship with Him
- ♥ All who are involved in SLM will draw near to God
- ♥ Banquet 2007 planning will go smoothly and many will make plans to attend
- ♥ LifeChoices is affirmed as a student organization at GMU



Gil & Paubla & Shawn
FPHC clients

Opportunities to Donate

- ♥ Diapers (sizes 3,4,5,6) and wipes
- ♥ Toddler car seats
- ♥ Cribs
- ♥ Breast pumps
- ♥ Digital Camera



Yahia & uncle
FPHC client

Surprise Visit



Several months ago, Fairfax Pregnancy Help Center had a surprise visit from a former client. A couple came in with their young child to thank us for the help they received years before when they first came here from Romania. She was pregnant with their child at the time and they needed help. They shared that their life is good here - he has a steady job and speaks English very well.

Thank You

SLM would like to thank all the churches that participated in activities related to Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Thank you for your support!

- ♥ Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
- ♥ Alfred Street Baptist Church
- ♥ Ambassador Bible Church
- ♥ Barcroft Bible Church
- ♥ Braddock Baptist Church
- ♥ Burke Community Church
- ♥ Calvary Road Baptist Church
- ♥ Cedar Run Community Church
- ♥ Centreville Baptist Church
- ♥ Centreville Presbyterian Church
- ♥ Cherrydale Baptist Church
- ♥ Christ Central Presbyterian Church
- ♥ Christian Center Ministries
- ♥ Christian Fellowship Church
- ♥ Christ the Redeemer Episcopal Church
- ♥ Clear River Community Church
- ♥ Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- ♥ Faith Fellowship Assembly of God
- ♥ First Baptist Church of Kingstowne
- ♥ Good News Baptist Church
- ♥ Harvest Church
- ♥ Harvester Presbyterian Church
- ♥ Jubilee Christian Center
- ♥ Jerusalem Baptist Church
- ♥ Knollwood Community Church
- ♥ Korean Central Presbyterian Church
- ♥ Oakbrook Church
- ♥ Parkwood Baptist Church
- ♥ Pender United Methodist Church
- ♥ Reston Bible Church
- ♥ Sovereign Grace Church
- ♥ Sunset Hills Baptist Church
- ♥ The King's Chapel
- ♥ Truro Episcopal Church
- ♥ Victory Baptist Church

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Fairfax Pregnancy Help Center



January/February 2007

"How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings." Psalm 36:7

Sanctity of Life Ministries



Annual Fellowship Banquet Friday, March 30, 2007



At the Fairview Park Marriott, Falls Church, Virginia

What is the value of a life? What is the value of a life transformed by God? What is the value of Jesus Christ?

Please contact us at 703-278-5433 or www.slmgetinvolved.org for more information and an invitation.

Mark Your Calendars!

FEBRUARY

Wednesdays, starts February 7th:
Single Women's Bible Study

Saturday, February 10th:
Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 14th:
Quarterly Staff Meeting

Monday, February 19th:
Closed for President's Day

MARCH

Friday, March 16th:
VA Directors Meeting

Friday-Saturday, March 16th-17th:
VA Volunteer Conference

Monday, March 19th:
Volunteer In-Service

Friday, March 30th:
SLM Fellowship Banquet 2007

APRIL

Saturdays, April 14th-May 19th:
Post Abortion Bible Study

Saturdays, April 28th & May 5th:
Counselor Training Workshop