## **RAISING LIFE LOVING KIDS: SUGGESTIONS BY PARENTS WHO HAVE SUCCEEDED**.

Here's an idea that is long overdue! How we can teach our children/grandchildren to be pro-life from infancy. One friend's young daughter sends a cookie "for the babies" with him when he goes to the abortion clinic to pray. Such actions give young children the idea that the preborn child is important and special to God.

A very active, long time pro-life family, raised their children to be pro-life and now their daughter writes about how she is also raising pro-life children. This is a success story.

## Mary's letter on the life-enriching gift of being pro-life

Here are a few ideas which helped me give my children the gift of being pro-life.

1) Some things are better caught than taught. Before I was six, my parents let us know our family was pro-life and even took us to demonstrate against abortion. I grew up just knowing that abortion was bad. When I became a mother, my husband Tim and I passed this life-enriching gift of being pro-life to our children by letting our actions as well as our words show them that our family is pro-life.

2) When should you begin? It's best to start early. I have shown American Life League's excellent video, "Baby Steps", (showing active pre-born babies of various ages) to two year olds. I try to repeat the video once a year. The rest of my family and I exhibit enthusiasm. "That's what you looked like before you were born! Weren't you cute? You were so nice!" We try to repeat it every few months.

Try it! "Baby Steps" is free on the web at <u>www.BabyStepsdvd.com</u> \*(see heritage house info below)

3) With my young children, <u>I keep it short!</u> If I can't make it fun, I stop immediately!

4) How much we care about someone partly has to do with what they do for us, but it has more to do with what we do for them. Small children will care more about unborn babies when they do something for them. Start with a small action so each child can feel success doing something they know is important. The Life Chain is an easy family activity. Young children love to pick out baby gifts that can be given to a crisis pregnancy center.

In January each of my children would name an unborn baby endangered by abortion. We would pray the "Prayer for an Unborn Child" every night. Praying daily for their baby helps each child connect with unborn babies. Recently one of my adult children told me that she still does this.

Start them young, and ask only a tiny little bit so each child can succeed. Start older children this same way. Praise them and make sure they feel success and that they know they are doing something important. Praying daily for a baby helps children identify with the babies. I use the following prayer.

Jesus, I love you very much. Please spare the life of the preborn child, [baby's name], whom I have spiritually adopted and is in danger of abortion.

5) I work to maintain my children's initial love for the right to life. After the child enters elementary school, I continue to encourage them by saying the baby prayer nightly. Educate your children about right to life issues appropriately as they mature. About once a year motivate older children by discussing appropriate Scripture such as Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 25:31-46.

In elementary school we continue to educate our children about pro-life issues. Even at this age, abortion is a subject that may come up on the playground. At this age, you can encourage your children to write letters to elected officials.

I encourage my older children to continue praying and occasionally perform adult-like actions, such as learning and understanding the adversary's techniques, deeper study or paper writing assignments, letters to the editor, attending a life chain, praying outside a clinic, joining their church or local right to life group, or social networking such as email or Facebook, et al. to communicate pro-life messages.

6) It is important to cause your child's heart to be pro-life <u>very</u> early because people's earlier opinions determine what new information they later believe or reject and your children will be exposed to pro-abortion propaganda much earlier than most parents expect.

7) The major media (especially ABC, CBD, NBC) have been doing research for at least forty years in order to better learn how to change people's attitudes toward morality and the media has specialists who specifically research better ways to change people's attitudes toward abortion, contraception, and other morality related issues. The general technique is to have attractive characters be pro-abortion and attract characters initially on the fence to take a step toward becoming pro-promiscuity and pro-abortion. These characters comprise a virtual peer group which makes it reasonable to be pro-abortion or pro any other attitudes or morality the media wants to impose on the public. To learn more about how they do it, Google PCI Media Impact or check PCI Media Impact on Wikipedia, especially the NY Times reference.

The pro-abortion movement influences children with propaganda at surprisingly early ages, so it is important to prepare your children early. Tell each child in general terms what is coming from the pro-abortionists so they can better resist pro-death propaganda as they mature.

When the child enters junior high school or before age fourteen, as much as possible of what should be known by an adult should be explained, taking account of the age and maturity of the child. This includes, as is appropriate, explanations and photos of aborted babies such as are in "Truth Unmasked" by Dr. Willke at <u>https://www.lifeissues.org/truthunmasked/index.html</u>

8) Before I was ten, a girl friend was snooping in our garage where she should not have been. She happened to notice some photos of aborted babies. Nobody knew about this snooping until twenty years later when she told me that she had been pressured to abort her baby and the memory of those photos was the deciding factor in strengthening her enough to resist abortion. <u>I think children should see photos of aborted babies before they enter high school.\*\*</u>

Don't fear. When you first learn how the major media is trying to steal the hearts and souls of your children, you will be tempted to be scared. Don't be. It is true that if you send them out weak, they will wreck. But if you send them out strong, they will come back stronger. And you <u>can</u> send them out into the world strong. You may be weak, but you and God together are stronger than all Satan's highly placed advocates!

By Timothy and Mary Partin – daughter and son-in-law of Bob and Susan Sassone

\*\*Jean Garton wrote a book *Who Broke The Baby*? after her young son saw the pictures of an aborted baby and asked that question. Another young child said after accidently seeing the pictures, "Jesus wouldn't like that." Young children know it is a baby but not Supreme Court Justices!

## Good Resources For Children From Heritage House

\*The "young one" is perfect for all ages. <u>Heritage House</u> Go to fetal models

\*The "precious feet" are perfect for ALL ages. <u>Heritage House</u> Go to jewelry and then to precious feet

**Why is this so important?** In a recent article the "Pew Research Center reports on Millenials" who currently span the ages of 18 to 29.

It was found that they are the least overtly religious American generation in modern times.

One-in-four are not affiliated with any religion.

Six-in-ten were raised by both parents.

They are the most likely of any generation to self-identify as liberals.

The Barna Group, Ltd., 2368 Eastman Ave. Unit 12, Ventura, CA 93003 has been doing extensive polls since 1984. Here are a couple of articles that explain how young people are changing their morals.

"Most Twenty somethings Put Christianity On The Shelf Following Spiritually Active Teen Years"

http://www.barna.org/barna-update/article/16-teensnext-gen/147-most-twentysome things-put- christianity-on-the-shelf-following-spiritually-active-teen-years

"A New Generation of Adults (23-41yrs) Bends Moral and Sexual Rules to Their Liking"

http://www.barna.org/barna-update/article/13-culture/144-a-new-generationof-adults-bends- moral-and-sexual-rules-to-their-liking





There is hope. Awana Alumni Study Report Summary - http://awana.org/alumnistudy/

To help parents and churches raise Modern-Day Josephs, Awana strategically weaves five master life threads (character traits) into their curriculum for ages 2 to 18:

Respect, Wisdom, Grace, Destiny and Perspectives

What is the result? Instead of half the church-going teens abandoning their faith after high school, by contrast, most kids in Awana continue to faithfully follow Jesus as adults.