



ULTRASOUND

LIFE NIGHT PLANNING SHEET

DATE

GOAL FOR THIS NIGHT

The goal is to present the truth about the value and dignity of the human person and therefore the sanctity of human life.

ABOUT THIS NIGHT

The title "Ultrasound" was chosen because when a child is in the womb the ultrasound is the only voice they have. The "Ultrasound", although silent, screams of life inside the womb of a woman. The Night is designed to give a voice to those that the world pretends have none. Great resource for this night is www.abortionfacts.com. This night is about all human life including Euthanasia, but the main thrust will cover the issues of abortion because teenagers are dealing with this issue on a more daily basis. This night should also have a direct action plugged into it, an ACTION so to speak – or a night that ends with a specific goal for the teens to do, like looking at legislation for unwed mothers to receive aid OR have a food and supplies drive.

ENVIRONMENT

BEFORE THE NIGHT collect baby pictures from all the teenagers and CORE members. Once you have collected these pictures, scan them and put them into a Power Point slideshow that will scroll through the pictures as the teenagers enter the night. If you do not have Power Point/projection capabilities, have the pictures enlarged at a local printing company and place them on the walls around the room. Have a heartbeat sound: "sound machine" or a drumbeat when teens enter the LIFENight space. Using a STARK environment of BLACK, WHITE, and RED may provide a "decision making" atmosphere. You can also place large Ultrasound pictures of babies in the womb on the walls.

LIFE NIGHT TEAM

SAINTS

St. John of the Cross
St. John the Baptist
Blessed Virgin Mary
St. Maximilian Kolbe

BIBLE

Ex 20:13
Mt 5:3&5
Mt 5:21-22
Jer 1:5cf
Job 10:8-12
Ps 22:10-11

CATECHISM

2258, 2261, 2262, 2268-2280, 2288-
2290, 2299, 2304, 2318-2319, 2322-
2324

GATHER | 20 MINUTES

As each teenager enters the room write numbers 1-6 in succession on his/her hands (one number per teen). These numbers will serve purposes later in the night - for example, the small groups that they will break into.

INTRODUCTION/BABY PICTURES • 5 MINUTES

Welcome all the teens and introduce the new teens attending the LIFE Night for the first time. After everyone is introduced have the teenagers try to figure out which baby picture belongs to which person in the room.

VIRTUE MEDIA/LIFE STUDIOS VIDEO – SMALL GROUPS • 15 MINUTES

After the baby pictures, have the teens separate into their small groups depending on the number that was written on their hand at the beginning of the LIFE Night. After they are in their groups, show the first of three videos entitled "Vanished" from the Virtue Media/LIFE Studios Video. Have them go into small groups for three minutes and then show the second video piece entitled "Milk Cartons" from the Virtue Media/LIFE Studios Video. Have them discuss the question below in small groups for three minutes and then show the last video piece entitled "Humane Humanity" from the Virtue Media/LIFE Studios Video.

After each video have the small group discuss the following question:

What struck you the most about the video?

These videos will serve as good discussion starters and set a good tone for the "PROCLAIM".

PROCLAIM | 15 MINUTES

See attached Teaching entitled "Ultrasound".

BREAK | 25 MINUTES

"THE PAINFUL TRUTH" VIDEO • 7 MINUTES

Lead into the Small Group scenarios with this video containing the testimonials of women who have actually had abortions. This video will open the teenagers eyes to the consequences and begin to help them dispel the misconceptions about abortion. See "THE PAINFUL TRUTH" VIDEO on I.V. LOOP #5



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SMALL GROUP SCENARIOS • 18 MINUTES

Have the teenagers discuss the following scenarios and questions in their small groups.

Your daughter tells you she is pregnant. The father is involved, but barely. Would you:

- Option 1:** Raise the child yourself or at least offer your home for the baby and mother?
- Option 2:** Tell your daughter to give it up for adoption?
- Option 3:** Advise the teens to get married and raise the child?
- Option 4:** Tell your daughter to have an abortion or she gets kicked out?

Your Mother has had declining health. She can't live on her own any more and your father has been gone for some time. She does have some health coverage and enough money put away to take care of her for a few years yet. But that also means there goes the inheritance if this goes on for several years of high cost care. Would you:

- Option 1:** Take your mother into your own home and deal with care from there?
- Option 2:** Put her in a managed care "nursing home" style facility?
- Option 3:** Pay for someone to come stay with her at her house or your house?
- Option 4:** Suggest she call Dr. Jack?

How far are you willing to go to search for God's will in your life when it comes to sacrificing your life's freedom's for another?

How does Jesus's decisions play into any of your decisions?

SEND | 15 MINUTES

"A LIVING BILLBOARD" VIDEO • 6 MINUTES

This video spotlights a teenager that took her conviction for the sanctity of life and raised money to put up billboards in her city and beyond. This is a great story meant to empower the teenagers to take it to the streets. See "A LIVING BILLBOARD" VIDEO on I.V. LOOP #5

ABORTION STATISTICS • 5 MINUTES

After the video, have all the teens that have a #2 and a #4 written on their hands stand up. Explain to the teenagers that during the course of this LIFE Night, the teens standing (#2 & #4) equal the amount of children aborted. Then have the teenagers that are standing read one of the Abortion Statistics (See attached Abortion in the United States – Statistics). You will need



ULTRASOUND

to cut each stat from the sheet of paper and hand them out to the teens standing.

JUST ONE ACT – SPIRITUAL ADOPTION • 4 MINUTES

Introduce what Spiritual Adoption is by referring to the attached SPIRITUAL ADOPTION Handout. This is essentially a perfect volunteer opportunity for the teens to take part in right in the LIFE NIGHT itself. See the attached outline and have the Youth Minister or CORE member explain what spiritual adoption is and then hand out the Spiritual Adoption instruction sheet. Lead the teenagers in the prayer for an unborn child.

TEACHING: "ULTRASOUND"

Note: As an Issue Night, the focus of this LIFE Night is more what the teens can discover through the activities and discussion than what they will hear in a talk. Given that, the material here is short and straight to the point. These are the primary points of the sacredness of human life and they are at the crux of what we believe as Catholics about LIFE issues.

I. LIFE

A. What is life anyway?

1. How do we define LIFE?
2. Maybe it seems like too simple a question, but it really is at the heart of what we're talking about tonight – How do we define LIFE?

3. What is it? When does it start? When does it end?

4. These are the crucial questions that one must ask – and the answers should be the same for everyone.
5. These questions are not in the realm of some "relative gray area" where what "you think" and what "I think" can both co-exist at the same time. You know, "your truth and my truth!"
6. Our very lives depend on these answers, so we better find the right ones! And they better be the same for everybody!!

B. How to find an answer?

1. This is a question that has perplexed society and leaders for years
2. Do we turn to Religion for an answer? Do we turn to Philosophy?
3. We hear all the time, "You can't force your beliefs on me!" So how do we answer this question definitively? How can we answer these fundamental questions and still respect a person's free will in terms of religious beliefs and philosophical beliefs?
4. The easiest way is to use Science – scientific facts can be proven, can be studied and can be tangibly seen



This is a bit of a philosophical start – but we think it is necessary to get this topic started. It is crucial to make it clear that this is not a matter of opinion. If we cannot clearly define the beginning of human life, without variance, without question, then how can any of us know we are human? If it is an answer that is open to "opinion", then anyone's opinion can define "who" we are, human or not.



See appendix II – to make this point, show how the US Supreme Court already had a question similar to this and failed miserably! In 1857 our US Supreme Court defined that a black person was not a human being! How ridiculous! But that is what we open ourselves up to when there is not a definitive answer to these questions.



See appendix I – This is a powerful tool to this argument. Dr. Liley shows what a 7-day old fetus can do in the womb – hard to argue that this is not a human life.

5. Obviously, not all life's questions can be proven this way. In fact, faith is often the only way we can understand some things.

6. However, this fundamental question of human life can be DEFINITELY answered with science

7. It makes sense that we should use the discipline of Science here because we CAN

C. Defining LIFE

1. What simple measure would you use to define Human Life?

2. The Biological Facts:

a. Biologic human life is defined by examining the scientific facts of human development.

b. This is a field where there is no controversy, no disagreement.

c. There is only one set of facts – only one embryology book is studied in medical school.

d. The more scientific knowledge of fetal development that has been learned, the more science has confirmed that the beginning of any one human individual's life, biologically speaking, begins at the completion of the union of his father's sperm and his mother's ovum, a process called "conception," or "fertilization."

e. This is so because this being, from fertilization, is alive, human, sexed, complete and growing.

3. Is this being alive?

a. Yes.

b. This being has the characteristics of life. That is, this being can reproduce their own cells and develop them into a specific pattern of maturity and function. Or more simply, they is not dead

4. Is this being human?

a. Yes.

b. This is a unique being, distinguishable totally from any other living organism, completely human in all of his or her characteristics, including the 46 human chro-

mosomes, and can develop only into a fully mature human.

5. Is this being complete?

a. Yes.

b. Nothing new will be added from the time of union of sperm and egg until the death of the old man or woman except growth and development of what is already there at the beginning. All he or she needs is time to develop and mature.

D. But what if a person would still sincerely doubt that this is human life in the womb?

1. Even if a person did doubt the presence of actual human life in the uterus at a particular time, what would be the fully "HUMAN" way to go?

2. The best guide would be how we have always treated other human life when there has been a doubt that it exists.

3. Shouldn't we resolve a doubt in favor of life?

a. We don't bury those who are doubtfully dead.

b. We work frantically to help rescue entombed miners, a child lost in the mountains, or a person under a collapsed building.

c. A hunter doesn't shoot until he knows that it is a deer and not another person

4. The truly human way of thinking would be to give LIFE the benefit of the doubt.

E. What about YOU?

II. What we Believe

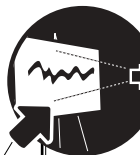
A. The other source we can turn to is God and the Church

B. The Church is very clear about it:

1. "Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains for ever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end . . ." CCC #2258



Would be great to capture some news headlines from rescue attempts to show in the background – it would bring some visual impact to this point



These Catechism quotes are at the heart of what we believe – get them on some Power Point slides or on a handout to give to all the teens

2. "Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life." CCC #2270

3. "Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable. Thus an act or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and to the respect due to the living God, his Creator. The error of judgment into which one can fall in good faith does not change the nature of this murderous act, which must always be forbidden and excluded." CCC #2277

C. In a Statement: Life is Sacred, Life is Holy, from the moment of conception until the moment of natural death

1. Anything that brings that life to an end unnaturally is MURDER

D. That's what Catholic Church believes, and as part of God's plan, it's what she encourages all of us to believe also

1. Life is Sacred

2. Protect Life in all it's forms

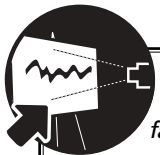
III. The Scar of Abortion

A. If Human LIFE can be defined as we have stated it, then look at the horrible scar abortion has left on humanity

1. Since 1973, there have been 44,670,812 abortions

2. In the year 2000 alone, more "lives" were lost to abortion than the total number of Americans who died in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World Wars I and II, the Korean, Vietnam and Gulf Wars COMBINED!

3. Hitler's extermination of the Jews resulted in the loss of 4,851,200 lives, just one tenth of the casualties from the "war" of abortion.



These statistics need to have an "in your face" impact. Put them on some Power Point slides, or have them written out on poster board to hold up as you present each one -

4. There were over 3,600 abortions per day in 2000, 151 per hour, one every 24 seconds

5. Almost every third baby conceived in America is killed by abortion.

6. A survey of women seeking abortions indicated that only 7% of women cited typical "hard cases" (rape, incest, or some health concern with either the baby or the mother) as the primary reason they were seeking abortion – poking serious holes in the theory that abortion is a "necessary evil" because of these difficult situations

B. What an incredible loss, what a tragedy!

1. But it still is distant – it doesn't hit home for us

2. How can we get an image of just how big this really is?

a. Tonight, during our meeting - just an hour and a half, 225 lives will be snuffed out by abortion – that's a baby every 24 seconds

b. Imagine that a fellow student came to your school and shot every third classmate – that would make the Columbine Shooting seem a little trivial where just 13 people were killed

c. Is it coming home yet?

d. How 'bout we get 44 MILLION school desks and line the Mall in Washington with the desks that have been left empty since the Roe vs. Wade decision in 1973 – school desks on the Mall, in the streets, blocking traffic, blocking every sidewalk, bringing all movement to a standstill!

e. What is it going to take for us to GET IT?! There are 44 MILLION people who have never been here because of abortion! Never had a chance, never even took their first breath outside of a place that was supposed to be their sanctuary!



You might be able to set some type of a loop timer to ring every 24 seconds throughout your whole night. Now would be the time to draw attention to it, and let teens know that every time it rang, a baby died tonight. You can elaborate about how you noticed it at first and wondered what it meant, or what it was for, then after a while it just got annoying, but then you finally blocked it out and hardly noticed it anymore. It could be a great tie-in to the end – how we have blocked out abortion – we noticed it at first, all the fuss about it after a while annoyed us, but finally we were able to just tune it out.

Dr. Liley, who did the first fetal blood transfusion in the womb, said that seven days after fertilization:

". . . the young individual, in command of his environment and destiny with a tenacious purpose, implants in the spongy lining and with a display of physiological power, suppresses his mother's menstrual period. This is his home for the next 270 days and to make it habitable, the embryo develops a placenta and a protective capsule of fluid for himself. He also solves, single-handed, the homograft problem, that dazzling feat by which fetus and mother, although immunological foreigners who could not exchange skin grafts nor safely receive blood from each other, never the less tolerate each other in parabiosis for nine months.

"We know that he moves with a delightful easy grace in his buoyant world, that fetal comfort determines fetal position. He is responsive to pain and touch and cold and sound and light. He drinks his amniotic fluid, more if it is artificially sweetened, less if it is given an unpleasant taste. He gets hiccups and sucks his thumb. He wakes and sleeps. He gets bored with repetitive signals but can be taught to be alerted by a first signal for a second different one. And, finally, he determines his birthday, for unquestionably, the onset of labour is a unilateral decision of the fetus.

"This, then, is the fetus we know and, indeed, we each once were. This is the fetus we look after in modern obstetrics, the same baby we are caring for before and after birth, who before birth can be ill and need diagnosis and treatment just like any other patient."

A. Liley, "A Case Against Abortion," Liberal Studies, Whitcombe & Tombs, Ltd., 1971

TWO INFAMOUS DAYS IN THE U.S.A. MARCH 6, 1857 and JANUARY 22, 1973

1857: On March 6, 1857 the U.S. Supreme Court finally decided a very vexing question which had troubled the citizens of the United States for many years. In the landmark Dred Scott Decision the court ruled once and for all that black people were not legal "persons" according to the U.S. Constitution. A slave was the property of the owner and could be bought and sold, used, or even killed by the owner at the owner's discretion. The ruling was final. It was by the highest court in the land.

Those who opposed slavery protested, but were met with the retort: "So you oppose slavery? It is against your moral, religious, and ethical convictions? Well, you don't have to own a slave, but don't impose your morality on the slave owner. He has the right to choose to own a slave. The Supreme Court has spoken. Slavery is legal."

But not for long. It took a bloody civil war to stop slavery. It took the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution to legally grant freedom, civil rights, and voting rights. From a socioeconomic view, we are still striving for full equality.

1973: On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court finally decided a very vexing question which had troubled the citizens of the United States for many years. In a landmark Decision, the court ruled once and for all that unborn humans were not legal "persons" according to the U.S. Constitution. An unborn baby was the property of the owner (mother), and she could have the baby killed at her request because of her health (social distress). This could be done at any time until birth. The ruling was final. It was by the highest court in the land.

Those who opposed abortion protested but were met with a retort that seemed an echo of slavery days. "So you oppose abortion? It is against your moral, religious, and ethical convictions? Well, you don't have to have an abortion, but don't impose your morality on the mother (the owner). She has the right to choose to have an abortion. The Supreme Court has spoken. Abortion is legal."

The goal of a Constitutional Amendment or reversal by the Court is still ahead. But the pro-life movement continues to grow. It is now the largest grass roots movement in the history of the U.S.A. Then, the discrimination was on the basis of skin color. Now, it is on the basis of age and place of residence (living in the womb).

SLAVERY

Dred Scott 1857
7-2 Decision
Property of owner
Black
Non-person
Choose to Buy-Sell-Kill
Abolitionists Should Not Impose
on Slave owners
Was Legal

ABORTION

Roe vs. Wade
7-2 Decision
Property of Owner (Mother)
Unborn
Non-person
Choose to Keep or Kill
Pro-lifers Should Not Impose Morality
on Mother Slavery
Abortion Is Legal

From:
"WHY CAN'T WE LOVE THEM BOTH"
by Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Willke
CHAPTER 68

1. What is Spiritual Adoption?

Spiritual adoption consists in personal daily prayer over nine months for a child in danger of being killed by abortion. This commitment is made by a public promise to God, in the presence of a priest and congregation. Each person making the commitment makes it for the protection and defense of one child whose identity is known to God. Spiritual adoption is a form of expiation for the sins of infanticide, especially those committed by physicians, midwives, and nurses.

2. Who may make this commitment?

Every person who has reached the age of reason, including children, once they have received their first communion.

3. Obligation:

For nine months every day to do the following things: to pray one decade of the Rosary; to recite the prayer for the unborn child; to perform an act of penance or pray an additional prayer.

4. The act of adoption:

O Most Holy Virgin Mother of God, Mary, all the Angels and Saints, inspired by the desire to defend unborn children, I firmly resolve to adopt spiritually a child whose name is known to God alone, and I promise from [MENTION DATE] for nine months to pray each day that that child's life may be spared while in the womb, and that she or he may live a just and righteous life after birth. I will fulfill this promise by the following acts: praying one decade of the Holy Rosary; performing an act of penance or praying an additional prayer; by reciting the prayer for an unborn child which I shall say for the first time today.

PRAYER FOR AN UNBORN CHILD

Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Your Mother Mary, who with love gave birth to You, and of Saint Joseph, the man of trust, Your guardian and protector after birth, I offer my prayer to You for the unborn child, whom I have adopted spiritually, and who is in danger of being destroyed by abortion. I beg you, give its parents love and courage to let their child live the life that you have given to it. Amen

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ABORTION IN THE UNITED STATES

1. There have been over 43 million abortions since 1973.
2. The annual number of abortions went from 744,600 in the first year of legalization, to a high of over 1.6 million in 1990. In 1997, there were 1,312,990.
3. There were nearly 3,600 abortions per day in 2000, 149 per hour, about one every 24 seconds.
4. For every 1,000 live births, there were 306 abortions in 1997.
5. There were more that 140,000 second and third trimester abortions in 2000.
6. In 2000, more children died from abortion than Americans died in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World Wars I and II, the Korean, Vietnam and Gulf Wars combined.
7. A survey of women seeking abortions indicated that only 7% of women cited typical "hard cases" (rape, incest, or some health concern with either the baby or the mother) as the primary reason they were seeking abortion.
8. A June, 1999 Wirthlin Poll found that 62% of respondents support legal abortion in only three or fewer circumstances: when the pregnancy results from rape or incest, or when it threatens the life of the mother.
9. At an average cost of \$372, the abortion business is a \$400 million a year industry.
10. Nearly half of all abortions are obtained by women who have already had at least one abortion. In 1994 and 1995, women who had already had 3 or more abortions obtained 7%, or nearly 100,000 abortions each year.

Documentation and further details available on request from education@nrlc.org

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS ON ABORTION

Abortion – Statistics/Demographics

- On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions, by 7-2 votes, basically legalized abortion in the U.S. through all 9 months of pregnancy by providing women with a "right to privacy" and defining "health of the mother" as physical and emotional.
- The estimated total number of preborn legally killed by abortion in the U.S. 1973-2003, is 41,500,000. These were future workers, consumers, tax payers, musicians, leaders, scientists, doctors, teachers, and inventors.
- Since 1973, abortion numbers increased until approximately 4,300 U.S. abortions occurred per day [1,550,000/yr, CDC figures]. In 1992, numbers began to drop slightly; by 1995, about 3,315 preborn were aborted per day. By 1997, the daily average number of abortions was 3,249 (1,186,039 preborn aborted in 1997). Since 1997, three states no longer report to the CDC (CA, AK, NH); this makes it more difficult to estimate actual U.S. abortion numbers. CDC figures are about 12% lower than those released by the AGI (Alan Guttmacher Inst -Planned Parenthood).
- Only 1% - 2% of the approximately 1.3 million U.S. abortions each year are for the "hard cases" – rape and incest.
- In the U.S., late-term abortions destroy about 12,000-17,000 unborn humans, aged 21 weeks or older (5-9 months), each year; this averages to 33-46 late-term abortions every day [CDC].
- 19% of U.S. women obtaining legal abortions in 2000 were teenagers, aged 10-19; about 33% were aged 20-24 years [CDC, 2000]. Thus over half of all legal abortions are performed on American women under 25 years of age.
- About 25%, that is, 1 of every 4, American babies conceived will die by abortion.
- Abortion is the #1 frequently performed surgery in the USA.
- o Although African-Americans compose about 13% of the U.S. population, Black women had 36.3% of the 857,475 reported CDC abortions in 2000 = 311,263 abortions (some states do not report).
- o Every day, over 853 African-American babies were killed by abortion in 2000 [CA, NH, AK not included]: 35 Black babies each hour. The U.S. abortion rate for Black women is 3 times higher than for white women. This has been a consistent trend since the late 1970s.
- Hispanic women are 2 times more likely than whites to abort.
- In Alabama, 2002 data indicate that 10,648 abortions were performed at 10 licensed abortion sites. At least 4,851 women were White and 5,797 were Black & Other.
- While Blacks compose about 26% of the population of Alabama, Black women procured over 54% of the abortions in Alabama in 2002 [Center for Health Statistics, ADPH].
- In 2002, 795 Alabama girls under age 18 procured abortions; ages 10-19 procured 19% of AL abortions, and women aged 20-24 procured 35% of all abortions.
 - o About 29.2 pre-born Alabama babies are aborted each day.
- Approximately 3000 pre-born American babies are aborted each day in the U.S.
- About 45% of all abortions in the USA are to women having repeat abortions.
- Research studies have shown the risk of substance abuse in women increases 4-5 times following an abortion.
- Now 29 of 39 studies worldwide (including 13 of 15 American research studies) show a significant link between Abortion and the development of Breast Cancer (ABC Link). One study (Dahling, a pro-abortion researcher) indicates that girls under 18 who abort their first pregnancy increase their risk of breast cancer by 150% (if the abortion is between the 9th and 24th week of pregnancy, the risk is 800%). [Dr. Janet

Dahling, Jrnl of the National Cancer Inst, vol 86, no.21, 2Nov94]. [www.abortionbreastcancer.com].

- Abortion can be physically and emotionally harmful for women.

Abortion Hurts Women...

Abortion Is Forever...

- Only about 1%-2% of the approximately 1.3 million U.S. abortions each year are for the "hard cases": rape, incest, mother's life.
- It is legal to obtain an abortion through all 9 months of pregnancy for elective reasons in all 50 states. (Check out the yellow pages under "Abortion Services" and read the ads.)
- Partial-birth "Abortion" is elective; that is, it is not necessary to save the life of the mother. It also is not an "abortion" because the human child is in the birth canal, not in the uterus. Thus, it is actually Infanticide. During a partial-birth abortion, in the fifth month of pregnancy or later, the abortionist pulls out of the womb a living baby feet-first, all but the head. The skull is punctured and the brain suctioned out, and the now-dead baby is delivered. Multitudes of physicians attest that this procedure is not necessary to save the life of a mother.
- Of the approximately 1.3 million abortions every year in the U.S., about 50-55% of the women having abortions are under 25 years old [National Abortion Federation, www.prochoice.org/Facts/FS7.htm]
- Women who report no religious affiliation are about 4 times more likely to have an abortion than women who report some religious affiliation
- On average, women give at least 3 reasons for choosing abortion: _ say a baby would interfere with work, school, etc.; about 2/3 say they cannot afford a child; and _ say they do not want to be a single parent.
- Worldwide, each year, an estimated 50 million abortions occur (about 1 million abortions per week) [Facts in Brief", published by The Alan Guttmacher Institute, research arm of Planned Parenthood, 1/1997].

- When they enter college, 37% of women support abortion. Four years later, 73% support abortion. [Insight Magazine, 10/01-8/01; HLA Action News, Fall 2001].

- Approximately 84,000 college women become pregnant every year. [Washington Times, 7Mar01].

Abortion is physically and emotionally dangerous for women

- Abortion is purported as a decision between a woman and her doctor. Yet, over 90% of all abortions are performed at abortion sites where the pregnant woman usually sees the doctor for the first and only time when he arrives for the 15-minute "procedure".
- Child abuse, poverty and crime, which were supposed to decrease with legal abortion, have not.
- A large percentage of abortion sites operating currently are not licensed as ambulatory surgical facilities. As such, they are not monitored by State health agencies and are not required to meet basic standards of health quality set forth by State guidelines. States such as South Carolina are beginning to regulate abortion sites. However, many abortion providers are fighting these regulations.
- Abortion may be legal, but it is not safe. There are two victims - one is dead; one is wounded.
- Abortion exploits women: It is usually done by men (most abortionists are men). It is usually done for the benefit of men (keeps them from taking responsibility for their actions). Abortion is a very lucrative business.
- Abortion harms women: Physically: approximately 10% of first trimester legal abortions display complications. According to major studies, the risk of breast cancer is increased 50% if the first baby is aborted; other complications include bleeding, infections, uterine perforation, complications in future pregnancies, and sometimes death. Emotionally: 90% suffer post abortion stress syndrome (PASS) -- guilt, anger, depression, nightmares, alcohol abuse (5 times more likely), drug abuse, and suicide ideation.
- <http://www.physiciansforlife.org/content/category/5/142/45/>



ROOM PLANNING GUIDE



ULTRASOUND

LIFE NIGHT CHECKLIST

- LIFE Night planning team receives a copy of "ULTRASOUND". Each member reads through the LIFE Night, scripture references, and Catechism references before the initial planning meeting.

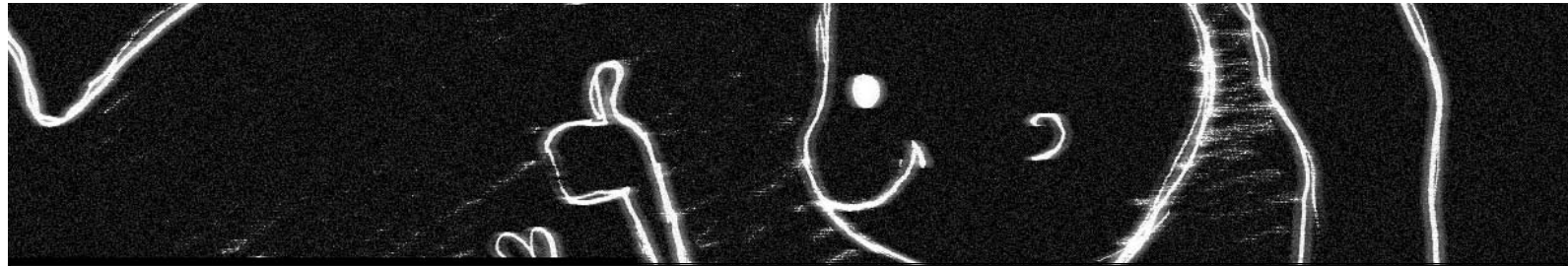
1 MONTH PRIOR TO LIFE NIGHT

- LIFE Night planning team meets, prays, and discusses the LIFE Night. The team assesses where the teens are in their faith journey and makes necessary changes and adjustments to the LIFE Night so it will reach the teens of the parish. The team decides who is responsible for the main elements in the night.
- One month out collect Ultrasound pictures of all the kids. Alternative is to collect pictures of all the CORE and adult chaperones. (If you go with the "teen" option, collect them without their knowledge and if not available: a copy of the first baby picture.) Make a copy and remove all names dates or any other identifying marks. Label the pictures A, B, C and so on to record which picture belongs to which teen.

- Introduction of New Teens _____
- Environment _____
- Video & Small Groups _____
- Teaching _____
- Small Groups Scenarios _____
- "A living Billboard" Video _____
- Closing Prayer

2 WEEKS PRIOR TO LIFE NIGHT

- LIFE Night planning team turns in a detailed sheet of the night, including any changes and/or adjustments, to the Youth Minister, listing everyone on the team and their responsibilities.
- Collect Two to Three weeks out: When asking parents to search for pictures, have parents write their child a letter reminiscing about their birth, i.e. how they felt when they found out they were pregnant, any problems or concerns with the pregnancy or birth, and how they felt after the birth of their child.
- Teens and CORE who will be used for drama/teaching should be chosen and given scripts/teaching.



1 WEEKS PRIOR TO LIFE NIGHT

- Prepare Small Group Questions
- Teachings should be delivered and practiced to the Youth Minister. Youth Minister should give feedback.

2-3 DAYS PRIOR TO LIFE NIGHT

- Run a dress rehearsal for the LIFE Night.
 - Who is running lights?
 - Who is running video?
 - Who is running audio?

1 DAY PRIOR TO LIFE NIGHT

- Finalize everything for the Environment

2 HOURS BEFORE MASS & LIFE NIGHT

- Set up Environment
- Team talks through night to make sure transitions are ready.
- Make sure the room is clean and presentable. Be sure all cords and cables are taped down and hidden out of the way.
- Prep the rest of the CORE on the details of the night.
- Pray for the success of the night and the teens who will attend the night. Pray over those giving a talk.