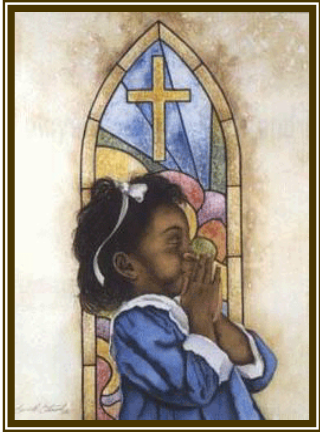


Abortion Alternatives



The rumor that abortion is a woman's only realistic alternative just simply isn't so. There are nearly 3,000 Crisis Pregnancy Centers in the U.S.A. staffed by volunteers ready to provide valid assistance to women facing unplanned or untimely pregnancies. These centers offer a full range of services. There are also Single parenting support groups, Counselors, Spiritual or religious advisors and adoption agencies and other adoption professionals. Refer to the Yellow Pages under "Abortion Alternatives".



The National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life was inaugurated in the fall of 1997, with the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus and the Franciscan Solid Ground Ministry as sponsors and with the support of John Cardinal O'Conner Archbishop of New York and the Archdiocese's Office of Black Ministry. NBCAL is supported by all the major National Black Catholic organizations in the US.



June is Abortion & All Acts of
Violence Awareness Month

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In the African
American
Community



Defend Life

A publication by NBCAL

PRENATAL DEVELOPMENT

Fertilization

A new and unique human being comes into existence with its own distinct genetic code.

Eight Days

The fertilized ovum implants in the lining of the uterus.

Three Weeks

The heart begins to beat, pumping blood throughout the body.

Six Weeks

The brain emits waves which register on an EEG (electroencephalogram).

Eight Weeks

Every organ is present and in place. Everything found in an adult human being can now be found in this tiny embryo.

Twenty-One Weeks

Viability generally begins at 21 weeks when a baby has a 15% chance of survival.

Birth

The fetus initiates labor and the mother's uterus begins contracting.

{Life Education & Resource Network}

Violence in the Schools

Educational opportunities for the African American student in the nation's public school system has been undermined by crime, violence and substance abuse. It is common knowledge that it's roots are embedded in poverty, racism, joblessness and hopelessness. Community violence extends to the academic environment. Changes in school policies and the way schools deal with the growing number of violent incidents are necessary.

Collaborative Programs

Listed below are some of the initiatives undertaken that are producing positive results within the school system:



- Educate local and state policymakers, service providers, and the public about the impact of violence on children and communities.
- Educators are being trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of children exposed to violence.
- Community members are taking an active role in learning more about the research related to the impact of violence on children.
- School districts, in response to local

needs, have stepped up efforts to improve school security by installing security aids or devices.

- Establishing Neighborhood Watch programs in areas near schools.
- Completing criminal background checks on teachers and school staff members before a work assignment is made.
- Creating block safety watch programs carried out by area residents at school bus stops as a crime deterrent for school children and area residents.
- Equipping classrooms with intercom systems connected to the central school office.

{Juvenile Justice Bulletin

April—1998}

KNOW THE FACTS
ABOUT ABORTION
BEFORE
YOU CHOOSE