

# Life Net

Sharing the Life...that gives life!

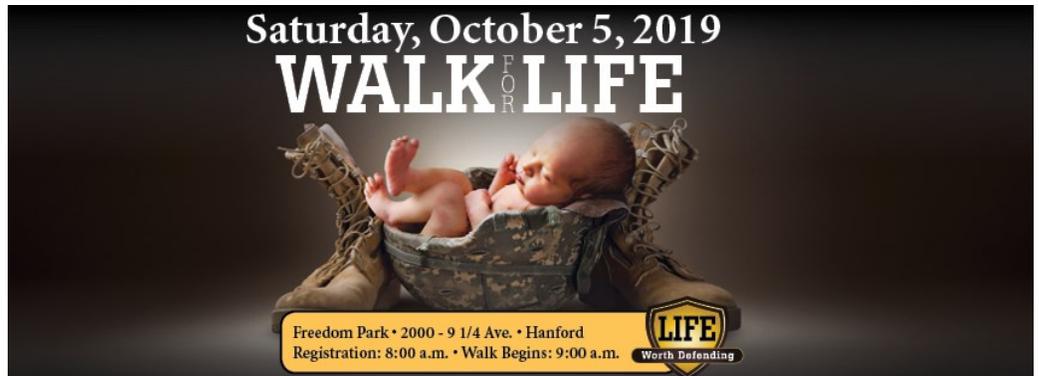
## CROSSROADS PREGNANCY CENTER

From the Heart of the Director

One heart at a time ... one life at a time

### Life Worth Defending.

Have you ever stopped to consider how many ways life is defended in our country? Our military defends lives from an enemy's fatal threats and attacks around the world. Secret Service personnel protects and defends the lives of both former and sitting Presidents. Law enforcement protects and defends the lives of its citizenry. Security guards



are present in federal and state agencies as a deterrent and defense of any threat to life. Prison guards protect the lives of felons convicted of the most heinous crimes. The single commonality among these examples is that LIFE IS WORTH DEFENDING. However, when it comes to the life of the unborn, who is defending the most innocent, vulnerable and defenseless among us? Why aren't their lives worthy to defend?

Our culture today refuses to protect the unborn because they have believed the lie that the unborn are not persons with moral value. In his book *The Moral Question of Abortion*, Steven Schwarz presents the SLED test to defend the value of unborn human life against those who support the crime of abortion. SLED is the acronym for Size, Level of Development, Environment and Degree of Dependency. I have taken the summary of the SLED test from *Stand to Reason's* website and incorporated it below: (source: <https://www.str.org/articles/the-s.l.e.d.-test#.XVli7-hKhPY>)

**SIZE:** The unborn is clearly smaller than a born human. It's hard to reason how a difference in size, though, disqualifies someone from being a person. A four year-old is smaller than a fourteen year-old. Can we kill her because she's not as big as a teenager? No, because a human being's value is not based on their size. She's still equally a person even though she differs in that characteristic. In the same way, the unborn is smaller than a four year-old. If we can't kill the four-year old because she's smaller, then we can't kill the unborn because she's smaller either.

**LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT:** The unborn is also less developed than a born human being. How does this fact, though, disqualify the unborn from personhood? A four year-old girl can't bear children because her reproductive system is less developed than a fourteen year-old girl. That doesn't disqualify her from personhood. She is still as equally valuable as a child-bearing teen. The unborn is also less developed than the four year-old. Therefore, we can't disqualify her from personhood for the same reason we can't disqualify the four year-old. Both are merely less developed than older human beings.

**ENVIRONMENT:** The unborn is located in a different environment than a born human. How does your location, though, affect your value? Can changing your environment alter your status as a person? Where you are has no bearing on who you are. An astronaut who spacewalks in orbit is in a radically different environment than a person on the planet. No one could reasonably deny his personhood simply because he's in a different location. Scuba divers who swim under water and spelunkers who crawl through caves are equally as valuable as humans who ride in hot-air balloons. If changing your environment can't change your fundamental status, then being inside or outside a uterus can't be relevant either. How could a 7-inch journey through the birth canal magically transform a value-less human into a valuable person? Nothing has changed except their location.

**DEGREE OF DEPENDENCY:** The unborn is dependent upon the mother's body for nutrition and a proper environment. It's hard to see, though, how depending upon another person disqualifies you from being a person. Newborns and toddlers still depend upon their parents to provide nutrition and a safe environment. Indeed, some third-world countries require children to be breast fed because formula is not available. Can a mother kill her newborn son because he depends on her body for nutrition? Or, imagine you alone witnessed a toddler fall into a swimming pool. Would you be justified in declaring him not valuable simply because he depended on you for his survival? Of course not! Since the unborn depends on his mother in the same way, it's not reasonable to disqualify his value either.

Notice that although toddler and teens differ from each other in the four SLED categories, we don't disqualify toddlers from personhood. Since born and unborn humans differ in exactly the same ways, we can't disqualify the unborn from personhood either.

*Deliver those who are being taken away to death, and those who are staggering to slaughter, oh hold them back. (Prov. 24:11)*

Please make plans to join us as we **Walk for Life** on October 5, 2019 at Freedom Park in Hanford. You can pick up a pledge form at the Center or print one from our website at: <https://www.crossroadscpc.com/walk-for-life/> Pledge forms will also be available at churches soon. Now is the time to start thinking about who you will ask to sponsor your walk!

**Volunteers Needed!** Would you be a liaison for your church? Help sell t-shirts? Distribute posters and brochures? Blow up balloons? Man a water station? Oversee the snack table? Many hands make light work!

Kindly let us know how you would like to help. Contact us at 583-1900 or [contact@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:contact@crossroadscpc.com).

Kathryn Enloe, Director



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**Center Donations:** A special thank you to **Evy Alvarez, Heather Pratt, Allison Burch, Lindsey Howe, Ella Schales, Rodney Bairstow, and Kings Christian Thrift Store** for your generous donations. They have blessed the Mom Store with clothing, diapers and various baby items. Our *Earn While You Learn* clients are always excited to see new arrivals. Thank you for blessing our clients by your generosity.

*"Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward."* Psalm 127:3



**Changing Babies:** Total giving for 2019 was over \$12,000.00! Many thanks to YOU and the following churches for participating in our baby bottle fundraiser: **Amazing Grace Fellowship, Calvary Chapel, First Baptist Hanford, First Christian Reformed, First Lutheran, First Presbyterian, Glad Tidings, Grace Baptist Lemoore, Grace Bible Church, Koinonia Church, Lakeside Community, Lemoore Nazarene, New Hope OPC, Lifeway Church Lemoore, Seventh Day Adventist, South Valley Community Church, and St. Brigid/St. Rose McCarthy.** We also wish to thank **Re-**

**newed Thrift Store, Kings Christian Thrift Store, Hofmans Nursery** for their special contributions, and **FAST Credit Union** for allowing us to use their coin counter.



It's **Back to School** month and we remember teachers, students, administrators, nurses and staff who pour into the lives of the students. Please pray for them and for opportunities for us to bring Center awareness to school campuses.