Fatherhood Matters
Awakening the Heart of a Protector

S tar* was pregnant and scared. She was only 17 years old and felt her future would be ruined by having a baby. Afraid of how her boyfriend would take the news and terrified that her dad would kick her out of the house, she was desperate when she called Pregnancy Decision Line (PDL) to obtain information about abortion.

What happened in the following weeks underscores an important and much overlooked truth: Fathers matter! Like so many women who call PDL, Star’s concern about the men in her life (her boyfriend and her dad) drove her pursuit of an abortion.

Star stayed in touch with her PDL Coach and, after several exchanges, she began entertaining the possibility of keeping the baby. Still undecided, Star finally shared the news with her boyfriend. He was stunned initially, but much to her surprise, he told her he wanted to marry her and help care for their baby. He immediately started searching for a job and an apartment.

Fatherhood Starts at a Child’s Conception

Care Net research finds that the father of the baby is (by far) the most influential factor in a mother’s decision to keep or abort her child.

Sadly, so many fathers either push the mother to abort, or leave the decision to her, essentially stepping away from their responsibility.

This is why “embracing fatherhood” is one of the four Pro Abundant Life pillars and why Care Net works with our affiliated pregnancy centers to reach more fathers.

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*Names throughout this newsletter have been changed to protect the privacy of individuals.
SOME IN OUR CULTURE BELIEVE THAT, since women can legally abort their unborn children, men should have the legal right to “financial abortions.” These would allow men to give up any parental rights and responsibilities they have to their children, should they be born. This perverse logic proposes that, since abortion prevents women from being “forced” to become parents, men shouldn’t be forced to become parents either.

This unfortunate phenomenon tells us a lot about the cultural wreckage the abortion culture has created in the last 40 years. Only in a “pro-choice” culture are we forced to battle absurd ideas like financial abortion. And we are certainly faced with their consequences. While financial abortions may not be legal, they represent a worldview that plays out in the father-absence crisis our society faces.

Over 24 million children in America—one out of every three—live apart from their biological fathers. While fathers can’t abort their children before they’re born, too many of them “abort” their children after. Only through a Pro Abundant Life culture can we recognize and solve this crisis.

In God’s design and in the consistent Pro Abundant Life paradigm we proclaim, we acknowledge that every human life begins at conception and is worthy of protection. Therefore, both motherhood and fatherhood begin at the point of conception. And the rights and responsibilities for women and men to their children can’t just be signed away… They must be defended and celebrated.

So, this Father’s Day, let’s remember the 24 million children living in father-absent homes and work to build a Pro Abundant Life culture so that future children receive the blessing of fathers who provide for them and protect them from the moment they are conceived.

Blessings,

Roland C. Warren
Care Net President & CEO

To hear more, find CareCast™ on the Apple® Podcast site: www.care-net.org/podcasts

An Unborn Child Needs YOU Today.

BUDGET SHORTFALL
WE NEED TO RAISE
$564,180 by June 30th to overcome a fiscal year-end budget shortfall and continue intervening on behalf of unborn children across North America who are facing death. Your generous tax-deductible gift today will help meet our fiscal year-end budget… and reach even more mothers and fathers considering abortion for the next half of 2017.

Thank YOU!
The Call to Courage

SHE WAS IN DANGER. Von* just found out that she was pregnant and her boyfriend was angry. She didn't expect him to be thrilled with the news, but his yelling quickly turned to violence. He made it clear that he would do whatever it took to make sure she did not keep their baby.

Frantically, Von searched for help and found the phone number for Pregnancy Decision Line (PDL). She hated the thought of an abortion, but feared her boyfriend's reaction if she didn't follow through.

The coach listened as Von said that she “was in danger of being harmed.” The pressure was on. But the PDL coach knew—thanks to the critical training that you help provide for all coaches—to gently recommend that Von visit her local pregnancy center for emotional and physical support, and to contact the police to report the abuse.

The more the coach talked, the braver Von felt. She could not abort their baby, no matter what her boyfriend threatened.

Von scheduled her appointment with the pregnancy center. The staff found her a doctor who could perform a free ultrasound and offered her the emotional support needed to break free from her boyfriend. Von told her mother and the police about the abuse and started looking for her own apartment, somewhere she and her baby would be safe.

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OUR CARING PARTNERS: HEROES SAVING LIVES EVERY MONTH!

EVERY MONTH, PARENTS CONSIDERING ABORTION FIND CARE NET’S Pregnancy Decision Line or one of our affiliated pregnancy centers. You can help ensure that they continue to find compassion, hope, and help as one of our Caring Partners!

As a Caring Partner, you will also receive special benefits, including:

- A designated Care Net team member to serve you
- Updates on how your monthly support is saving lives
- An exclusive monthly prayer devotional for your personal spiritual growth
- Invitations to special partner events

3 EASY WAYS TO SIGN UP TO BE A CARING PARTNER:

1. Select “Make My Gift Monthly” on the enclosed reply device and return it with your first gift. (Make sure to fill out the back!)
2. Visit us online at: care-net.org/donate-cp
3. Call us at 1-800-518-7909.

Questions? Email us at: caringpartners@care-net.org Thank you!
At that doctor’s advice, and for the sake of her and her unborn baby, Von found the courage to speak out. Her mother also came to her side to help support her. And together, they began looking for a safe place that Von and her baby could call their own.

If the PDL coach hadn't been there to answer Von’s call... If the pregnancy center hadn't been trained to deal with these types of high-risk situations... the situation may have ended very differently.

Thank you for offering the support Von needed through PDL and her local pregnancy center, enabling her to choose LIFE for her unborn baby and to find a safe environment for her family.

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