
The Alliance

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PURE LOVE ALLIANCE

April 1999

Title V Funding for the PLA

By: Robert Kittel
President, PLA

The Pure Love Alliance was recently awarded \$36,000 by the State of Missouri to conduct abstinence education in St. Louis. Although this is a small sum, it is significant because it is the first *Title V* Abstinence-only Education Program money the PLA has received so far. It gives hope to the many other chapters waiting for a favorable decision on funding.

The PLA director for Missouri is Mr. Carl Swearson, a long time St. Louis resident who is married with five children in the public schools. He has a large, active network of people including friends at the grassroots, local and state government levels.

The Missouri PLA program has targeted four zip codes in St. Louis, known for high incidence of HIV/AIDS infections, for CLUE, their character development and abstinence only education program.

I flew to St. Louis at the end of January to help set up the program. During my three-day stay I met with several local community leaders. As always, I was impressed by the strength of the support for abstinence education from the community. I explained that the PLA works in two basic



areas: public awareness and public education. The main focus in St. Louis will be on education.

The Missouri PLA grant proposal covered four areas:

1. Hold school assemblies using abstinence-only educational materials developed by the PLA and other abstinence groups.

See *Title V* page 7.

No Sleaze, Please

January 17, 1999, Newburgh, NY

Once the proud headquarters of George Washington's continental army, this Hudson river town now sports an ugly strip bar on the main street as you come into town. But it won't stay that way if the residents and clergy of Newburgh have their say.

"For now, *Lips* is sealed," reported the *Mid Hudson Times*. *Lips*, an exotic cabaret, which admits minors when accompanied by a guardian, was cited and temporarily barred from business for violating city zoning laws that regulate adult entertainment.

The legal aspects of the club's closure were secondary for the 40 protestors, including the PLA, who

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Letter from the President



The goal of Pure Love Alliance is to educate people, young and old alike, about the importance of sexual purity.

However, abstinence is more than cold showers and virgin brides. And it is much more than just a healthy choice; more than merely one of several other options that hopefully avoid unwanted pregnancies or fatal diseases.

The standard, as we see it, should be no sex before marriage and absolute fidelity within marriage. While this is not today's reality, the important question is "What is the *best* lifestyle, and what are the ideals worth striving for?" To live a pure lifestyle takes courage, commitment, and character. Shall we forgo teaching these three "C's" to our children, and teach condoms, condoms, and condoms, instead?

Even liberal sex educators agree that abstinence and fidelity are best. The problem is the distance between this ideal and the reality. Some say the gap is too wide to bridge and label any attempt "unrealistic." But this approach puts our young people at unnecessary risk, given the proven ineffectiveness of condoms. Each year 15.3 million Americans, including 3 million teens, are infected with a new STD. (*Falling* by Patricia Donovan, 1998 October). Even more dangerous, by giving them no ideal at all are we just accepting a bleak reality?

What is the reality of the 900,000 teen pregnancies each year? Eighty-five percent were conceived out-of-wedlock; at least 1/3 ends in abortion. The hope is the recent, significant decline in teen sexual activity. But we have only just begun.

The Sexual Revolution, unchallenged for decades, disoriented our moral compass by changing the meaning of words, "disguising infidelity and selfishness as freedom and independence," as Sarah E. Hinlicky writes in *Subversive Virginity*. More than mere semantics, they sought to destroy traditional family values. It is time to reclaim our self-respect, ethical standards and the English language.

Abstinence is more than sex-control; it is an integral part of personal character development. It's about self-control. It's about being unselfish. It's about empathy and living for the sake of others. It's about freedom for all—not just a few.

Let's get real, abstinence is about building strong families, lowering crime rates, providing security for our schools, communities and businesses, and rebuilding our inner cities. But above all, abstinence is about building good character, which is the foundation for true relationships between a man and woman.

Robert S. Kittel ♦

Prepare or Party

By Mo Sook Park, New York

On February 4th and 5th, the Pure Love Alliance held a two day workshop for *the New Eden Academy* in Bridgeport, CT. The theme was "Prepare or Party?" and each presentation dealt with how to best prepare to confront the peer issues of drugs, drinking and sex that all young people ultimately face, and to prepare for their future.

"Keeping purity requires more than just keeping your pants on," Teddy Hose, a freshman at Bridgeport University, explained during his talk on developing character. He emphasized that our character is the basis for our future. People with goals for their future, should make wise decisions to avoid living a *let's party* lifestyle.

Pure Love International, the video of the 1998 tour in Japan and Korea was shown. This inspired many of the young students to want to join the next tour later this year.

Mo Sook Park, who works in the PLA office in NY, closed the first day with a talk about self-respect and the importance of taking pride in oneself. She challenged the students be proud without being arrogant and to respect their families, and what they believe in and go beyond peer and cultural pressures to do the right thing.

On the second day Harumi Kawamura, another University of Bridgeport student gave a special lecture on feeling "lack of love."



She directly confronted the students with a reason why we would do anything for love. "Ideally we are all supposed to experience child's love, brother, and sister love, conjugal love and

year-old boy. The audience was then asked to choose five people whom they thought should be saved from the sinking ship in the last remaining lifeboat. The students ended up choosing the



parental love to the fullest." she said. "Yet in reality many of us feel lack of love or even alienation. This feeling of alienation drives us to seek love, which is strongly connected to the issue of purity."

The four stages of love are meant to be experienced in a specific order, with conjugal or sexual love coming later, when we are fully mature. But because our culture pushes this kind of love so heavily, many young people get confused and seek sex when what they really need is to focus on building good friendships and connecting to their parent's love.

Keiha Kim moved the hearts of students with her own personal testimony. She shared her reasons why she chose to live a pure lifestyle and how family plays an important role in her life. Following her talk, Mrs. Kim did an activity with her students called "Titanic." Ten students were chosen and given titles such as newlywed, professor, and five-

people whose titles clearly showed they were a part of a family. Through that activity the students learned how the family is really the center of all our lives.

"Comb Your Hair" was the title of the last presentation given by the PLA president, Mr. Robert Kittel. He pointed out that the main way we change our appearance is by how we fix our hair. Our hair, being on the top of our head is for public viewing. Our mouth, nose, eyes, and ears are used to relate with the world. In a sense the human body is a model for the proper relationship between public and private. Our head is public and meant for others to see. Our sexual organs are private and meant to be reserved for only the most intimate and holy relationships.

To close the students gathered along the shore at the Seaside Park and recited the Pure Love Pledge facing the shimmering water. ♦

Pure Love reaches Miami

By Lili Kato
PLA Director Miami, Florida

In May 1998 I attended the first PLA Teacher's Training Work-shop in Washington DC. I brought back with me a tiny seed, which has now begun to sprout.

I live and work in Miami, a city like no other. Three languages are spoken here and the cultural influence of the Caribbean and South America are everywhere. Miami is known as the gateway between North and South America. Sometime it is difficult to tell which continent you're on.

You can say it in Spanish or Creole or English, for that matter, but it all says the same thing. Miami is a city in desperate need

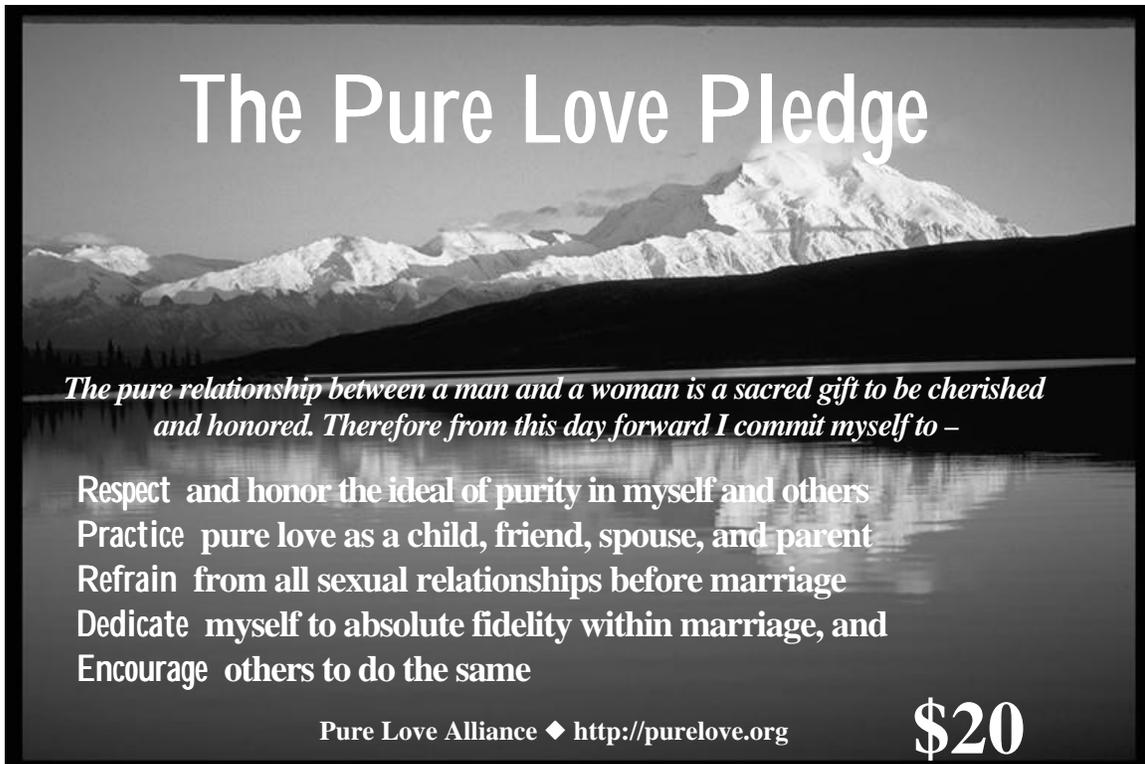


of addressing the problems that are affecting its young people: drug abuse, violence, and teenage pregnancy. I decided to contact as many political, civic and educational institutions as possible to introduce them to the PLA.

There has been a good response so far. The PLA received a letter of support from the Florida State Board of Education. A staff member from the Florida City mayor's office is inspired to learn the curriculum herself.

Two local Florida radio stations aired a 30-minute radio interview,

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Miami



Lili Kato teaches the benefits of the Pure Love Lifestyle

dealing with the changing attitudes that young people have towards casual sex.

The True Family Values Ministry a local initiative, which reaches out to churches with a clear understanding of the value of building God centered families, introduced the PLA to several ministers from local churches they have been working with. These ministers have invited the PLA to share the CLUE curriculum with their young people.

My favorite thing about the PLA curriculum is the focus on building a good character. The lectures reinforced with the activities effectively drive home the point of each presentation. And the young people have a good time in the process. ♦

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want the club out of their community. Imam Salahuddin Muhammad of the Islamic Training Center stated clearly, "We don't want pornography in our city. We are against it 1,000 percent. It is a disgrace. It's a degradation."

Chris Antal, a PLA member, and student at Regents College, told young people present at the January 17th protest not to be

embarrassed for wanting to be good.

Lips had attempted to skirt the city's zoning regulations by permitting minors to enter, thereby becoming technically not an *adult-only* establishment.

The Rev. Manuel Montalvo, assistant pastor at the Newburgh Assembly of God by saying any such business that admits minors under any circumstances will corrupt young people's ideas about love.

Among the speakers at the protest, Robert Kittel PLA president, said what happens at places such as *Lips* distorts the bond of true love between a man and a woman.

"When love is misused, people are destroyed, families are destroyed, communities are destroyed," Kittel said.

This was the second time the Pure Love Alliance raised its voice in this community. Last summer PLA members came by invitation to join with local residents in a pure love rally. If people don't speak out, community values are lost. ♦



Protesters rally outside Lips Exotic Cabaret in Newburgh, NY

Pure Love Day in South Florida

By: Lili Kato
Miami, Florida

Miami greeted the new year with a January 1st rally to celebrate the importance of purity before marriage and fidelity within it. The Pure Love banner held out in front of a sea of brightly made signs held over the heads of the 200 people marching to express a strong stand for purity, fidelity, and true love.



PLA Volunteers on the March in Miami

Tropical Park, filled with families celebrating New Year's day, heard the rumble of the Pure Love march as it passed by. Horns honked, people waved, and the brave few pulled their cars over to find out what this Pure Love Alliance was all about.

With our portable microphone warmed up, our rally was underway. A representative from the Women's Federation for World Peace expressed her support for the importance of purity and fidelity.

The youth director of the Church of the Living God of the Last Time told the crowd, "God really appreciates what you are doing here, and I am so happy to be a part of this."

A local father pointed out that we are a group of families and asked, "Where should we look for guidance concerning relationships and character? To the TV? To the radio, modern music, or commercials, and advertising?" The crowd answered with a resounding "No!" "The family is the place where we should look to for love and guidance," he said.

Mayor Alex Penelas of Miami-Dade, Florida proclaimed January 1, 1999 *Pure Love Day*, and urged everyone to join him in giving their attention to this important issue.

The musical repertoire of the

Title V from page 1

2. Teach character building and abstinence skills in weekly classes after school.
3. Form a PLA club with special monthly programs.
4. Teach parents the importance of supporting their child's natural desire to remain pure till marriage.

Surveys have shown that most teenagers want to hear about sexual matters directly from their parents and that parental advice has the most influence. Working with parents and children together helps to break the ice that both often feel when talking about this sensitive topic and keeps the conversation in a family environment.

Dr. Irma Cannida, Director of the Greater True Life Church of Jesus Christ of St. Louis was especially excited about the interactive nature of the CLUE curriculum. "I want one now!" she exclaimed after hearing descriptions about some of the learning activities such as Titanic, Plane Crash, and Blind Man

Bishop Stewart of the Pentecostal Tabernacle, another supporter, is working with inter-city young people. He recognizes the vital role of the father in a family. Daughters with live-in fathers are much more likely to delay their initial sexual encounter, many until marriage.

No educational system can replace the family. Schools must work with parents. When teaching sex education no one can afford to remain value-neutral.

Mr. Swearson promised that these public funds "will build an effective, powerful program that can be reproduced in every state and will be the envy of abstinence educators nationwide." ♦

recent CLUE graduates entertained the crowd as the day continued in the warmth of another balmy Miami afternoon. ♦



PLA Graduates

THE PURE LOVE PLEDGE

The pure relationship of love between a man and woman is a sacred gift from God to be cherished and honored, for the sake of building a true family, healthy society and a world of peace for future generations. Once that love is consummated, it should never be broken.

Therefore, from this day forward,
I commit myself to:

- * **RESPECT** and honor the ideal of purity in myself and others.
- * **LEARN** how to practice pure love as a child, friend, spouse and parent.
- * **REFRAIN** from all sexual relationships before marriage.
- * **DEDICATE** myself to absolute fidelity within marriage, and
- * **ENCOURAGE** others to do the same.

Recommended Reading



- ◆ *A Return to Modesty: Discovering the Lost Virtue* by Wendy Shalit

A book that upholds modesty as a virtue worth reclaiming, a key to unlocking the best in men and women. Shalit says the sex education being foisted upon this generation of young people is fundamentally flawed, centered on overcoming reticence instead of keeping pure.

- ◆ *I Kissed Dating Goodbye* by Joshua Harris

The message of this refreshing book is that purity is a direction that we choose to take in our life, not a thin line to cross. In the second chapter, *Seven Habits of Defective Dating*, Harris says that dating leads in the wrong direction, stimulating feelings and passions we

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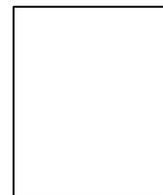
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