



2010 HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST RULES

1. Each essay may be typed or word-processed and should be double-spaced. If handwritten, student must use pen on lined paper.
2. Each essay is to be from 300 to 600 words and must be an original composition.
3. The theme for the essay is:

9th & 10th Grades:

What can be done to promote respect for human life during its late stages? Discuss the apparent growth of support for euthanasia. How is language being used to soften opposition to it, i.e. the use of terms like “death with dignity” or “my right to choose how and when I die”? Where has assisted suicide been legalized in the world and in the United States? How has it affected our culture? Does this approval lead to euthanasia?

11th & 12th Grades:

What can be done to prevent the incidence of teen pregnancy? Do you know someone affected by a teenage unplanned pregnancy? Does your school or church offer a program to help these young women? What else can be done to help pregnant teens?

4. JUDGING CRITERIA

Judges will base their decision on the overall excellence of the student’s presentation. The theme should be obvious and presented in a positive way and must show an understanding of the theme. Good English expression, sentence structure, spelling and grammar are essential elements.

5. Each sponsoring organization will judge and choose **one** winning entry from all of its 9th and 10th grade entrants, and **one** winning entry from all its 11th and 12th grade entrants.
6. The winning entries must be submitted to and received by Right to Life of Indianapolis by **April 1, 2010**. Prize winners for each separate contest (9th & 10th grades and 11th & 12th grades) will be determined and announced by May 1, 2010. The sponsoring organization and the winning students will be notified.

7. PRIZES:

- a. Every student who enters this contest will receive a “Precious Feet” pin. Each sponsoring organization should notify us of the number of participants, so that we can provide the appropriate number of pins.
- b. The winning entrant from each sponsoring organization will receive a complimentary ticket to attend the annual Right to Life of Indianapolis “Celebrate Life Banquet” to be held at the Indianapolis Convention Center in September 2010. These students will be recognized at the banquet.
- c. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners as follows:
 - Grand prize..... \$250.00 and engraved plaque
 - Second place.....\$200.00 and engraved plaque
 - Third place.....\$150.00 and engraved plaque
 - Fourth place.....\$100.00 and engraved plaque
 - Fifth place.....\$ 50.00 and engraved plaque
- d. Right to Life of Indianapolis will award an Educational Grant in the amount of \$250.00 to the sponsoring organization of the Grand Prize winner. If the Grand Prize winner is home schooled, this award will go to the local, state, or national home school organization of the winner’s choice.

8. Resource material for essays may be found in many good web sites, such as:

- American Life League www.all.org
- Americans United for Life www.unitedforlife.org
- National Right to Life www.nrlc.org
- Life Issues www.lifeissues.org
- Indiana Right to Life www.indianalife.org
- Indianapolis Catholic Archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities
www.archindy.org

(Scroll to Pro-Life Activities to visit links)

For questions or to request literature or additional information, please call Right to Life of Indianapolis at 317-582-1526 or email us at life@rtlindy.org.