Birthright of Pittsburgh, Inc.

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"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth, and the right of every child to be born."
– Louise Summerhill, founder, Birthright International (1968)

Now and Then: Naming the Baby

Looking for baby names? Some of the most popular baby names in 2015 are: Tate and Ayana; Liam and Emma; and Imani and Xavier.

Naming a baby is as much a tradition in some families as when we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Let's take a look at how names were selected by American Indian tribes, the Colonists and African Americans.

American Indian baby names vary from tribe to tribe and sometimes depict nature, attributes or relatives. Often a boy's baby name changes several times during his lifetime. The names of girls in the Northern Plains tribes were not changed. Some Indian infant names are: "Niali," Osage, meaning "fawn"; "Kiliska," Miwok, meaning "coyote chasing bear"; or "Tsintah," Navajo, meaning "among the forest." The Hopi had a naming ceremony and only elder female relatives could name the baby on the 20th day after birth at sunrise.

According to Grass Traditions, the Sweet Arapaho parents asked an elder in the tribe to select the baby's name. The name and prayers of the elders would ensure the baby a successful life. Grandma and Grandpa would pray for a spirit name for the grandchild and bestow the baby's name at birth or before.

In New England Puritan communities, Jameka Sayles writes, babies were often regarded as reminders of God's grace. A few days after birth, babies were named and baptized in the meeting house. A Puritan influence from 1590-1600 resulted in names from the Old Testament. In the 17th century, the names of virtues: hope, faith, charity and patience were preferred. Classical names of Anne, Lydia, Henry, or Joseph, were

popular baby names in the colonies. Many early baby names recorded in Raleigh County, N.C., known as the "Lost Colony" included: John, Thomas or William. Often girls were named: Elizabeth, Marjorie or Rose. Virginia Dare was the first child of European descent born in America on August 18, 1587.

A name was important to the parents and was thoughtfully chosen. They hoped the child would live up to the meaning of their name.

Dr. Joseph Holloway, writes in "African Names in Colonial America" about baby names included from the South Carolina Gazette (1732-1755). The name "Ashanti" means a male child born on a Friday; "Abba" is "Abby," the female name for Tuesday; and the

African male name "Jeaceo" is "Jackson." Linda VanBibber researched the Dagara culture in West Africa and found they ask the baby at about six months in the womb who they are and what is their purpose/message they carry from the realm of the ancestors? Answers are recorded by village elders. The baby's name is a reminder of their life mission. In America, parents gave their babies African names well into the 19th century. Babies were often named after their parents.

Birthright in city 44 yrs. in November!

Welcome two new Board Members!

Dr. Adriana Larregina

Hello! I am Adriana Larregina, a new Birthright board member. I joined Birthright because of my shared individual values with the principles and the prolife purpose of the Organization. I believe that the life of a human being starts at the moment of conception and should not end by another human being. Simply, humans have not the right to take the life of another human being.
I would not be here if my mother had decided to terminate my life following a physician's advice to do so because she was undergoing a highly aggressive form of diphtheria when she found out that she was pregnant. At that time, there were no sonograms or reliable genetic studies to determine whether I would have defects, or even if I would live until the end of gestation. Nevertheless, my mother decided to "take the risk of continuing with her pregnancy".
And here I am a healthy woman, who looks very much like her father, proving that I was not an appendix of my mother's body. She told me the she was just a channel for me to be born and that she felt an immense love and responsibility to give me the chance to live, so I did.

Hola! Mi nombre es Adriana Larregina, y formo parte del directorio de Birthright of Pittsburgh. Decidí formar parte de Birthright debido a que comparto los valores de esta Institución en lo concerniente al respeto por la vida humana. Yo creo que la vida de una persona comienza en el momento de su concepción y ningún otro ser humano debe poner fin a esa vida que ha comenzado. Simplemente ningún ser humano tiene derecho a privar de la vida a otro ser humano.
Yo no estaría aquí si mi madre, siguiendo el consejo de su médico, hubiera decidido por el aborto cuando padeciendo de una forma agresiva de difteria, se enteró de que estaba embaraza de mí. En esa época, no había ecógrafos o estudios genéticos que permitieran saber

los posibles defectos de un embrión o de un feto. Sin embargo mi madre decidió "arriesgarse" y continuar con su embarazo.
Y aquí estoy yo, una mujer saludable que heredó todos los rasgos físicos de su padre, como comprobando que un hijo no es un apéndice de su madre, sino un ser individual. Mi madre me enseñó que ella era simplemente un instrumento para que yo naciera y que su decisión de continuar con su embarazo estuvo basada en un inmenso amor y responsabilidad de darme la oportunidad de vivir, y gracias a esa forma de pensar y actuar, hoy puedo contar mi historia

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Mark Likoudis

My name is Mark Likoudis and I am a lifelong practicing Catholic, 100 percent pro-life, the proud husband of Kathryn, for 31 years, and father of nine children, ages 29 to 11. Our last two children are identical twins.

We recently relocated to Pittsburgh from upstate New York and have been residing here for a little over a year.

With a background in business operations and finance, I worked for 28 years as a defense contractor and performed various roles in finance, operations and engineering at Lockheed Martin in Texas and New York. Following this position, I was employed as an adjunct professor in economics and finance for two years at Keuka College in Keuka Park, New York.

Currently, I serve as a business manager at St. Thomas More Parish in Bethel Park and am responsible for overall operations and financial responsibilities.

Besides my position at the parish, I spend most of my time trying to keep nine children on the straight and narrow. Never a dull moment.

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It is documented that Planned Parenthood receives $500 million plus a year in government funds including state payments. In PP's 2013-14 annual report, they listed 2.7 million clients in 2013. Their website reveals a trimester abortion cost of up to $1,500; abortifacient pills are $45; and a urine pregnancy test is $10. Our Birthright budget is at the far end of the spectrum compared with this "For Profit" organization. Birthright services are free and you have a baby to take home with you.

Birthright of Pittsburgh Contributor #224

Red Rose Day Church Collections

(April – October 2015)

All Saints
Good Shepherd, Braddock
North American Martyrs
Our Lady of Joy
Sacred Heart, Emsworth
St. Catherine of Sweden
St. Francis of Assisi, Finleyville
St. John Vianney
St. Joseph, O'Hara Township
St. Maria Goretti
St. Paul Cathedral
St. Pio of Pietrelcina
St. Raphael
St. Scholastica
St. Thomas More
Transfiguration

~Gifts for Birthright Little Ones~

Barbara Adams – Baby items
Amazon - Diapers
St. Anne Ladies of Charity – Donation
St. Athanasius – Donation
St. Basil Christian Mothers – Donation
Nelson & Susan Caro - Donation
Anne Louise Daily – Donation
Patricia Deckar – Baby items
Mary Ellen Dougall – Donation
East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church - Donation
Greg & Theresa Haas – Donation
C.J. & A. Henn - Donation
Donald & Lucille Jansen – Donation
John C. Karg – Donation
Knights of Columbus, Guyasuta Council No.6094, Glenshaw – Donation
Carol D. Loiselle - Donation
Stephen Lowery, Jr. – Donation
Mary Anne Mansell – Baby clothes and handmade blankets & quilts
Madonna del Castello and Word of God Churches, Ladies of Charity - Donation
John & Denise McCarthy - Donation
John Soboslay – Donation
Sarah & Vincent Tarducci – Donation

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A Birthright volunteer's children display a quilt wall hanging donated by an artist.

Volunteers are needed to help Moms & babies! You're invited to share your gifts!
Information session scheduled for Nov.28 from 2-5 p.m. Register at: 412-621-1988.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthright needs your prayers, assistance and financial support. We are interdenominational, nonprofit and nonpolitical. Dedicated volunteers confidentially help girls and women with unexpected pregnancies.

Paula A. Smith, Executive Director
Newsletter editor