

November xx, 2005

Dear (Community Leader's Name);

On **(Date)**, teenagers from our community will take a stand for sexual abstinence until marriage during a True Love Waits® ceremony at **(Church Name)**. As part of the ceremony, teens will be asked to sign a commitment card pledging to refrain from sex until they are married.

It's very appropriate that the date of our commitment ceremony is during Valentine's Week, because true love really is about waiting to enjoy God's gift of sex with one's spouse.

You may already know that True Love Waits was created more than a decade ago by LifeWay Christian Resources to encourage moral purity by adhering to biblical principles. This youth-based international campaign utilizes positive peer pressure by encouraging those who make a commitment to refrain from pre-marital sex to challenge their peers to do the same.

More than one hundred organizations and thousands of churches have adopted the use of True Love Waits to promote sexual abstinence, in large part because they have seen how well the campaign works and the potential it has to reverse negative trends in communities.

For example, teen pregnancies and births are down about a third nationwide from their peaks in 1991, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Dr. John Santelli, a Columbia University public health professor and the lead author of a recent analysis of the decline, attributes about half the drop to teens saying no to intercourse.

As part of our church's True Love Waits ceremony, we will introduce "Takes the Town," a new phase of the True Love Waits campaign that encourages cities to take a unified, community-wide approach to promoting sexual abstinence by involving schools, government, businesses, churches, health organizations and others.

I'm writing to invite you personally to attend our True Love Waits' ceremony and hear for yourself from young people in our community who are making this important commitment. Someone from **(Church Name)** will contact you in a few weeks to see if you are able to join us for this special time. I hope to see you at our **(Date)** event.

Sincerely,