

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

LITTLE WHITE RIBBONERS

Enlisting Little White Ribboners (birth to age 6) is an important goal for the WCTU. Parents need to be contacted and have the pledge and service explained to them. When they are in agreement, choose a time to have a special enrollment service.

This sheet offers preparation material and the following page gives a sample program to use. The program from the US is also included. You may take ideas and make up your own program but be sure there is a pledge or commitment asked for from the parents.

A Little White Ribboner, the youngest member of the WCTU, is a child from the age of birth to six years whose parent has on their behalf signed the Little White Ribboners' Promise, which is:

"I promise, with God's help, not to serve this child alcohol, tobacco, and/or all other harmful drugs."

Days before the service the parent(s) could be asked if they would like to read a scripture that they feel God has given them specifically for that child.

Colouring sheets could be given out to the older LWR children to colour during the program. (Colouring sheets with temperance message can be ordered through Signal Press - signalpress@comcast.net)

Be sure to have the white ribbon of appropriate length ready to tie on the child's wrist.

Snack Time: prepare a nutritious snack or lunch and healthy drink. Start a discussion with the moms about making nutritious lunches and snacks for the children/family and share ideas.

As always, be prepared with material for Moms to take home. Send Mom home with a gift bag.

(Suggestions to include: FAS material, LWR Enrollment Record card, WCTU membership card, a healthy drink recipe and a special gift just for Mom).

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

LITTLE WHITE RIBBONER PROGRAMME

Welcome

Opening Prayer

W.C.T.U. Pledge: "I hereby promise, God helping me, to abstain from all distilled, fermented and malt liquors, including beer, wine and cider as a beverage, and from all other narcotics; and to employ all proper means to discourage the use of and traffic in the same."

Theme: Children are precious to the Lord.

Songs: "Jesus Loves Me" "Precious Jewels"

Scripture: You are fearfully and wonderfully made – Psalm 139:13-16

I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb – Jeremiah 1:5

[Optional: Bible Story with temperance message: Tell the story in Daniel 1]

Invite Parent(s) to come(s) forward with the child or children.

Words to Parents:

"Just as Jesus was given the blessing as early as a new baby, so our children need to receive the blessing from us. Along with **words** of blessing, children also need a protected environment that is kept safe by trustworthy adults. "As a twig is bent, so grows the tree". Just as a small plant must be protected from being bent or broken, so the mind and heart of a young child needs to be **protected from the negative influences** that will damage their fragile sense of identity as they grow. (The Blessing Handbook by Terry R. Bone)

Have the parent(s) recite the LWR Promise: *"I promise, with God's help, not to serve this child alcohol, tobacco and/or all other harmful drugs."*

The President prays a prayer of blessing over the child. Either the president or LWR Director ties a white ribbon on the child's wrist. Another suggestion would be to give the child a stuffed "white" lamb.

The parent signs a Little White Ribboner Enrollment card. (Canada has created an attractive card that can be kept for a keepsake.)

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

WHITE RIBBON RECRUIT SERVICE

(as used in the US – submitted by Sarah Ward)

PREPARATION: Use ¼” wide white ribbon cut in about an 18” length. Often a flower is given to the mother at the end of the service. Also, it is nice to have a little party after the service for the family.

THE CALL: Will those who desire to dedicate children to a life of total abstinence and purity bring them at this time?

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 22:6; Mark 10: 13-16

HOME PROTECTION DIRECTOR: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union, through its love and concern for children, offers you this opportunity to express your determination to teach abstinence and purity as the Christian way of life. God has given you this privilege because a child's mind and body are pliable to example and learning. Do you solemnly promise to teach the principles of total abstinence and purity in your home? If so, pledge by saying, “I do.”

(Wait for response.)

(Ask WCTU members/audience to stand.)

You have heard this earnest intent. Will you, as members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, continue to pray for and support this (these) families? If so, pledge by saying, “I will.”

(Tie the white ribbon on the right wrist of each child, using the name of each child as you do so and say): “_____ , this makes you a little 'White Ribboner' in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.”

PRAYER: *(Use your own words or this one.)*

We thank You, our Father, for the beauty of childhood. We especially thank You for Jesus who loved little children, took them in His arms, and blessed them, saying, “of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

We thank You for the spirit of hope and love we see in their little faces. Help their parents to teach and direct their lives.

Help us, the members of the WCTU, to be diligent in our efforts to make the paths in this world safe for the feet of little children. Our hearts overflow with thanksgiving because You have entrusted women with the great honor and privilege of being mothers. In the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

(You may have the audience sing Precious Jewels, Jesus Loves Me, or Jesus Loves the Little Children.)

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

THE CASINO INDUSTRY – “What Harm Does It Do?”

(Excerpts from Institute for American Values 2013)

There is no shortage of information on the “world” of gambling. I mean literally, “world”. The fascination with “chance” and “luck” is across the globe. Of course, the casino industry would pose the question “What harm does it do?”

Thirty years ago people would travel a distance to experience the thrill of a casino. Not so now. Today you will find them in “not-so-grand” hotels, they don’t stay overnight and they don’t eat in a fine restaurant.

There is no shortage of venues. There’s card room gambling, race wagering, sports betting, commercial bingo, lotteries, charitable gaming, and most recently, on-line gambling.

A common argument in favour of casinos is that it will bring vast amounts of money into the local economy and create jobs. Unfortunately, much to the dismay of the local merchants, that doesn’t happen. It only increases the number of liquor stores and places to get cash for your gold jewelry. The National Association of Realtors will tell you about the negative impact casinos have on property values. It’s not surprising those communities with casinos suffer higher rates of home foreclosures, financial distress, and domestic violence. According to Police Reports, these incidences of crime double and triple in communities within three years of a casino opening.

It’s the addicted gambler that keeps the casino in business. I don’t like to stereotype but it’s apparent low income and retirees are the ones that frequent casinos the most. Obviously those that can least afford it are the ones caught in this strangling web.

According to the Institute for American Values (CNN, Sept. 2013) modern slot machines are highly addictive and provide a psychological experience that puts you into a trance-like state. It’s in this state of mind that you keep playing until you run out of money.

Unfortunately, governments have shirked their duty in studying the effects of gambling by funding the casino industry to do the study. However, studies have been funded by governments in Britain and Canada.

This is just a very small glimpse at a very large problem. Are we content to let this devastating industry continue to grow? I hope you will look at your country’s gambling situation and decide to be pro-active in fighting against it.

Finally, and most importantly, what does God say? In His Word He reminds us to trust Him for our every need. Philippians 4:19; Psalms 145:19; Psalms 118:8; Proverbs 3:5

God bless your efforts as you work for Him.

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

INTERNET SAFETY

(Excerpts from CBC News 2012)

The **purpose** of the **Home Protection Department** is to establish pure and admirable thoughts within our family and in the home.

“Fix your thoughts on what is true and honourable and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.” *Philippians 4:8 (NLT)*

We need to understand that cyber-bullying is just as serious as traditional bullying. It's using technology to harass and manipulate and often destroy a child. As adults/parents it's important to open up that conversation with our kids.

Here are some warning signs to be mindful of:

- * Change in behaviour, i.e. a good student starts to have falling grades
- * A child that used to sit on the computer for hours, doesn't do that anymore. They are reading or watching TV.
- * They are not eating or eating too much.
- * They are missing items or their clothing is damaged.
- * They are suffering depression or anxiety. They don't want to go to school.
- * If they say or write dark things like "I don't want to live".

(Tina Meier, founder of the Megan Meier Foundation, an anti-bullying organization)

Another sign to look for is personality changes. It may be due to cyber-bullying. Please do not write it off as "just being a teenager".

In the case of any kind of bullying, it is recommended that parents do intervene. Let the school know there is a problem and talk to other parents. It is equally important to ensure the child has emotional support and evaluation is critical.

How do we prevent our own children from becoming cyber-bullies? Set the ground rules and let it be known that they will be enforced and there will be consequences.

If you go to Google (or the search engine in your area) and search “internet safety tips”, you will find many good websites to use as a resource. You can find parental control tools to install on your browser to provide complete online protection for your family. We want to prevent cyber-bullying and other harmful behaviour, so our children and family members can have safe experiences on the internet.

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

INTERNET SAFETY

(Excerpts from CBC News 2012)

(page 2 – Internet Safety – HOME PROTECTION)

Rules to teach children:

Here are just a few basic rules for internet safety which should be taught to children using the internet:

1. Never give out personal information such as your name, home address, school name or telephone in a chat room. Never send a picture of yourself to someone you chat with on the computer without your parent's permission.
2. Never meet someone or have strangers visit you without the permission of your parents.
3. Tell your parents right away if you read anything on the internet that makes you feel uncomfortable.

To Parents:

The minimum age for Facebook account holders is 13 years of age.

Scheduling times and the amount of time your child can be on the internet ensures you know when your child is on the internet. It's a good idea to have your computer in an open area of your home such as the kitchen or family room.

First and foremost, having an open ongoing conversation with your family members about internet safety is always the best method to communicate your desire to keep the family safe.

Also, let's not forget that the television is still a major threat within the home. It is possible to block certain unhealthy channels from coming into your home.

Blessings as you work to keep our homes safe!

HOME PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Florence Einwechter, World Director

Email: keithein@gmail.com

WHITE BLANKET CAMPAIGN

Dear White Ribbon Sisters:

A few years ago the "White Blanket Campaign" became one of the World WCTU's initiatives. Please read the article below which explains the idea behind it and suggestions on how to accomplish it. Simply, it is the giving of a white blanket to a mother-to-be or a new mother as an introduction to the W.C.T.U.

A new approach to increase membership in the Little White Ribboner department is the White Blanket Campaign. The White Blanket Campaign is a tool designed to be used as an invitation to WCTU and an avenue to distribute WCTU literature. It can be used by individual members or as a local union project. The invitation can be to become a Little White Ribboner and also to the mother as an invitation to join the WCTU. The White Blanket Campaign gives you the opportunity to give and share in the celebration of a new baby and at the same time share informative literature with the mother.

The White Blanket Campaign is taking a white blanket, folding or rolling it, tying a white ribbon around it and attaching a tag with the local union's name. You can tuck a Little White Ribboner's promise card under the white ribbon. You can also add FAS material. It can be given as a gift as soon as the parent makes the announcement of the coming baby with the FAS material.

As a local union project, your group could make your blankets, knitted or crocheted, and give the blankets to a pregnancy centre. A label can be attached to the blanket (ironed on or sewn on) with the WCTU name. A tag (scrapbooking ideas could be used) could hang from the white ribbon bow with a scripture verse on one side and WCTU contact information on the other side. The blankets could be displayed in an attractive basket and then taken to the centre for distribution.

As an individual WCTU member, you could make this very personal and special by giving the White Blanket as a Little White Ribboner invitation to each of your new grandchildren. It is a way of passing down your WCTU lifestyle to the next generation. The White Blanket campaign would make a very meaningful baby dedication or infant baptism gift. (The blanket could also be folded and placed in a gift box wrapped in white paper with a white ribbon tied around the box). This is a great idea for giving at church baby showers, a new baby on your street, and/or to family and friends. It is also an idea that may be used in welcoming someone to your community who has a baby.

The White Blanket Campaign is designed to help you to reach out to those around you with the temperance message. What better place to start than with mothers with new babies!

Let's see how many new Little White Ribboners we can reach with the White Ribbon Campaign by the next World Convention.