



2020 Pro-Life Youth Essay Contest Guidelines

- The essay contest is open to all **7-8th grade** students in St. Joseph County, IN and in the counties immediately adjacent to St. Joseph County.
- This year the contest will be comprised of a persuasive letter, rather than a persuasive essay.
- Only one entry per student will be accepted.
- Two winners will be awarded cash prizes of \$100 each. Two runners-up will receive \$50 cash prizes.
- Entries must:
 - be 200-500 words in length, typed, and with a professional format (see sample below). Entries may exceed one page as long as the maximum word count is not exceeded.
 - include the student's name, school, grade level, and phone number in the signature.
- **In order to be considered for the scholarship**, entries must be submitted to programs@prolifemichiana.org or mailed to the address listed below by **Monday, March 30th, 2020**.
- Send entries to us at: **Saint Joseph County Right to Life**
2004 Ironwood Circle, Suite 130
South Bend, IN 46635
- We will mail all submitted letters in bulk to Mayor Pete Buttigieg's office.
- Winners will be notified by **Friday, April 17, 2019**.



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Prompt

South Bend Mayor and 2020 president candidate Pete Buttigieg has consistently spoken in favor of abortion rights.

When asked at the Fox News town hall if he supports any restrictions on abortions, Mayor Pete replied, “I trust women to draw the line.” Huffpost reports that as the [interview](#) continued, he added: “That decision [to have an abortion] is not going to be made any better, medically or morally, because the government is dictating how that decision should be made.” (Pete Buttigieg: I Trust Women To Draw The Line’ On Their Own Abortions)

Mayor Pete also has tried to reconcile abortion with Christianity, and in a talk show [interview](#) shared by PJ Media, Mayor Pete voiced that “...there’s a lot of parts of the Bible that talk about how life begins with breath, and so even that is something that we can interpret differently.” (Buttigieg on Abortion: Bible Says ‘Life Begins with Breath’)

Write a letter to Mayor Pete asking him to reconsider his pro-abortion view by articulating why you are pro-life.

Points to consider:

- Be gracious. Thank Mayor Pete for supporting a policy/law you agree with to establish common ground.
- Remember that this is a persuasive letter. Use facts as well as emotion to make your point.
- Share a quote from a moral leader or the bible to back up your argument. Mayor Pete often quotes the bible.
- If you have a personal pro-life testimony, share it! Testimonies often change hearts and minds.
- Close your letter with “I look forward to hearing from you”. This encourages a politician to respond.

Questions? Call 574-232-LIFE (5433)

[Date]

[Your Name]

[Address]

[City, State, Zip]

To,

The Honorable Mayor [Name of Mayor]

[Address]

[City, State, Zip]

[Greeting],

[Closing],

[Signature]

[Your Name Typed]

[Your School, Grade]

[Phone Number]