



... and now U know! News & Views from the LIFE Institute, Inc
2k9, 3rd Quarter Edition

“Sometimes whether or not you get the help you need depends on who you ask for help”

... to the point with Dr. E

E.L. Woods, PhD (CEO, LIFE Institute, Inc.) <http://leoweekly.com/news/louisvillian-year>

TARC Safety: The LIFE Institute conducted several focus groups on mass transportation safety. Our primary focal point was TARC but discussion also included school bus and taxicab riding. The finding reports and suggestions are available and consideration will be given to any request for them. As a result of this work that took nearly a year to complete, LIFE is working on a series of public service announcements (PSAs) about TARC safety. Under the guidance of several marketing and public awareness professionals, these PSAs are written by our youth and will first be shown to TARC before they are displayed anywhere. We do this because mass transportation safety is not a TARC issue alone ... it is a community issue and should be treated as such. In addition, we have included mass transportation safety as one of our group session topics in our youth groups. LIFE is asking the entire community to join us in making mass transportation safety something that Louisville is known for. Moving around our city should not be “risky business” or any type of problem.

Saggin’ vs Guns: Legislation about Saggin’ is way too easy a road to take in a city with significant numbers of kids carrying guns. Liking or putting up with saggin’ is close to being a matter of personal preference. At the LIFE Institute, everyday we deal with kids who have or know how to easily get access to guns. I could personally care less about how a person wears their clothes. Policy on this issue should be left up to agencies or businesses to decide. Saggin is a nationwide fad that is based as much in protest mode, as any other reasons for doin it. In fact, at LIFE we gauge our progress in impacting negative behavior & attitudes by asking our streetwise kids to let us know when they are ready for a belt. We let them know early on that saggin is not interview friendly. And that is all we say about it. All of the myths about how it started and widespread attention to it are not very effective in addressing the issue over the long term.

I would much rather see our legislative energy spent on finding a way to registering and/or putting identifying numbers on bullets. Kids who have guns often have to buy or steal bullets. They often get adults or 18 year olds to buy the bullets for them. There are no signing for the bullets procedures. In some cases there are no requirements for ID. It would appear to me to be in our best interest to make it difficult as possible to continuously injure and kill people. No one ever died from being sagged to death or assault with a “deadly” sag.

Summer Jobs for Youth: Summer jobs for youth is a very good idea. This summer, in conjunction with Councilwoman Judith Green, Project One and the YOU Program, the LIFE Institute employed 150 youth in Metro Louisville. These kids were from all over Metro Louisville (lot of zip codes). Several of these youth were able to find permanent employment. Part of our strategy was to work on addressing the negative behaviors before and after work each day that keep our kids unemployable. Our city should seriously consider putting more money into youth summer jobs programs. A lot of kids who would have been a problem were not a problem this summer.

Best wishes! We appreciate You!

If we *Pay Attention* ... we can get it all done.

Be safe. **Dr. E**

3050 West Broadway



... note from the Chair

William H. Woods LIFE's Board Chairman

LIFE Center for Girls

The LIFE Institute needs your help in establishing a strong program that is exclusively for girls. The LIFE Center for Girls is not just for any particular group of girls. These are our daughters, sisters, friends' children & nieces. They want the same respect and opportunities that are available to our boys. They need to know that our successful women were once just like them ... girls. They need to know that they are some of the most precious beings on the planet.

The LIFE Center for Girls is not just a program ... it's a movement. Consider giving of your time, positive energy and dollars to the LIFE Center for Girls. Talk with your employers about supporting the only true center (in the Southeast USA) for the development of girls into responsible productive women. Call Barbara Simmons at (502) 593-2331 for information and to make donations. Our girls matter so very much!

PARKLAND BOYS/GIRLS CLUB

Parkland Boys/Girls Club *has ongoing programs to help your child to succeed. Under the guidance of Norman Martin & Connie Cherry your child will learn to interact with others in a productive way. Call 774-2305 for info.*

Louisville Metro Council

These people very quietly getting the job done! Please don't take them for granted. It is not easy serving an entire community with so many needs.



Founded by Darin Woods, CEO

"If U R not Doin' LIFE, what R U doin'."

DOIN' LIFE as a Street Kid

Suggestions for raising a street-wise kid who might become President:

- Ask where they R going & coming back
- Ask for a phone # & return time
- If necessary, cancel phone privileges
- Pick up your child from dances/events
- Do not be afraid to go looking for Ur kid
- Go to school conference day with you child
- Encourage your child to work or volunteer
- No Guns/drugs/lying anytime, no how, no way
- Meet the BF or GF as soon as possible
- Allow Ur child to be a kid (not an outlaw)

Kentucky Foster Care & Special Needs Adoption Program

LIFE encourages you to consider becoming family to children who need your help. For more information call:
1-800-232-KIDS (outside of Jefferson Co)
(502) 595-KIDS (5437) (in Jefferson Co)

Special Thanks to:

Major Yvette Gentry for being one of the most complete Law Enforcement people in the country; **CW Cheri Hamilton** for her leadership & friendship; **Metro Council** for caring about our community and LIFE; **CM Hal Heiner** for coming out of nowhere with a helping hand; **Cyprian Okeke** for his friendship and guidance; **Chris Locke** for his complete realness at all times; **DJ LIL Carl** for caring about kids in a very unique way; **LEO** for keeping the light on; & **Duane Campbell** for coming back to LIFE.