New Rap Video Tells Pro-Life Story

By Liz Townsend

A scared young woman lies on a table in an abortion clinic, waiting as the nurse prepares the instruments that will kill her two-month-old unborn baby. Suddenly she feels a connection to her child and gets to her feet, stumbling out of the clinic doors and away from death. She looks into the sunlight with a beautiful smile, as a children's choir sings:

I'll always be a part of you
Trust your soul know it's always true
If I could talk I would say to you
Can I Live
Can I Live

This scene from Nick Cannon's new video, for his single “Can I Live,” is part of a touching, true pro-life story from a popular rap artist. Cannon, who directed the video himself, tells the story of his mother’s decision to give him life, after she came close to having an abortion. The video can be seen on Cannon's web site, www.ncannon.com.

In the video, Cannon is a spirit talking to his 17-year-old mother as she goes to the clinic, pays $300, and gets ready for the abortion. As she sits in the waiting room, Cannon pleads, “Mommy I don't like this clinic/Hopefully you'll make the right decision/And don't go through with the Knife Decision.”

The song and video make it clear that the unborn baby in such danger is a real person, a living human being. Cannon tells his mother that although he knows it won't be easy for her as a single mother, he's already her child and deserves a chance to fulfill the promise of his future. “Your friends will look at you funny but look at you mommy/That’s a life inside you look at your tummy/What is becoming ma I am Oprah bound/You can tell he’s a star from the Ultrasound.”

The video ends with Cannon, now 24 years old, hugging his real-life mom and thanking her for his life. He raps,

I love my mother for giving me life
We all need to appreciate life
A strong woman that had to make a sacrifice
Thanks for listening
Thanks for listening
Mama thanks for listening.

Cannon's unapologetic pro-life song has been greeted with many expressions of support, especially from the African American community.

I love life
I'll always be a part of you
Trust your soul know it's always true
If I could talk I would say to you

“Abortion is a very silent killer of African Americans,” said Day Gardner, director of Black Americans for Life. “Most women who decide to abort their children do so without full knowledge of moral, spiritual and physical implications. In this video, they can see that there is a loving future for both the mother and the son that she almost aborted.”

“Cannon's personal plea and thank-you to his mom is strong stuff for a generation that continues to struggle with teenage pregnancy and the ‘baby mama drama’ it often brings,” columnist David Person wrote on BlackAmericaWeb.com. “However, with a strong support system and a caring community, the drama can give way to hope. And with hope and loving future for both the mother and the son that she almost aborted.”

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