

Fact Sheet

Walk For Life West Coast 2010

The Event: The Walk for Life West Coast is an annual rally and walk to witness for life in San Francisco. The Walk for Life West Coast's motto is "Abortion Hurts Women."

When and Where the Walk for Life West Coast is held: Annually in San Francisco, on the Saturday closest to the January 22nd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* ruling.

The Event Schedule: Speeches start at 11 a.m. Walk begins at 12 noon. Info Faire and activities at Walk's end 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Walk Route: The Walk begins at Justin Herman Plaza at the foot of Market Street and continues along the Embarcadero and through Fisherman's Wharf to conclude at Marina Green.

Mission Statement: Our purpose is to establish a new West Coast tradition of celebrating life. We call for solidarity among women and all people of good will in affirming human life. Our mission is to change the perceptions of a society that thinks abortion is an answer. Abortion does violence to women and to their children, both physically and emotionally. It harms women and men; it divides families and society. Women – and all people – deserve better than abortion. Our mission in establishing the Walk for Life West Coast is to shed light on all issues of life, but particularly to change hearts hurt by the violence of abortion. Life is the best and only good choice!

Number of Participants: Each year the Walk has grown. The first year, 7,000-8,000 walked. In 2009, more than 30,000 people participated.

Politics/Religion: While most of the organizers and a large proportion of the participants are people of faith, the Walk is a non-sectarian and non-denominational event that openly expresses belief in God but welcomes all who share a respect for life.

First Walk for Life West Coast: Saturday, January 22, 2005. The first Walk drew the ire of San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and the Board of Supervisors, who declared the date of the Walk "Stand Up for Choice Day." Newsom and several supervisors spoke at a competing rally near City Hall and rallied counter demonstrators numbering about 1,000 who proceeded to line the Walk route to jeer and in some cases pelt the Walk participants with eggs, tomatoes and condoms. Hundreds of police lined the Walk route and provided protection.

Organizers: The Walk for Life West Coast organizers are a group of San Francisco Bay Area residents, led by two San Francisco residents, Eva Muntean and Dolores Meehan.

Website: www.walkforlifewc.com