



A gift for you (or someone you like!):  
Use coupon code **CHARLIE-IN-THE-BOX**  
at checkout to receive any ebook by  
Karen Kropf **FREE** at  
PositivelyWaiting.com/books-n-stuff

Good until Dec. 31, 2020.

*Positively Waiting* is a 501c3 non-profit organization. **All gifts are tax-deductible.** Tax receipts for donations received before Dec. 31st 2019 will arrive by the end of January 2020.

To donate online go to:

**[www.PositivelyWaiting.com](http://www.PositivelyWaiting.com)**

Thank you for helping us reach the children in your community. As long as we have your support, *Positively Waiting* will continue to tell young people about the benefits of sexual self-control.

Nobody wants to play with



a Charlie-in-the-box!

## FROM THE DESK OF KAREN KROFF

My Charlie was a Hispanic student, about 18, with a brand new tattoo of barbed wire on his left bicep. He sat with his arms folded and his face set like stone through my whole presentation. I could feel the waves of hostility rolling toward me. My inner voice said: *"Oh well, we can't reach 'em all. See you at the clinic, kid."*

When I finished, most of the class was eager to come tell me, "I'm worth waiting for," and get a pin. But not Charlie. He didn't move until everyone left, and then he slowly walked up to me. I braced myself to hear, "Mind your own business!"

But instead Charlie pointed at me and said, "Lady, you just changed my life. I've been having sex with an older woman

thinking that's what it means to be a man. This is the first time someone told me what it really means to be a man, and what I want to know is... *can I have one of those pins please?"*

I realized then what a big mistake it was to automatically write off kids like Charlie. I never did it again. **Charlie changed me.** That was 1998. But this year, his story got a new ending.

After a parent presentation, a man came up to me, tearful and choked up. He said, "I'm Charlie." He wasn't my Charlie, but he recognized himself in the story.

*I realized then what a big mistake it was to automatically write off kids like Charlie. I never did it again. Charlie changed me.*

He had been one of those hard-hearted teens, who was changed when someone cared enough to challenge him to raise his standards.

There are so many Charlies. They are typically stubborn, often narcissistic and sometimes unkind. But they are also the ones we feel called to try to reach. Sadly, kids like Charlie often live in communities with limited resources, and are unlikely to attend a church youth event. So, if we're going to reach them, we **need your help.**

We don't ask for money very often. We believe if you or your family benefitted from ***Positively Waiting***, then you'll want others to have the same opportunity. But this year,

the attacks on traditional values have been particularly fierce. Many of our allies have been silenced by cancel culture, lawsuits and cyberbullying.

Not everyone can join us on the frontlines, but everyone can help those of us who are. No amount is too small to make a difference — because **even \$5.00 reminds us someone cares that we are still in the fight.**

**So if you WERE a Charlie, or if you KNOW a Charlie, would you please make a tax deductible donation to POSITIVELY WAITING? We would really appreciate it!**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas, or a Blessed Hanukkah and a POSITIVE New Year!**