

A Whim? It Was The 19th Pregnancy Test!

I've blogged about the [Duggar family](#) before – they are famous for having a TLC reality show about their large family of 20. That's two parents and eighteen natural offspring – no adoptees, no foster kids; just two people who don't believe in birth control and who have the utmost faith in God and their marriage. I blogged about their daily routine (involving a cool-looking, specially outfitted custom-built house for a large family – think industrial size kitchen appliances and 4 washer / dryer sets) that seems to be successful in keeping their 20-member household functioning smoothly. I also linked to their website, which had pictures of the interior of their custom-made house. They had their own buffet line built into one of the kitchens, and their dining room has a drink station with cups for each of the 18 kids. As a parent of 4, I find their larger family way of life fascinating. Actually, some of their practices have changed since the eldest Duggar offspring is now moved out, married, and expecting a baby of his own.

Not to be outdone, his mother Michelle is pregnant with her *nineteenth* child. She says she took this latest pregnancy test “on a whim”, which is difficult for me to comprehend when she's had probably around a dozen and half positive pregnancy tests in her life. She said she was nursing, and her infant grew fussy – in the past, a fussy nursing infant meant that mother's milk had pregnancy hormones, so that's why she took the test. I can't imagine having kids close enough in age to be able to find that out once, let alone to test it over and over like a theorem. And another thought on this – when Mrs. Duggar gives birth to child #19 (wonder what personality traits can be attributed to #19 according to the psychologists who specialize in birth order? Do the books go

that high?), she will have spent roughly one-third of her 42 years on this Earth pregnant. I hope for her sake she doesn't go through a pregnancy withdrawal when her body is done having kids. But for now, the family seems happy as can be, and what's interesting is that Michelle's first grandchild will be about 5 months older than his or her aunt or uncle. And let it be clear that I'm not putting these people down – they have a solid family and all these kids seem well cared for by two loving parents who are still married, not to mention LOADS of siblings... more power to them!