



Explosion Staff Behavior Standards

Name of Staff: _____

This document is to be read and signed by all staff annually.

I understand that the following behaviors violate my role as a youth leader, and that engaging in any of the following behaviors will result in my immediate removal from the ministry team and where mandated, the proper authorities will be informed.

1. Students may misinterpret innocent behavior, and discretion must be used regarding physical contact with students. [a friendly hug is not sexual abuse, but prolonged hugging, stroking, massaging or an affectionate kiss raises questions]
2. Dating/going out with any student is forbidden. Romantic or sexual attraction for a student by an adult leader should be brought up and discussed with the youth director or an elder for prayer and guidance.
3. Verbal and nonverbal sexual behaviors with a student are inappropriate.
4. To protect students and leaders, youth leaders will employ the buddy system, especially when working with students of the opposite sex.
5. One on one counseling with a student will always occur in a public place.
6. Driving alone with one student should be avoided unless absolutely necessary. If circumstances occur that require me to take a student home, I will have no physical contact with the student, even when saying good-bye. I will not stop the car to talk. I will be aware of the times when I depart and when I arrive, and I will tell another adult and the parent that I am transporting a student alone.
7. Corporal punishment (spanking, hitting, slapping, etc) is not appropriate and is not allowed in our youth ministry setting.
8. Rough physical contact between staff and students is dangerous and should be avoided.
10. I will refrain from any gossip or hurtful talk that devalues a student or a leader. The process used in Matthew 18:15-20 is that standard for dealing with offenses. If there is an issue with a student's behavior, contact the Youth Director.
11. While I am serving in Youth Ministry, I will commit to the principles of Christian living. If I struggle with a sinful addictive behavior that would threaten the safety of the students in our ministry, I will step away to seek help and deal with it appropriately.

I attest to the following:

- I am not currently and have never been romantically or sexually involved with any student in youth ministry.
- I do not know of anyone on the youth ministry team who is or has been romantically or sexually involved with any student in the youth ministry.
- I am not a child abuser and I have never been convicted of child abuse or sexual abuse.
- I do not know of anyone on the youth ministry team who is a child abuser or has been convicted of child abuse or sexual abuse.

I certify that I have read the standards and agree to abide by them.

Signature _____ Date _____