



## **Affidavit Regarding Children’s Ministry Volunteer Conduct and Student-Volunteer Yearly Renewal Contract**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Guidelines for the Discipline of Children:**

I understand and accept the following:

1. Volunteers may, under no circumstances, hit a child
2. Volunteers may not use abusive or derogatory language with a child.
3. Volunteers need to ask for help.
4. A Volunteer who encounters a particularly difficult child will seek the assistance of supervisory or administrative staff.
5. In all dealings with students, Volunteers should strive to respond as opposed to react to children.

### **Guidelines for Student-Volunteer Contact:**

I understand and accept that when touching students, the following guidelines should be followed:

- On the hand, shoulder or upper back
- Never against a child’s will (unless in the case of clear and present danger of the child)
- Never against a child’s discomfort, whether expressed verbally or non-verbally
- In the company of other adults
- Never when it should have the effect of over-stimulating a child
- Never in a place on a child’s body that is normally covered by a bathing suit, unless for a clear medical necessity, and the only with supervision by another adult.

### **Volunteer Responsibility:**

I understand and accept that I am a care-taker of children.

I understand there is a clear power difference between myself and students.

(money, mobility, authority, experience, knowledge, different set of rules)

I understand that inappropriate sexual contact with or physical abuse of a student can have severe emotional and psychological effects on that child that can last a lifetime. These reactions can be so severe, they can require intensive professional intervention which can be disruptive to the victim’s life as well as time-consuming and expensive.

### **State Laws Pertaining to Child Abuse**

I am aware of the following: definition of “mandated reporter”, purpose of law, clarification that a report is based on suspicion of abuse, not proven abuse, summary of procedure (time frame, reporting agency, information requested), penalty for not reporting.

**Guidelines for Children’s Ministry Volunteers**

I understand and accept the following:

- Diapering areas are to be prominent view
- Younger children should be encouraged to use the restroom as independently as possible
- Volunteers will set limits with children who “cling” or hang on them
- Tickling or teasing a student to the point where that the student is out of control is unacceptable
- Overnights need a minimal of two adult leaders. There needs to be at least one adult present of the same gender as the students
- Whatever is done with students should be done in broad daylight, and with company!

**Other Instructions:**

- To alert senior or supervisory personnel as for more careful supervision, intervention or support
- To seek help myself if I feel at risk for hurting, over-stimulating or abusing a student.

*By signing this document, I am attesting to the fact that I have read over, understand and accept the rules, guidelines and standards of conduct outlined in this document.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Witness \_\_\_\_\_

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