

**DIOCESE OF NEW ULM**

**POLICY BULLETIN**

June 25, 2007

Administration  
Diocesan 13.1

**SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY FOR ALL  
EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE MINORS**

To the Clergy, Religious and People of the Diocese of New Ulm:

A. Grades 9-12

1. In all cases, the employee/volunteer will be required to sign an acknowledgment of receipt and understanding of this policy, the diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy for adults and any future revisions, and the Code of Behavior for Minors before volunteering or beginning employment. Failure to do so may result in civil consequences, including, but not limited to fines, attorneys' costs, court fees, and damages. Volunteers are not permitted to assist in any capacity without completing Form A and signing the Code of Behavior for Minors.

All Safe Environment policies will be available in English and Spanish, and apply to all employees and volunteers regardless of their native language or citizen status.

2. The parent/guardian of the minor will sign a Safe Environment Release Form permitting the minor to participate in the diocesan Safe Environment Program and to affirm that the minor will abide by diocesan Safe Environment policies and procedures.
3. Upon turning 18, all employees/volunteers will be required to submit an Authorization for a Comprehensive Background Check Form and will need to sign the current version of the Sexual Misconduct Policy for adults.
4. A minor may not be solely responsible for a group of minors. There must be an adult who is compliant with diocesan Safe Environment policies and procedures to oversee the activity/ministry.
5. Any and all accusations of sexual abuse by a minor with another minor or with an adult will be subject to the current Sexual Misconduct Policy for adults.

B. Grades 7 and 8

1. These students will be informed of the existence of the diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy but will not be given the policy or asked to fill out the questionnaire. They will be required to complete the Code of Behavior for Minors.
2. Students in grades 7 and 8 who are volunteers will be told that as Catholic Christians they are to show respect and honor to every person. This includes respecting the sexuality of each person.

3. Upon entering grade 9, the minor will be held to the diocesan requirements and expectations for that grade.

C. Other Grades

1. A minor in a grade lower than 7<sup>th</sup> may not be solely responsible for a group of minors. There must be an adult who is compliant with diocesan Safe Environment policies and procedures to oversee the activity/ministry.
2. Upon entering grade 7, the minor will be held to the diocesan requirements and expectations for that grade.

Cordially yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend John C. Nienstedt  
Apostolic Administrator of New Ulm

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Msgr. Eugene L. Lozinski  
Chancellor