

YOUTH WORKER'S SUPERVISORY POLICIES

The following policies apply to all workers, volunteer and staff, who may be involved in serving children under 18 years old. This would include, but is not limited to: nursery workers, Sunday School teachers, and youth group sponsors. The term “**children**” will be used to refer to anyone under 18 years old, including infants. The term “**youth worker**” will be used to refer to adults (volunteer or paid staff) who work with children.

1. Qualifications

Anyone with a criminal history of abusing or molesting children will not be qualified to serve as a youth worker.

2. Multiple Adults

As a general rule, a minimum of two adults should be present during any church activity involving children. See below for Sunday School exceptions. Under no circumstances should one male adult ever be alone with one female child unless they are blood relatives.

3. Sunday School

Sunday School classes typically involve one adult teacher. This is permissible when the following conditions are met: 1) The window in the classroom door must not be obstructed; 2) There are at least three children in the class; 3) The door must be kept ajar if the teacher is male and all students are female.

4. Parental Permission

The church encourages all youth workers to avoid situations where an adult is alone with a child. However, there may be some situations where it may not necessarily be inappropriate. Examples would include a youth sponsor taking a teen out for a Coke in a public place, or an adult providing transportation for a child. In such situations, the following requirements must be met: 1) The child must be the same sex as the adult; 2) Permission from the child's parent must first be obtained.

5. Report Suspicious Behavior

Should you observe any suspicious behavior between an adult and a child, you should immediately confront the adult and investigate the situation. After you can guarantee the safety of the child, the incident should be reported to the Pastor or an Elder. Any such event will be thoroughly investigated by the eldership.

6. Adequate Supervision

Any program involving children should always include adequate supervisory personnel.

7. Membership

All youth workers must be members of the church, in good standing.

8. Application

All youth workers must fill out and sign the *Youth Worker's Screening Form* and be approved by the eldership to work in this capacity.

Attention All nursery workers, Sunday school teachers, and youth group sponsors: Please read the Youth Worker's Supervisory Policies on the reverse side. Fill out the form below and return it to the church office (wall pocket, mail, etc.). Thank you!

YOUTH WORKER'S SCREENING FORM

Name _____

1. Are you a member of Trinity Evangelical Church? _____

2. Have you ever been arrested for any crime involving abusing or molesting a child under 18 years old? _____

3. Have you ever been sued in civil court for abusing or molesting a child under 18 years old? _____

4. Have you read, and do you agree to abide by, the *Youth Worker's Supervisory Policies*? _____

Signature

Date