



**The Ralph Kemp, Sr. KOP
THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND
YOUTH**

Adults and older youth who are in leadership roles are in a position of stewardship, and play a key role in fostering the spiritual development of both individuals and community. It is, therefore, especially important that those in leadership positions be well qualified to provide the special nurture, care and support that will enable children and youth to develop a positive sense of self and a spirit of independence and responsibility. The relationship between young people and their leaders must be one of mutual respect if the positive potential of their relationship is to be realized.

There are no more important areas of growth than those of self-worth and the development of a healthy identity as a sexual being. Adults play a key role in assisting children and youth in these areas of growth. Wisdom dictates that children, youth and adults suffer damaging effects when leaders become sexually involved with young persons in their care. Leaders must be careful to protect the children and youth they work with and to protect themselves and their church.

Therefore, we will refrain from engaging in sexual, seductive or erotic behavior with children and youth. Neither shall we harass nor engage in behavior with children and youth which constitutes verbal, emotional, or physical abuse.

Leaders will refrain from being under the influence of illegal drugs, alcohol, or any other drug which would impair their judgment or ability to function effectively in a leadership role with children or youth.

Leaders will be informed of this Code of Ethics and agree to it before assuming their roles. In cases of any violation of this code, appropriate action will be taken.

I hereby agree to abide by this Code of Ethics.

Signature

Date