

LEXINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Church/Parental Responsibilities

All activities occurring in the Church building or on the premises fall under the *Child Safety Program Manual*. A parent can designate the responsibility to whomever they wish to pick up or drop off his or her child. Parents, or the designated individual, are always responsible for the safety of their children before and after a scheduled event. It is the parent's/designee's responsibility to ensure that a qualified adult is present. The Church's responsibility begins when the activity **Leader** assumes responsibility.

For Church events occurring off the Church grounds, if the parents/designees are present, the safety of their children is their responsibility. For off-Church ground events, it is also the parent's/designee's responsibility to ensure that there are qualified adults. The Church's responsibility begins only when the activity **Leader** assumes responsibility.

If at any time you have questions, or need more clarification, please contact the Pastor/Deacon/Worker. We are here to serve you.

What About Working in the Nursery?

In the nurseries, parents or siblings of a child may tend to that child just as they would at home or any other public place. Any person, male, female, adult, or youth may serve in the Church nursery. There are some requirements, however, that refer to the care of children not your own. *See Child Safety Program Manual* for those requirements.

Discussion of Sexual Issues

Our Church policy is not to make any presentation regarding sexual issues or to discuss sexual issues without prior written approval of a guardian. Consistent with this policy, youth workers will not discuss sexual issues or sexuality with any child under legal age (18) without written permission from a parent or legal guardian. If approached by a child regarding sexual issues of a general rather than personal nature (for example, what does the Bible teach about premarital sex), the youth worker may state the Biblical position on this issue and show the Scriptures, but must then notify the parent or guardian of the discussion.

Conversations with an individual child regarding inappropriate romantic behavior or sexual issues (when parental permission has been granted) should be done with two (2) qualified adults present. These adults should be of the same gender as the youth that they are talking to.

And Finally . . .

You can see that the Child Safety Program is an involved process. This process is approved by our Pastor and Deacons. If you have any questions, please contact them. We will be glad to answer *any* questions you have. The results of implementing this program, we believe, are threefold: (1) you can know that your Church cares about the security of your children; (2) you can feel more secure about the children's ministries in which your children participate; and (3) as a Church worker, you can know you and your Church are better protected from ungrounded accusations and frivolous lawsuits.

All Child Safety Program materials are kept on file in the Church office. Please feel free to stop by and read them at your convenience.