

First Methodist Houston
Sexual Ethics and Safe Sanctuary Training
September 20, 2017

Sexual Ethics Review

First Methodist Houston does have a sexual ethics and policy statement and I always keep it handy for quick reference. It does not matter that I have read it.

Yes No Maybe

Sexual misconduct within the ministerial relationship depends upon the situation and who is involved.

Yes No Maybe

If there is an incident of sexual abuse and or harassment it must be reported immediately to the PPRC and the Executive Pastor; in some cases to the pastor's supervisor, District Superintendent or the Bishop.

Yes No Maybe

All staff members are included in this policy for each person on staff has ministerial relationships.

Yes No Maybe

Sexual harassment and misconduct are issues having to do with sex and with gender.

Yes No Maybe

Sexual harassment in the workplace is any unwanted sexual advance, inappropriate sexually based behavior which results in a hostile working environment.

Yes No Maybe

Only those in power are capable of sexual harassment; the rest of us are victims.

Yes No Maybe

Do not report sexual misconduct or harassment under any circumstances for it will probably go away on its own.

Yes No Maybe

When there is an issue of misconduct it is important to share it with as many people as possible (Face Book included) so everyone knows and there are no secrets.

Yes No Maybe

An initial investigation will be conducted by the Senior Pastor and Chairperson of the PPRC and it will not be documented in writing.

Yes No Maybe

The most current Book of Discipline may be used as a guideline, however if possible it is important to use several Books of Discipline to compare what they say. Use the one that you agree with most.

Yes No Maybe

All allegations will be investigated and resolved within a short period of time.

Yes No Maybe

Retaliation is encouraged because it is a deterrent for others to report.

Yes No Maybe

Sexual abuse/harassment within the ministerial relationship involves a violation of sacred trust and exploitation of those who are vulnerable.

Yes No Maybe

“Those who are vulnerable” are any minor, (under 18) and any person regardless of age, gender or status in which you have any sort of ministerial relationship.

Yes No Maybe

First United Methodist Church is referred to as “The Westchase Campus” and the “Downtown Campus” in the sexual ethics policy.

Yes No Maybe

Definition of gender harassment is behavior that is harassing in nature against a man or a woman just because that is their gender.

Yes No Maybe

If anyone believes that sexual misconduct by a member or employee of First United Methodist Church of Houston has occurred they should promptly report the supporting facts to the appropriate director and/or Senior Pastor.

Yes

No

Maybe

Sometimes instances of harassment can be resolved informally by conversation between the parties or facilitated mediation.

Yes

No

Maybe

Sexual abuse within a ministerial relationship occurs when a person within the ministerial role of leadership engages in sexual contact or sexualized behavior with a congregant, client, employee, or volunteer. This does not apply to staff members.

Yes

No

Maybe

Sexual harassment must be understood as an exploitation of a power relationship rather than an exclusively sexual issue.

Yes

No

Maybe