

Safe Church Ministry

Summary of the Child Safety Survey

March 10, 2010

The summary is based on 191 responses. In some instances, the total number of responses was less than 191; in some instances if more than one choice was available, the total number of responses was greater than 191. A report on the survey results including an overview of the three comment sections will be posted upon completion.

1. Our church has a Child Safety Policy

Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	165	86.39%
No	26	13.61%

2. IF YES, Was the Child Safety Policy reviewed by an lawyer?

Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	69	40.12%
No	55	31.98%
I don't know	48	27.91%

3. IF NO Child Safety Policy, please offer an explanation by checking all that apply:

Item	Count	Percent %
i. Our church hasn't faced an allegation of child abuse	34	97.14%
ii. Our church staff cannot absorb the additional time demands	4	11.43%
iii. Our church budget cannot absorb the additional cost	7	20.00%
iv. A policy would increase the church's liability	3	8.57%
v. A policy sends a message of distrust towards current volunteers	3	8.57%

4. Our church conducts child safety training:

Item	Count	Percent %
yearly	60	31.41%
every other year	9	4.71%
occasionally	70	36.65%
does not conduct training	52	27.23%

5. Our church has a liability insurance policy.

Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	173	90.58%
No	1	0.52%
I don't know	17	8.90%

6. If Yes, does the policy contain a separate sexual abuse rider?

Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	48	25.81%
No	11	5.91%
I don't know	127	68.28%

7. Our church conducts screening of: (Check all that apply)

Item	Count	Percent %
a. An applicant for a paid position in the church	153	80.10%
b. A volunteer (an adult) who serves in youth ministry (infant-age 18)	140	73.30%
c. A helper (a minor under age 18) who assists in youth ministry (infant-age 18)	56	29.32%
d. Our church does not conduct screening	27	14.14%

8. Our screening of an applicant for a paid position includes: (Check all that apply)

Item	Count	Percent %
a. Application form	144	75.39%
b. Interview	156	81.68%
c. References	153	80.10%

d. Criminal record check	125	65.45%
e. Fingerprint of an applicant from out-of-state or province	9	4.71%
f. Our church does not conduct screening	17	8.90%

9. Our screening of a volunteer (adult) includes: (Check all that apply)

Item	Count	Percent %
a. Application form	92	48.17%
b. Interview	52	27.23%
c. References	56	29.32%
d. Criminal record check	111	58.12%
e. Fingerprint of an applicant from out-of-state or province	2	1.05%
f. Our church does not conduct screening	40	20.94%

10. Our screening of a helper (minor under age 18) includes: (Check all that apply)

Item	Count	Percent %
a. Application form	46	24.08%
b. Interview	31	16.23%
c. References	23	12.04%
d. Our church does not conduct screening	123	64.40%

11. How long have you been at this church?

Item	Count	Percent %
0-5 years	90	47.12%
6-10 years	64	33.51%
11 or more	37	19.37%

12. Please enter the number of allegations against a family member

Item	Count	Percent %
	157	82.20%
1	20	10.47%

2	11	5.76%
3	2	1.05%
4	1	0.52%

Average: 0.27

13. Please enter the number of allegations against a church worker or staff.

Item	Count	Percent %
	185	96.86%
1	4	2.09%
2	1	0.52%
-0	1	0.52%

Average: 0.03

14. How many of these allegations were reported to civil authorities (Police, Children's Aid, Child Protective Services, etc.)?

Item	Count	Percent %
	160	83.77%
1	18	9.42%
2	8	4.19%
3	3	1.57%
-0	2	1.05%

Average: 0.23

15. To help encourage child safety, what types of information would be helpful to have in a church: (Check all that apply)

Item	Count	Percent %
a. Learning appropriate boundaries between church workers and youth	144	75.39%
b. Learning how to write and implement a child safety policy	98	51.31%
c. Finding a liability insurance policy for the church	63	32.98%
d. Understanding the dynamics of child abuse in church	109	57.07%
e. Knowing relevant child abuse laws in Canada	54	28.27%
f. Knowing relevant child abuse laws in the U.S.	93	48.69%
g. Knowing how to report an allegation of child abuse	119	62.30%
h. Establishing a discipline policy for youth at church	86	45.03%

i. Learning how to screen church workers and staff	118	61.78%
--	-----	--------

16. The information selected in Question 15 should be available in these formats: (Check all that apply)

Item	Count	Percent %
a. Websites	154	80.63%
b. DVD's	77	40.31%
c. Booklets or Pamphlets	121	63.35%
d. Banner articles	47	24.61%
e. A knowledgeable professional in our area	70	36.65%
f. A speaker or workshop presenter in our area	68	35.60%
g. A conference held in our area	34	17.80%
h. Training by the Classis Safe Church Team	83	43.46%