

Safe Environment Training Options Confirmation and Youth Ministry

Diocese of Orange Safe Environment Office Summer 2012

Sessions: A minimum of one Safe Environment session must be held for each grade level, in both Confirmation and Youth Ministry programs, each year.

Introduction: Awareness, personal safety education and skill training are the keys to preventing sexual abuse of minors. A successful program consists of both regular repetition of basic themes and the introduction of new material. The goals in this curriculum need not, in fact, cannot all be addressed in one session.

Varying the Safe Environment presentation by using the DVD “Breaking the Silence” and focusing on one segment, basing your presentation on other approved resources and bringing in outside speakers from law enforcement and social services agencies contributes to the overall success of the program.

Training Options: When utilizing the Safe Environment Training Options it is important to be intentional about what you are presenting; **teens should be made aware of what we mean by Safe Environment and that they are receiving Safe Environment Training.**

Whether you are using Breaking the Silence or another approved SE training tool, ie, speaker, media, etc. the following points **MUST** be covered at some point in the presentation. If the speaker does not offer this information, the Youth Minister has the responsibility of presenting the below listed information:

- What do I do if I find myself in a situation where abuse is taking place? Emotional, physical, sexual, bullying, etc
- Where can I get help? Offer resources
- Where do I report abuse? Provide contact information for Child Protective Services, 911 and Diocesan Reporting Line if it involves a diocesan employee, volunteer, or clergy

1. Show the “Breaking the Silence” DVD. The video is intended to be a conversation starter. It is most effective when broken into segments and viewed using the discussion questions. Please read and use the Facilitator’s Guide that is included. This DVD was created to be used as an interactive training tool. This will not be effective if it’s just “popped” into the DVD player without discussion.
2. Show Option 4 of the “BTS” DVD followed by the PowerPoint presentation on Guidelines for Healthy Boundaries. The notes include information and questions for further discussion (contact the Safe Environment Office to receive an electronic copy).
3. Have teens take the online Teen Safety Course at www.shieldthevulnerable.org. (More information is included in your packet.)
4. Use a speaker from the Approved Speakers/Programs Handout included.
5. If you choose to use a training option not listed above, please be sure it is approved by the Safe Environment Office by contacting the Safe Environment Office. Norma Agüero, Director or Kathy Ortiz, Administrative Assistant @ (714) 282-3069. All training options should be chosen to fulfill one or more of the components as listed in “Safe Environment FAQs...”