

**POLICY ON
SEXUAL ASSAULT, SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ABUSE
APPLICABLE TO NIAGARA DIOCESAN STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS**

Endorsed by the October 2000 Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

The Diocese of Niagara undertakes to ensure that all activities, work and pronouncements, with which it is engaged, uphold the values of love, truth and justice and are demonstrably free from violence, coercion, and discrimination.

It is our policy that sexual assault, sexual harassment, or sexual abuse of any kind, whether to an adult, adolescent or child, male or female, by or to any staff person, contract employee or volunteer, will not be tolerated.

We will actively try to prevent such occurrences and deal with any accusations promptly, seriously and systematically, in cooperation with proper authorities where appropriate.

Particularly in relationships of trust where power and authority and confidentiality are dynamic, the greatest of care will be exercised to avoid taking advantage of trust, or abusing power and the responsibility of authority.

At all times an ethic of mutual respect, responsibility and caring, as well as modeling wholeness and healthy sexuality in relationships will be the goal. We will practice, advocate and educate to that end.

For more information contact:

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