**Code of Conduct[[1]](#endnote-1)**

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(Last Name) (First Name) (Date of Birth)

Employed at / voluntarily working for the Church as

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*The Catholic Church wants to offer girls and boys, young women and men living environments where they can develop their personality, their skills and their talents. These shall be protected places where young people feel accepted and safe. Children and juveniles need and find models whom they can respect and support as individual personalities and whom they can trust. The responsibility for the protection of girls and boys, young women and men lies with the voluntary as well as the full and part time staff in the overall field of ecclesiastical work with regard to children and adolescents. The staff is committed to reflected handling of their wards as well as prompt and appropriate thematization of acts of transgression committed by their colleagues or by the girls and boys as well as young women and men entrusted to their care. This will be affirmed by signing this Code of Conduct.*

I obligate myself to do everything in my power that no one will commit psychological, physical or sexual violence upon the girls and boys as well as young women and men entrusted to my care.

1. I will support the girls and boys, young women and men in their development to become independent personalities capable of having faith and becoming socially competent. I will strengthen them to effectively stand up for their right to psychological and physical integrity as well as for their right to receive help.
2. My work with the girls and boys, young women and men entrusted to my care is characterised by appreciation and trust. I respect their rights and dignity.
3. I will carefully and responsibly handle closeness and distance. I will respect the privacy and personal boundaries of shame of the girls and boys, young women and men entrusted to my care as well as my own boundaries.

I will also comply with that in dealing with media, especially with the use of mobile phones and the internet.

1. I will make every effort to consciously perceive any type of violation of personal boundaries and to initiate the necessary and appropriate measures to protect the young people. I will actively take a stand against discriminating, violent and sexist behaviour, whether in word or action. In the event that people working with children and adolescents commit sexual abuse or are physically violent I will stand up for the protection of the girls and boys, young women and men. I will also intervene if the individuals under my care attack others in such a manner.

I will listen if they want to make me understand that act of psychological, sexualized and bodily violence are committed unto them by other people.
I am aware that psychological, sexualized and bodily violence cannot only be committed by male but also by female offenders and that not only girls but also boys can often become victims.

1. I know the rules of procedure and the respective (initial) contact persons for the diocese Rottenburg-Stuttgart, my association or my sponsoring agency.

I know where I can get advice or, if necessary, help for clarification and support and I will make use of same.

1. I am aware of my special position of trust and authority towards the girls and boys, young women and men entrusted to my care and I will act transparently and honestly. I will not take advantage of dependency.
2. I am aware that every sexual act with wards will have disciplinary and/or penal consequences, if applicable.
3. I will inform myself with regard to sexual violence and the possibilities of prevention and I will participate in training opportunities in accordance with the provisions of the prevention regulation of the diocese Rottenburg-Stuttgart.

Place, Date Signature

1. Sample - Code of Conduct for the Diocese Rottenburg-Stuttgart in accordance with the provisions of „Regulation for the prevention of sexual abuse of minors and adult wards in the Diocese Rottenburg-Stuttgart“ dated November 10, 2015 (KABl 15/2015) [↑](#endnote-ref-1)