

This code of conduct was developed by the working group intakt and was approved by the 29th General Assembly of the German scout association Bund der Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder (BdP) in 2003. This is the second, revised edition, as released for the 38th General Assembly in 2011, in conjunction with the recommendation to establish pro-active initiatives to prevent sexualised-violence on a regional level.

## Preamble

Sexualised violence concerns each and every one of us. Every fourth to fifth girl and every eighth to tenth boy is affected by sexualised violence. In most cases, sexualised violence is not a one-time incident but occurs repeatedly over a certain period. Actions are planned and arranged purposely. In those situations, not only the sexual satisfaction but also the exertion of power is important for the offenders.

Almost two thirds of the offenders can be found in the immediate and well-known surroundings. Offenders can include father, mother, step-father, relatives, and clerics but also scout leaders. They can therefore also be found within our Association. It is inevitable to confront us with this important topic, as both victims and offenders are within our community. Our primary objective shall therefore be to protect all members of our community from physical, sexual and emotional pain. For this purpose, the following guidelines were developed, which shall become part of our self-image. We explicitly confirm that these guidelines shall not burden the atmosphere in our Association, which is defined by openness and trust and also shall not encourage individuals to spy on each other.

In order to meet these objectives, the guidelines were developed on the basis of the German version of the guide & scout laws as a compulsory policy for the behaviour of all members of the Bund der Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder.

## Where can I find more information?

Supplementary information (in German only) are available from the working group "intakt". Please contact us via email: [intakt@pfadfinden.de](mailto:intakt@pfadfinden.de)

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# Prevention of Sexualised Violence in Bund der Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder (BdP)

(Association of German Guides and Scouts)

## 1. I seek to help and be considerate

- I speak up for the weaker and will offer help to those concerned.
- I help if I notice somebody being sexually harassed or abused.

## 2. I seek to respect others

- I meet others with respect and value their individualities.
- I respect children and young adults entrusted to us as personalities.
- I respect the privacy of others. Disrespectful behaviour violating the privacy is an illicit intrusion into the other's personality.

## 3. I seek to contribute to the friendship of all guides and scouts

- I respect close and intimate friendships, including both homosexual and heterosexual relationships, but only if they are without imbalance of power, meaning that there is no intellectual, physical or age-related superiority or inferiority.

## 4. I seek to be sincere and reliable

- I have confidence in what I do. Hidden agendas do not have a place with me.
- I am dependable. I do not abuse the trust which children, teenagers, parents and group leaders place in me.
- I have the right to discuss about everything with the person of my trust – including encumbering or oppressing secrets.

## 5. I seek to be critical and assume responsibility

- I bear the responsibility for what I suspect and what I know. In dealing with sexualised violence, I do neither belittle nor do I exaggerate.
- I question suspicious situations and do not allow our doubts to be easily wiped away.
- Taking over responsibility means also to recognise and admit own limitations and to accept external support.

## 6. I will not avoid difficulties

- I do not allow suspicions, revelations or perceptions to be disregarded.

## 7. I seek to learn about nature and to contribute to its conservation

- I understand my body as part of nature. I learn to understand it, to try what I like and dislike. I say "No" if something feels too intimate for me.

## 8. I seek to control myself

- It is my understanding of inter-personal relationships that the trustful bond between people is not jeopardised.
- My desires and yearnings have to stand back, when my opposite is junior or inferior to me.
- I am respectful to our community by not exercising my partnership during meetings or events.

## 9. I seek to work for peace and the community in which I live

- I respect the norms and values of other cultures, also in consideration of their and my sexuality.