

# UM Sexual ETHICS

Raising  
**awareness,**  
Preventing  
sexual abuse,  
Promoting  
healthy boundaries,  
Bringing about  
**justice and  
healing**

BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS  
ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN  
IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
2012 Book of Resolutions ¶2044



The General Commission on  
the Status and Role of Women in  
The United Methodist Church

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[www.umsexualethics.org](http://www.umsexualethics.org)  
800-523-8390

Toll-free, confidential



## You May Have Experienced Sexual Misconduct If:

- » An incident with a ministerial leader makes you feel uncomfortable or confused.
- » You receive inappropriate personal gifts from a ministerial leader.
- » Your counseling session with a ministerial leader focuses on their needs and issues, especially details of their intimate relationships.
- » A ministerial leader invites you out for intimate, social occasions
- » A ministerial leader touches you in a confusing, uncomfortable or upsetting way.
- » A ministerial leader sends you emails, instant and/or text messages with sexual overtures.
- » A ministerial leader uses theological rationale for questionable conduct.

## If You Believe You Have Experienced Sexual Misconduct:

- » Pay attention to and trust your feelings during and after the situation.
- » Be direct and tell him/her to STOP the behavior.
- » Be safe and leave the situation.
- » Remember, you are not to blame.
- » Document incidents by keeping and saving a record of dates, times, places and witnesses of incidents.
- » Save emails, letters, cards, voicemail messages, text messages, receipts or notes.
- » Share your feelings of hurt, betrayal, confusion, anxiety, or fear with someone you trust.
- » Remember! you are not the only person to whom this has happened.

## Reporting Sexual Misconduct of a Person in Ministerial Leadership:

- » The UMC encourages you to file a complaint if you believe a sexual boundary is violated.
- » Submit the complaint in writing, signed and dated, to your Bishop or District Superintendent.
- » You may also contact GCSRW's confidential, toll-free number 1800-523-8390 for support.
- » For more information, visit [www.gcsr.org](http://www.gcsr.org) or [www.umsexualethics.org](http://www.umsexualethics.org).