

**Parent Permission for Sensitive Issues**

***Sensitive Issues Description***

For all planned programs discussing sensitive topics within the troop, there will be a parental/guardian permission slip sent home explaining the details of the content of the program and qualifications of the experts presenting. If a girl or her parent/guardian wishes to opt-out of a discussion or presentation, the leader/advisor will acknowledge the girl’s right and be sensitive to her feelings. If the activity is being done to fulfill a recognition requirement, the leader/advisor and girl should discuss an alternate activity that can be done to allow the completion of the requirement.

Many topics are often brought up in a very casual manner while on the way to or at a Girl Scout activity. By obtaining your permission to discuss these types of sensitive topics with your daughter (only when she or another girl in the troop begins a discussion) you will be allowing a healthy interaction. A trained leader/advisor may need to answer questions or facilitate conversations as they arise informally. In all cases, the leader/advisor will follow GSUSA and GSGLA guidelines, policies, and standards. This guideline affirms the responsibility of all adults to foster an environment of trust, be sensitive to differing attitudes and strong emotions, ensure age-appropriateness of material and be non-judgmental.

If the leader/advisor feels that immediate parental/guardian intervention is needed for the safety and well-being of your daughter, you will be personally advised of the discussion topic and contents. If the leader/advisor feels that it was a discussion of general knowledge, you will be notified that a discussion has taken place on a topic, but not of the specific conversation or its participants.

Troop #\_\_\_\_\_\_ Leader/Advisor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

-----------------------------------------------------(retain top portion for your records)-----------------------------------------

***Parent Permission*** (return to troop leader/advisor)

As a parent/guardian, we want and ask for your input. Please, mark or add any topic you do NOT want leaders/advisors to discuss with your daughter:

\_\_\_ cultural and family values \_\_\_human sexuality \_\_\_ substance abuse \_\_\_ child abuse

\_\_\_ teen pregnancy \_\_\_ death \_\_\_financial issues \_\_\_ friendships \_\_\_ conflict resolution \_\_\_ bulling \_\_\_peer pressure \_\_\_ online safety \_\_\_dating \_\_\_ depression \_\_\_ religion \_\_\_ body image \_\_\_sexual harassment (online/offline) \_\_\_academic or athletic performance \_\_\_ political issues

other topics \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other than topics marked or added, by me, above, my daughter, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to participate in sensitive issues discussions and informal conversations, within the troop setting, at any time a topic arises during the current Girl Scout year. I understand that I will be notified of general topics, so I can further the conversations at home with my daughter. If an intervention is needed for her personal health and safety, you will be contacted personally by the leader/advisor. Your daughter, the girls of her troop and the leaders/advisors are building a safe environment, which is built upon trust.

Parent/Guardian Name (print please) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (print please) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_