

* SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRAL COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA *

Guidelines on Male/Female Interaction in Teen Youth/Youth Activities and Programmes

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S GUIDELINES, BASED UPON CONDITIONS SET BY WORLD PRASHANTI COUNCIL.

- 1. **Appointment :** Each state and center youth wing to appoint deputy youth coordinators of both gender, to assist the appointed state youth coordinator.
- 2. **Meetings and center activities**: All official or non-official youth/teen youth meetings, prayer programs and activities should be conducted at the respective Center premises or Sai Institutions. If meetings, prayer programs and activities are held outside the Center, then a Center Committee representative (a senior adult) or the official youth advisor must be present. All meetings, prayer programs and activities should be conducted with a respectable 'separation' between males and females.
- 3. **Performances** : No male-female dance performances (any dance) on stage at the same time. For choir or drama performances, there should be a respectable distance between male and female performers. Strict discipline should be observed during rehearsals and practice sessions. No mixed duet/couple performances will be allowed. Encourage same gender performers.
- 4. Camps / outdoor or indoor activities / games : Programs, camps and activities to be conducted 'bhajan' style, i.e. separation between male and female at all times. Outdoor/indoor activities should not include groupings/teams of opposite gender in the same team i.e. should be all male teams and all female teams. No Inter-gender games or any activities to be allowed.
- 5. **Exemptions** : Family programs
- 6. Everything else remains the same. In case of doubt, use 'bhajan setting' as a concept.
- 7. ABOVE ALL, USE COMMON SENSE AND LOGIC. YOU KNOW WHAT SAI EXPECTS, SO PLEASE ACT ACCORDINGLY.

FAQs

1. How will teen youth classes and youth sessions be organized?

Same as before, except that males and females to be seated separately. For study circles and group discussions, to organize separate teams for male & females. No mix-gender teams.

2. How do I organize a youth camp for both male & females?

Sessions should be conducted in bhajan like seating. Males/females would be accommodated in separate buildings or floors. Groups or teams must be separated between males & females. No inter-gender indoor-outdoor activities such as games and sports will be allowed.

3. What if the youths are organizing sessions with schools, colleges and NGOs?

The same rules will apply if we are organizing the activity. But if we are participating in programs organized by others/NGOs etc, then we should still adhere to the rules and guidelines set by the Council to the best of our abilities. Otherwise, seek advice from your State Coordinator.

4. Will teen youth sessions be impacted by the new guidelines?

Yes, but only to the extend of the 'separation' of males and females. All other matters to remain the same.

For further information, Kindly contact the National Secretary or the National Youth Coordinator.