

### Schedule 3 to the Standards for the Protection of Minors at the University of Silesia

Forms and signs of abuse/violence against a minor include physical, psychological, sexual abuse, and neglect. All these behaviours and situations are unacceptable towards a minor.

**(1) ABUSE / PHYSICAL VIOLENCE** - includes any non-accidental use of physical force against a minor that causes physical pain and (possible) injury, or behaviour that may cause (poses a risk of) such consequences.

Violence against minors is **corporal punishment**. Physical punishment is any punishment involving the use of physical force that is intended to cause pain or discomfort, however slight it may be. It includes hitting a minor with a hand or other object, as well as kicking, shaking, throwing objects at them, scratching, pinching, biting, pulling hair or ears, forcing a minor into an uncomfortable position (e.g. kneeling, standing with hands up), burning, scorching or painful actions (e.g. scrubbing the mouth with soap, forcing hot food, force-feeding) and other similar actions.

**(2) ABUSE / PSYCHOLOGICAL VIOLENCE** - refers to any behaviour that disrupts or damages a minor's positive self-image. This includes actions that cause or are likely to cause emotional or psychosocial issues in the minor, such as emotional disorders, cognitive disorders, behavioural issues, and psychological problems. These behaviours are considered psychologically harmful based on societal and scientific standards. They can be either repeated behaviours or individual acts aimed at causing distress to the minor and making them feel unworthy, unloved, unwanted, unaccepted, etc.

Psychological violence encompasses various behaviours, including but not limited to:

- (a) Verbal abuse and other forms of verbal aggression
- (b) Intimidating or threatening, including by implying the use of physical force to cause harm, threatening to kill, threatening to expel the minor from class, school, an institution, or their home, or threatening to place the minor in a location they fear or dislike, and threatening or committing acts to destroy the minor's favourite possessions or to harm their beloved pet
- (c) Isolation

- (d) Blackmail
- (e) Imposing excessive demands and disregarding the minor's developmental capabilities
- (f) Exerting excessive control and restricting freedom unduly
- (g) Instilling a sense of guilt, ongoing blame and criticism, and making the minor a scapegoat for their own development.
- (h) Humiliating, using degrading comparisons, shaming, ridiculing, and placing the minor in situations of conflicting demands
- (i) Ignoring, rejecting, and deliberately disregarding the minor
- (j) Failing to address the minor's emotional needs
- (k) Engaging in corruption and bribery
- (l) Persuading or encouraging a minor to engage in socially and morally inappropriate behaviour, encompassing self-destructive, antisocial, criminal, deviant, and socially disapproved conduct.

**(3) SEXUAL ABUSE** - includes any conduct involving the use of a minor for the sexual stimulation and gratification of an adult or significantly older individual, and may include a variety of conduct with or without physical contact with a minor. It is the involvement of a minor in any sexual activity for the erotic gratification of another person, which the minor does not understand and has no means of defending, and which the minor perceives as harmful at the time of the incident or later. Sexual harassment behaviour includes: sexual intercourse (genital, oral, anal, femoral), stimulation and touching of the minor's intimate parts, masturbation with or in the presence of the minor. It also includes conversations, comments, insinuations or jokes of a sexual nature, exhibitionism, voyeurism, showing a minor performing a sexual act, and requesting or providing a minor with access to pornography or allowing a minor to look at pornography. It also covers child pornography, defined as any material showing a minor engaged in real or simulated sexually explicit conduct, and child prostitution.

**Sexual harassment** includes not only rape or other forms of sexual assault, but also any behaviour that leads to violating a minor's dignity or humiliates them. This includes hostile, offensive, or degrading sexual and gender-related behaviour. It can also involve harassment based on a minor's sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Examples of sexual misconduct include:

- a) Making inappropriate jokes with sexual overtones
- b) Making remarks, innuendos and gestures of a sexual nature
- c) Making suggestive looks
- d) Making unwelcome sexual advances or repeated requests for dates
- e) Teasing or making inappropriate remarks of a sexual nature about a minor (such as about their dress, hairstyle, age, or private and sexual life)
- f) Suggesting that sexual favours may lead to special treatment
- g) Demanding sexual gratification, such as kissing, undressing, or hugging
- h) Engaging in inappropriate physical contact (e.g. touching, hugging, fondling without the explicit consent of a person who has reached the age of consent; in the case of minors under the age of 15, the fact that the minor has consented is irrelevant)
- i) Displaying pornographic content, including photographs, drawings, or texts
- j) Harassment using electronic media, such as sending unwanted messages of a sexual nature, posting threats or humiliating comments on social media, creating a false persona to harass someone online, creating a website about the victim to mock and humiliate them, and making false accusations on the internet.

**(4) NEGLECT AND NEGLIGENT TREATMENT** mean failing to provide a minor with the necessary care and support for their proper development, including nutrition, clothing, shelter, hygiene, medical care, and education. This can also involve exposing the minor to danger and not ensuring their safety. Neglect can be intentional, unintentional, or a result of not understanding the consequences of the situation. Cultural and societal norms play a significant role in defining neglect.

Types of neglect:

- (a) **Physical neglect:** Inadequate food, clothing, hygiene, shelter, and lack of supervision and care, as well as endangering the minor's health and life.
- (b) **Medical neglect:** Failure or serious delay in seeking prompt medical assistance for serious injury, illness, or health issues affecting the minor, and failure to comply with recommended medical treatments.
- (c) **Educational and upbringing neglect:** Lack of cognitive stimulation, failure to fulfil compulsory education, tolerance of truancy, unjustified dropping out of

school and lack of action in addressing the situation, lack of provision of special educational activities for minors, failure to provide psycho-educational assistance to minors and refusal to subject minors to corrective or therapeutic procedures in case of behavioural, emotional, or other disorders, lack of parental involvement and support in the minor's education, a general lack of cooperation in educational matters.

(d) **Emotional neglect:** Insufficient support for the minor during difficult situations, lack of parental interest, attention, or interaction, and exposing the minor to psychologically harmful situations (e.g. violence between parents, violence in the media, etc.)

(e) **Abandonment:** Leaving a minor unsupervised for an extended period or attempting to dispose of the minor, including expelling them from home or refusing to receive them after they have run away.