**Household Harmony Expectations and Guidelines**

*\*for school aged children and older*

Safe Families is a ministry of hospitality through which a family opens their household to others.

Healthy households are characterized by an understanding of and an agreement to mutually honor

specific expectations. These expectations function to establish order, foster mutual respect, encourage

communication and harmony, and promote personal growth. This worksheet is a tool for

communicating the expectations and guidelines. It is most helpful when as specific as possible. To

introduce this to a child you are hosting, it is best to do so in an environment of discussion explaining

why you have these particular guidelines. You are encouraged to do so non-defensively and

anticipating cooperation and not resistance.

This household is the creation of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Their desire is for their household to be characterized by (qualities you aspire for your home, e.g. mutual

respect, peace, open communication, etc….): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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In order to develop, maintain, and maximize these characteristics, they have established the following

expectations with regard to:

**Phone Usage** (making and receiving calls, whether with house phone or cell phone): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Computer/Video Game Usage** (time, website browsing, etc): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Language** (prohibited language {e.g. profanity, threats} and recommended language {e.g. courteous and

respectful language}: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Time** (lights out/quiet time, meal times, curfew times, etc…): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**People** (associations, people visiting in the home, etc..): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Respecting Privacy and Personal Space in the home** (restricted areas, knocking before entering,

getting permission to give out Safe Families phone number or address, etc…):

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**Respecting Personal Possessions** (using something that belongs to someone else, getting permission,

etc…): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Possession or Presence of Substances Illegal for Minors** (tobacco, alcohol, narcotics, prescription

medication, inhalants, etc….): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Encouraged Behaviors** (sharing responsibility in specific household chores, voicing personal or

relational struggles, talking through disagreements respectfully, etc…): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Unacceptable conduct** (e.g. whereabouts unknown, not home when expected, any type of aggression,

etc…) : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**School work/Study** (priority, goals, times): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Rewards:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Consequences:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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