

# Code of Conduct

## NEW HORIZONS HOMESCHOOL GROUP CODE OF CONDUCT

1. New Horizons Homeschool Group (NHHG) is dedicated to the Lordship of Christ in all areas of life. The character of NHHG lays in its philosophy and goals, which are dependent upon the grace and empowerment of the Holy Spirit. As a community of Christians, each member, from adult to student, consequently bears certain responsibilities and obligations within the organization for the implementation of its philosophy and goals. Thus, it is necessary that there be a mutual commitment to a body of standards which rely upon the willing cooperation of members. These standards allow us to preserve the function and integrity of our group, to provide a biblical role model to each other, our students, and our community, and to work in unity with each other as a body of believers (Philippians 1:27; 2:2; Romans 15:5, 6).

2. NHHG follows specific Biblical principles which relate to Christian behavior. Therefore, practices which are clearly forbidden by the Word of God, such as sexual immorality, obscenity, dishonesty, malice and the like stand opposed to meeting our goals (I Cor. 6:9-11, Rom. 1:29-32, Gal. 5:19-21). In expecting members to exemplify Christian love and ethics, NHHG expects only that which the Word of God teaches to be primary in the character of the Christian (Eph. 4:24-5:8).

3. NHHG embraces an historical Christian understanding of Scripture and rejects any attempt to reinterpret Scripture in light of a modern sense of morality. In the Biblical account of creation, the first two humans created by God were a man and a woman who, being joined together, created the first societal institution ordained by God, the family (Gen. 1:27, 2:18-24). God joined the man and woman in the holy rite of matrimony and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply (Gen. 1:28). Therefore, the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24, Matt. 19:4-6).

God has commanded that no sexual activity should take place outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. Accordingly, all forms of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex (Exo. 20:14, Lev. 18:1-30, Rom. 1:26-28, I Cor. 5:1, 6:9, Heb. 13:4, Matt. 5:28).

Furthermore, as the first two humans were created with uniquely assigned genders, any conduct with the intent to adopt or identify with a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral (Gen. 1:27, Deut. 22:5, Ps. 139:13-16). Since NHHG believes that any actions in disagreement with one's birth gender or sexual activity outside of Biblical marriage, including homosexual practices, are in direct opposition to God's Word and constitute a direct contradiction to God's institution of the family, NHHG will not admit or continue the membership of anyone who promotes or participates in these activities.

4. NHHG recognizes that though there is Christian liberty within intrinsically innocent activities, certain principles call for that liberty to be restricted in some instances. Scriptural precedent is found in Acts 15 and Romans 14, where practices inherently innocent were forbidden because they could do spiritual harm to other members of the Christian community. These principles are reflected in the following verses:

I Corinthians 6:12 Some activities are lawful, but not beneficial or advisable.

I Corinthians 10:23 Some activities are lawful, but not uplifting.

I Corinthians 8:9 Some activities could undermine the faith or obedience of other Christians.

Romans 1:32 Christians are to be different. By living like the world, we approve of it. There should be no pleasure in watching or promoting anything that could lead to sin.

Ephesians 5:6-7, 11 Diminishing the seriousness of immorality is deceiving and can lead others astray.

Colossians 3:17 Actions should please the Lord, not the emotions, flesh, or self.

Therefore, certain principles of conduct are a necessary part of the effort to establish an atmosphere within which the goals of NHHG can be realized. For this reason and in an effort to maintain a consistent and above-reproach testimony to each other and to the world, NHHG requires a willingness among its adult and student members to obey these standards with a mature spiritual concern for the entire Christian family of NHHG (Gal. 5:13-14).

5. NHHG expects all interaction between members of NHHG to be characterized in the following ways:

a. If an issue arises between individuals, both parties should speak to each other rather than with others. To resolve the issue in a fair and peaceful way, repentance, forgiveness, humility and understanding should be practiced (Matt. 5:23-24, 18:21-22, Rom. 12:17-21, Eph. 4:1-3, Col. 3:12-15).

b. Speech should promote such things as truth, holiness, trust, encouragement, respect, understanding, and peace. Obscene or crude language is prohibited, as are discussions of personal sexuality or violence (Matt. 15:18-20, Psalm 101:5, James 1:26, 1 Cor. 10:31, Phil. 4:8, Eph. 5:3-4).

c. Any discussion of one's sinful practices in an effort to seek approval of such practices, or which may lead others into such practices or weaken the principles to which parents are raising their children, will be viewed as an attempt to undermine the goals of NHHG and the convictions of our families (Ps. 101:3, Prov. 1:10-19, 2:12-15, I Cor. 13:6, 2 Pet. 2:18-20).

d. A student should never be put in a position of secrecy or disobedience toward his parents (Eph. 6:1-3).

e. Challenges to doctrinal differences should be avoided. Focus should be made on what we agree upon as a broad body of believers in order to protect our unity in Jesus Christ (John 13:35, II Cor. 13:11, Col. 3:15, I Peter 3:8).

f. Any reference to NHHG or the members thereof on social media must reflect the standards to which we are dedicated (Prov. 22:1).

6. While some may not have personal convictions that align with NHHG standards, the purpose of these convictions necessitates compliance to them. Willful disobedience of these standards may result in dismissal from NHHG.

7. To maintain the welfare of NHHG and in believing that our Christian character and unity can be achieved only through commitment to a set of Biblical standards, it is required that members ages 13 and up shall individually affirm by signing this Code of Conduct and shall so reaffirm when determined by NHHG.