

## Summary & Discussion Guide:

### Module 8 – Gift Boundaries – Elementary School

**Child molesters give gifts to children and families as part of the seductive grooming process and there are boundaries you can put in place to intercede.** (Source 1)

**First there are some basics, child molesters may:** (Source 1)

- Give gifts to children in your care, as well as their parents.
- Give gifts to children of all ages, increasing in significance and cost along with the child's age
- Give gifts that are tangible such as candy or clothing or
- Give gifts that are intangible including extra privileges or offering their time, talent, or expertise.
- Give gifts to parents to entice them into a personal relationship and create indebtedness: (Source 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)
  - Loans
  - Paying their rent or utilities
  - Covering the cost of lessons or camp
  - Free Babysitting or
  - Free Tutoring

**Child molesters give gifts to children in an effort to create a more intimate relationship and to reward them for their participation, compliance and secrecy. Child molesters also hope that in the end, the good will outweigh the bad so the abuse can continue. Gifts to children may include:** (Source 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

- Candy, stuffed animals
- Money, food
- Clothing, jewelry
- School Supplies, special outings such as movies or swimming and
- Extra Privileges

**To ensure child molesters don't target a small subset of vulnerable children, it's important to establish a policy that requires all gifts – tangible and intangible - to be pre-approved by school administrators and be equally accessible to all children.** (Source 1)

**Gifts solely intended for individual students and their families should be strictly prohibited.**

#### Reflection Question:

1. What is the process and interest in creating or updating your formal policies to reflect the boundaries we've shared? What obstacles stand in your way and how can they be overcome?



## Sources

1. Diane Cranley, *8 Ways to Create their Fate: Protecting the Sexual Innocence of Children in Youth-Serving Organizations* (Mustang: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, LLC), 235-238.
2. Robin Sax, *Predators and Child Molesters: What Every Parent Needs to Know to Keep Kids Safe: A Sex Crimes DA Answers 100 of the Most Asked Questions* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2009), 86.
3. Robin Sax, *It Happens Every Day: Inside the World of a Sex Crimes DA* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2010), 135.
4. Kenneth V. Lanning and Park Dietz, "Acquaintance Molestation and Youth-Serving Organizations," *J Interpers Violence* (May 2014): 16, doi:10.1177/0886260514532360.
5. Michele Elliott, Kevin Browne, and Jennifer Kilcoyne, "Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: What Offenders Tell Us," *Child Abuse & Neglect* 19, no. 5 (1995): 579, 585, doi:10.1016/0145-2134(95)00017-3.
6. "Sandusky Grand Jury Presentment," *ABC News*, accessed November 10, 2011, 2, <http://abcnews.go.com/US/page/gerald-sandusky-grand-jury-presentment-14924522>.
7. Carla van Dam, *The Socially Skilled Child Molester: Differentiating the Guilty From the Falsely Accused* (Binghamton: The Haworth Press, Inc., 2006), 106.