

## Summary & Discussion Guide:

### Module 8 – Gift Boundaries – High School

**Child molesters give gifts to youth 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 youth in your care, as well as their parents.
- Give gifts to students of all ages, increasing in significance and cost along with the student's age
- Give gifts that are tangible such as jewelry 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 Tutoring

**Child molesters give gifts to youth 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. Specific gifts to youth include:** (Source 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

- Money, food and eating out
- Clothes, sports equipment, jewelry and other accessories
- Cell phones, tablets, webcams, cameras and computers
- Pornography, alcohol and drugs
- Local outings such as movies, sports events, or church
- Overnight trips, extra privileges, letting them drive without a license

**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

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4. Kenneth V. Lanning and Park Dietz, "Acquaintance Molestation and Youth-Serving Organizations," *J Interpers Violence* (May 2014): 16, doi:10.1177/0886260514532360.
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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.