



FORT NOVOSEL
OUTREACH SERVICES
VOLUNTEER

CHILD AND YOUTH
SERVICES TOUCH POLICY



1. Appropriate touching involves:
 - Recognition of the importance of physical contact to child nurturing and guidance.
 - Adult respect for personal privacy and personal space of children.
 - Responses affecting the safety and the well-being of the child, e.g. holding child's hand when crossing the street; holding a child gently but firmly during a temper tantrum.
 - Staff and volunteers modeling appropriate touching
2. Examples of appropriate touching include:
 - Brief hugs initiated by youth or used in comforting youth
 - Shaking hands
 - Reassuring touches on the shoulder or back
3. Inappropriate touching involves:
 - Coercion or other forms of exploitation of the child's lack of knowledge.
 - Satisfaction of adult needs at the expense of the child.
 - Violating a cultural taboo against sexual contact between adults and children.
 - Attempting to change child behavior with adult physical force, often applied in anger.
 - Reinforcing the concept with the child of "striking out" to respond to a problem
4. Examples of inappropriate touching include:
 - Forced good-bye kisses
 - Corporal punishment
 - Slapping
 - Striking or pinching
 - Prolonged tickling
 - Fondling or molestation

Volunteer's Printed Name

Volunteer's Signature

Date