

Understanding Clergy Sexual Ethics Resources

Related Resources

The Clergy Recovery Network provides resources and encouragement to clergy who are struggling with issues of life, marriage, or ministry. The site includes an archive of online articles and other resources. www.clergyrecovery.com

Clergy Sexual Misconduct Awareness and Prevention at Baylor University. Based on an ongoing study of clergy misconduct, this site emphasizes the victims of misconduct, featuring video case studies as well as an extensive bibliography with both online resources and articles. www.baylor.edu/clergysexualmisconduct

FaithTrust Institute provides training and resources for both religious and lay leaders concerning faith and sexual and domestic violence. FTI provides multi-religious and multi-cultural books, videotapes, curricula, and speakers that can be incorporated into seminary curricula or used by other organizations. The FTI is formerly known as Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence. www.faithtrustinstitute.org

Professional Sexual Ethics: A Holistic Ministry Approach (Fortress Press, 2013) Patricia Beattie Jung and Daryl W. Stephens, editors. *Professional Sexual Ethics* offers an interdisciplinary conversation about sexual ethics written by a team of respected and recognized scholars.

Safe Sanctuaries is an initiative of the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church which provides resources to congregations to prevent abuse in their ministry with children and youth. It provides resources for assessing congregational policies and safeguards and materials for training and building awareness.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/leadership-resources/safe-sanctuaries>
<http://www.gbod.org/lead-your-church/safe-sanctuaries>

Safe Sanctuaries for Ministers: Best Practices and Ethical Decisions by Joy

Thornburg Melton. *Safe Sanctuaries for Ministers*, published by Discipleship Resources in 2009, explores three large areas of special concern to clergy and church:

1. Counseling and the potential improprieties within the counseling relationship
2. Finances and the potential improprieties related to church finance
3. Sexuality and potential for sexual misconduct

Saying No to Say Yes: Everyday Boundaries and Pastoral Excellence. (Rowman and Littlefield, 2015) by David C. Olsen and Nancy G. Devor. *Saying No to Say Yes* features both practical questions and specific strategies to help readers assess the personal and systemic obstacles that challenge their boundary-setting and create the space needed to pursue excellence in ministry.

Sex in the Parish (Westminster John Know, 1991) by Karen Lebacqz and Ronald G. Barton. *Sex in the Parish* explains how the pastoral role affects sexual contact between pastor and parishioner; suggests for a framework of ethical analysis; examines questions for women in ministry, single pastors, and pastors who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual; and reviews ethical issues related to persons who carry responsibilities for the structures of ministerial practice.

UM Sexual Ethics has a Web site that brings together policies and resources related to issues of sexual abuse, harassment, and misconduct by clergy and other leaders in the United Methodist Church. It is a product of the sexual ethics taskforce of the United Methodist Church, which is convened by the Commission on the Status and Role of Women. The site has information for victims, local congregations, denominational leaders, as well as pastors who might find themselves “accused or confused.”

www.umsexualethics.org