

# BSA National Annual Meeting

Build An Adventure

Atlanta, Georgia

May 20-22, 2015



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*A Scout Is Helpful, 1941*



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## Youth Protection Prayer

***For a culture of awareness,  
For compassion and understanding,  
For guidance and wisdom,  
For prevention, recognition, and response,  
For health and safety,  
For the protection of all youth,  
We thank Thee, O Lord.***

~Dr. Jim Wilson, National Chairman,  
BSA Youth Protection Committee



# **Scout First**

## **A First Look at the Youth Protection and Safety Initiative and the Future of BSA Youth Protection Efforts**



# Introductions

- Dr. Jim Wilson
  - National Chairman, BSA Youth Protection Committee
- Michael V. Johnson
  - Youth Protection Director, BSA National Service Center

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*“Creating life changing experiences  
you can’t get from anywhere else.”*



# Abuse and Exploitation are a Public Health Crisis

American Academy of Pediatrics

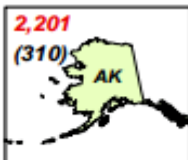
Johns Hopkins University

Gundersen Health Systems

National Center for Missing and  
Exploited Children (NCMEC)

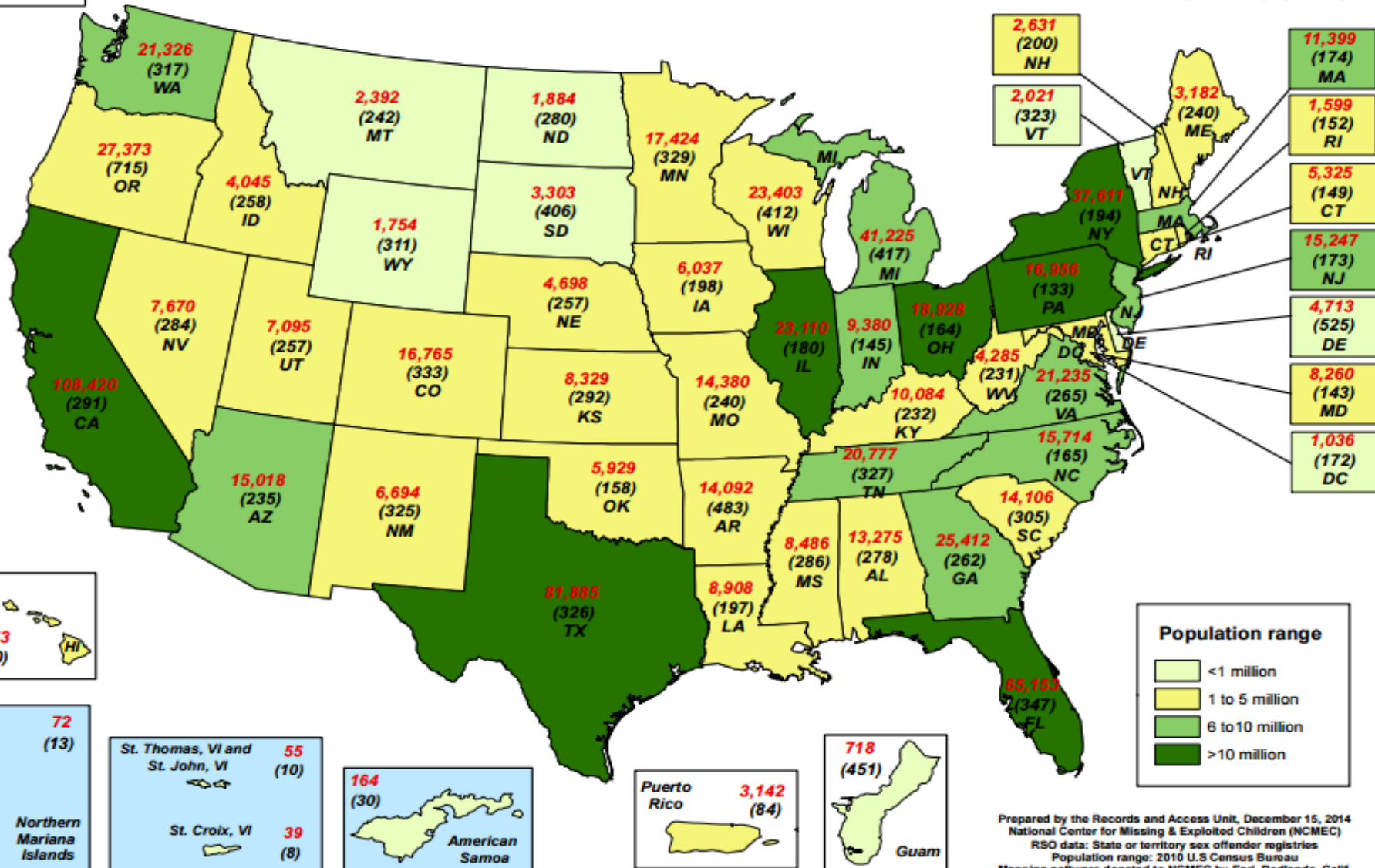
Centers for Disease Control





## Registered sex offenders in the United States and its territories per 100,000 population

Total - 819,218 (per 100,000 population - 262)



Territories with population rates per 10,000 (American Samoa, N. Mariana and Virgin Islands)

Prepared by the Records and Access Unit, December 15, 2014  
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)  
RSO data: State or territory sex offender registries  
Population range: 2010 U.S. Census Bureau  
Mapping software donated to NCMEC by Esri, Redlands, Calif.

1) Can one person cost the BSA  
millions of dollars?

2) What else does he/she cost us?

3) Scout First Initiative



# Advocacy

Are BSA professionals and  
volunteers advocates for  
America's youth?



***“The Boy Scouts of America as the leading youth advocacy organization, is in a unique position to be advocates for all America’s youth.”***



# National Council Strategic Plan

## 2011-2015 Strategic Pillar 6

### YOUTH ADVOCACY & STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIPS

The Boy Scouts of America is recognized as an **advocate for youth and youth issues**. We are known by our members and America's families and communities as a resource for leadership, encouragement, and programs that benefit our country's youth. The **strategic relationships** of the BSA extend far beyond those with our traditional chartered organizations and keep Scouting relevant and adaptive.



*“Let’s put the power of youth protection into the hands of our most valuable resource – our volunteers.”*

*~ Chief Scout Executive Wayne Brock*



# Champions



**Metallic Silver**  
**National / Council Key 3 /**  
**Special Recognition**



**Metallic Gold**  
**Champions**



**Metallic Red**  
**Trained Volunteers / Leaders**



# What's New in Youth Protection for 2015



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# Scouters' Responsibility in Youth Protection



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# Responsibility

- Stop the policy violation or abuse
- Protect the youth
- Separate alleged victim from alleged offender
- Summon needed assistance (911, EMS, law enforcement)
- Notify parents
- Notify designated Scouting professional



# Does Scouting's Policies work to protect youth?



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# Chat Room Conversation between Two Pedophiles

*AJaX WaX asked: "so how much molestation really goes on in the scouts these days, if any?"*

*DJ responds: "these days, probably not much, due to the Youth Protection Guidelines that they started back in about 1989."*

*AJaX-WaX: "what does that say?"*

*DJ: "basically, there is no one-on-one contact between leaders and youth members."*



# Chat Room Conversation between Two Pedophiles

*AJaX-WaX: "huh? you have to have a 2nd counselor or scout present?"*

*DJ: "and two adults are required at any activity."*

*DJ: "yes."*

*AJaX-WaX: "wow, well there goes your chance at sex before 8."*

*DJ: "basically, an adult can't ever be alone with a kid."*



# Chat Room Conversation between Two Pedophiles

*DJ: "if I give a kid a ride home from a Scout meeting, I have to have two in the car with me, and I have to let them both off at the same place."*

*AJaX-WaX: "so there is nearly no chance for a molester to molest?"*

*DJ: "right."*

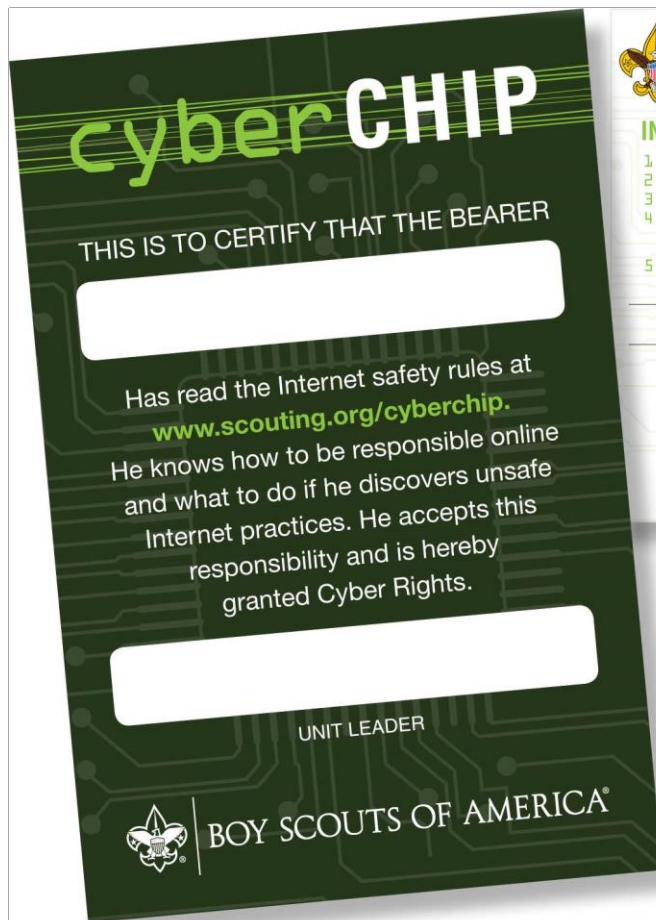


# New Advancement Requirement

Effective June 1, 2015:

“With your parent or adult partner, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide*, and earn the **Cyber Chip** award for your age.”





***Get a jump start and earn it now!***

The Cyber Chip is under consideration as a requirement in merit badges and more.



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# cyberCHIP

## THIS CERTIFICATE CERTIFIES THAT

has read the Internet safety rules and completed the age-appropriate requirements at [www.scouting.org/cyberchip](http://www.scouting.org/cyberchip).  
He knows how to be responsible online and what to do if he discovers unsafe Internet practices.

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## June is National Internet Safety Month

Plan a lock-in or electronics campout. Include fun, food, games, education, stories, videos, and more.



# cyberCHIP

## THIS CERTIFICATE CERTIFIES THAT

has read the Internet safety rules and completed the age-appropriate requirements at [www.scouting.org/cyberchip](http://www.scouting.org/cyberchip).  
He knows how to be responsible online and what to do if he discovers unsafe Internet practices.  
He accepts this responsibility and is hereby granted Cyber Rights.

CUBMASTER



DATE

RECHARGE DATE

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100-979  
2012 Printing

# Free Download



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# What's new...

## Social Media Policy

Two-deep leadership and no one-on-one contact includes digital communication.



# What's new...

## Social Media Policy

No private online communication.

No one-on-one gaming or social media.

Copy parent/leader on all emails/texts.



# What's new...

Bryan's Blog of April 6, 2015

'No one-on-one contact'  
applies to digital contact, too



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# What's new...

## Social Media Policy

Comment to blog post:

*“Sorry, I think cc’ing/bcc’ing parents on all communications has to be one of the worst ideas I have ever heard.”*



# What's new...

## Social Media Policy

Comment to blog post:

*“Yeah, there are a LOT of us who disagree with the BSA's silly safety rules. It's gotten to the point where I look at anything the BSA puts out and judge if it is just silly appeasement of a certain faction, (like this supposed YP policy), or if there is some actual basis in fact.”*



# 2015 Headline

**April 21, 2015 Headline**

**“Sacramento-area Boy Scouts chapter  
hit with sexual assault lawsuit”**



## 2015 Headline cont.

*“The perpetrator...was 21 & 22 at the time he sexually assaulted “John” in 2010 and 2012...(and) made repeated sexual overtures via social media during that period.”*

**Sacramento Bee on April 21, 2015**



# What's new in Youth Protection

## Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

The BSA has adopted policies for the safety and well-being of its members.



# What's new...

## Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

These policies primarily protect youth members; however, they also serve to protect adult leaders.



# What's new...

## Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

**Parents and youth** using these safeguards outside the Scouting program further increase the safety of their youth.



# What's new...

## Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

**Scout leaders** in positions of youth leadership & supervision outside the Movement will find these policies help protect youth in those situations as well.



# Youth on Youth Abuse



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# What's new...

## Buddy System Policy

The Buddy System is a safety measure for all Scouting activities.

Buddies should know and be comfortable with each other.



# What's new...

## Buddy System Policy

Self-selection with no more than **two years** age or significant differences in maturity should be strongly encouraged.



# What's new...

## Buddy System Policy

When necessary, a buddy team may consist of three Scouts.

No youth should be forced into or made to feel uncomfortable by a buddy assignment.



# What's new...

Bryan's Blog of April 21, 2015

Let's stop the practice of  
having Scouts sing for a lost item (Hazing)



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## From Blog Post:

*“Singling out a youth in front of others is inappropriate and can be damaging to that youth. This practice is actually promoting an environment of harassment and bullying. It can put the youth at greater risk of being bullied, encourage others to single out and bully others, and create a cycle of bullying (in which even those who were bullied start bullying others).”*

~Dr. Jim Wilson, National Chairman,  
BSA Youth Protection Committee



# Bullying/Harassment/ Initiations/Child Abuse

- A Scout is Kind Initiative
- 49/50 States have bullying statutes
- Harassment, child abuse, and initiations are closely related
- Per research, links to suicidal thoughts
- Follow Scout Law – No Bullying
- Violation of Scouting Policy



# BSA Bullying Resources

- BSA Program
- Scouting.org YP web page
  - Bullying Awareness tab
  - Tip Sheets
- Troop Leader Guidebook
  - Bullying Prevention Guide in Appendix – page 155



# Bullying Tip Sheets

- A Scout Is Kind Newsletter
- Bullying—What is Bullying?
- Myths About Bullying
- Creating a Bullying-Free Culture in Scouting
- What to Do if Your Child Is Being Bullied
- Prevention of Bullying in Scouting—Unit Discussions
- Prevention of Cyberbullying in Scouting
- Reporting Suspected or Observed Bullying
- Providing Support to Scouts Who Are Bullied



# Legislative Trends

## State Mandates & YPT

### Volunteers / Staff

- Required training
- Mandated reporting
- Criminal Background Checks (CBC)
- Centralized child abuse reporting



BSA Youth Protection Training  
Is  
Mandated Reporter Training  
  
Must “Meet or Exceed State  
Mandates”



# What's new...

## Youth Protection Training and Safety Initiative ***YPT-2***



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# YPT-2

## VISION

*The Boy Scouts of America and Learning For Life will provide an updated youth education and training that will continue the BSA's dedication to creating safe environments for the delivery of positive life-changing experiences for America's youth.*



# YPT-2

## Experts Collaboration

BSA in partnership with the child maltreatment experts, Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center, initiated the Youth Protection and Safety Initiative (YPT-2).



# YPT-2

## Key Elements :

- Research Based
- Comprehensive Program
- Modular
- Expert Informed
- Situation/Incident Specific



# YPT-2

## Stakeholder/Customer/Clients:

- Youth – Personal Safety Awareness
- Parents – Parents' Handbook
- Leaders – Updated Relevant Resources



# YPT-2

## **Revised Parents' Guides**

Cub Scout

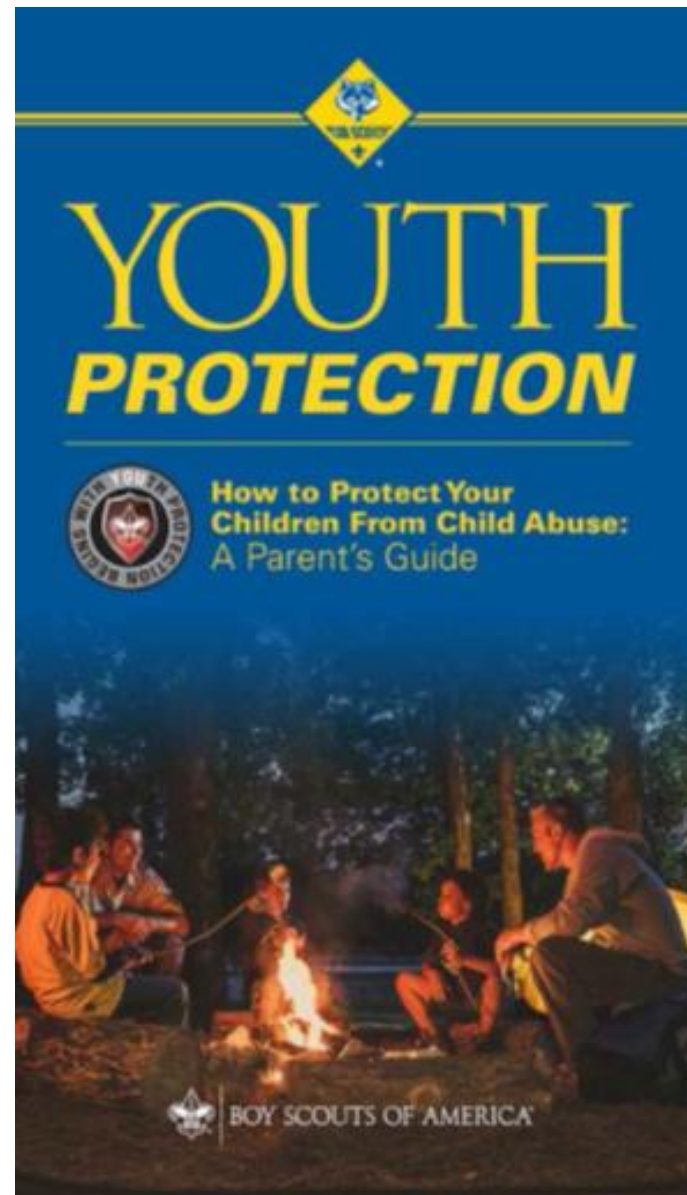
Boy Scout

STEM Scouts

Coed (Venturing/LFL/Sea Scouts/Non-BSA)



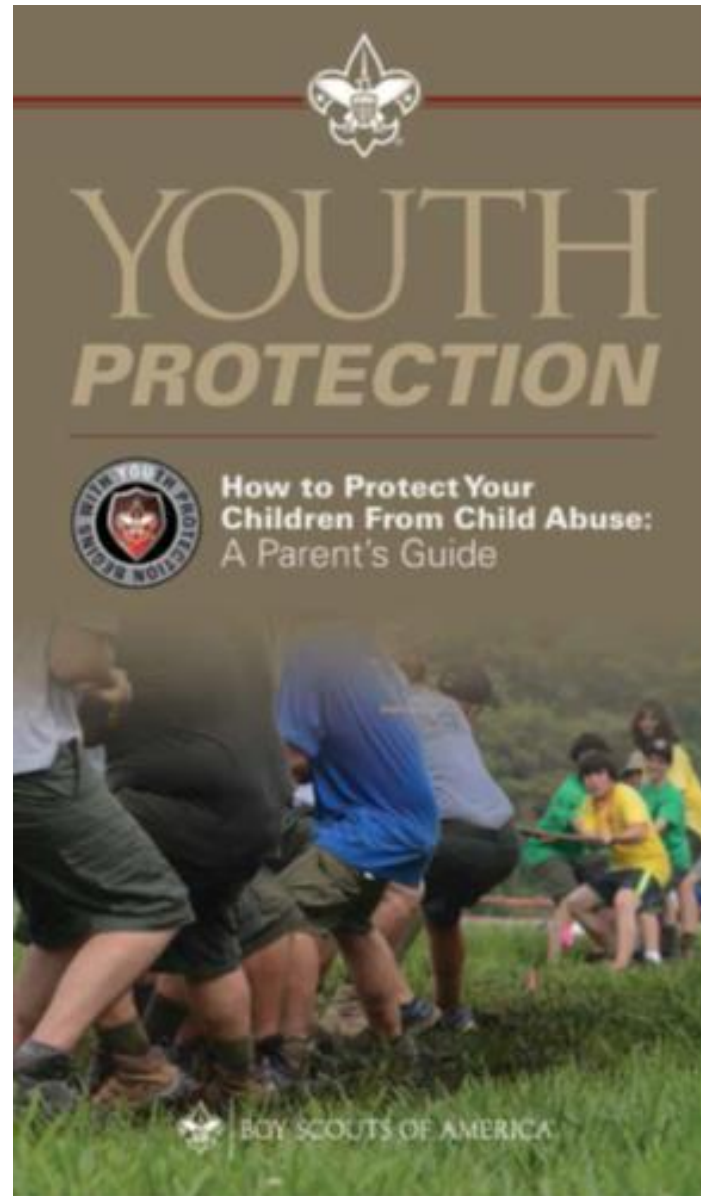
# Cub Scout Parent Guide **\*COMPLETED**



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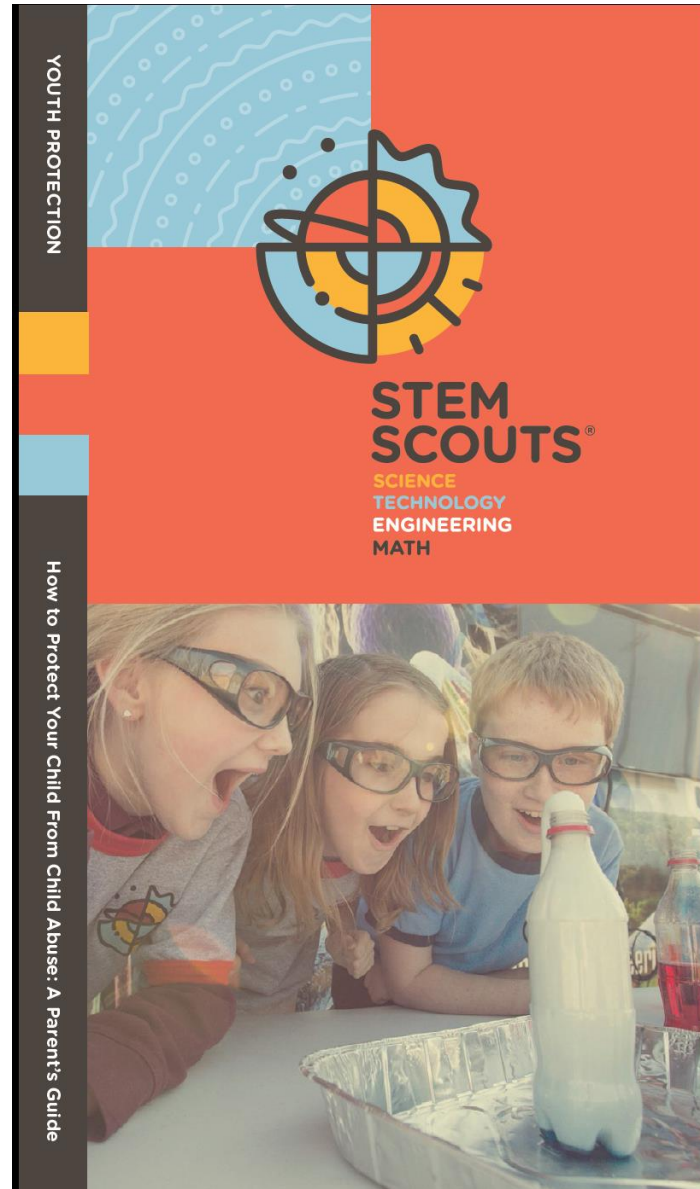
# Boy Scout Parent Guide **\*COMPLETED**



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# STEM Scout Parent Guide **\*COMPLETED**



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# Coming Soon...



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# YPT-2

## **Parent Resource Guide**

Available on YP website

Specially-adapted exercises/appendices



# YPT-2

## **One-hour Online Adult Training**

Web based delivered on all devices

**&**

## **Facilitator-led Training**

Creation of a Trainer the Trainer model for  
certified trainers both in and out of Scouting



# YPT-2

## **Revised Video Facilitator Guides**

It Happened to Me

A Time to Tell

Personal Safety Awareness for LFL



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# YPT-2

## Supplemental Coed Online Adult Training

LFL

Venturing

Sea Scouts

STEM

Non-BSA



# YPT-2

## **Additional Training Modules include:**

Physical Abuse

Bullying

Emotional Abuse

Internet Safety

Youth-on-Youth

Spiritual Abuse

Exposure to Violence

Grooming/Sex Offenders



# YPT-2

## **Certified YPT Instructor Program**

Minimum certification requirements

Syllabus (Train the Trainer)

Instructor's Guide

Other kit materials

Council based

PTC/High-Adventure Base sessions, webinars



# YPT-2

## **Facilitator-led & Camp Staff Training**

Syllabus

DVD

Participant workbook

Launched concurrently with Online YPT



# YPT-2

## Personal Safety Awareness - Youth

- Boy Scout Handbook
  - Chapter 13, Personal Safety Awareness
- Developmentally-based content
- Youth rank and advancement-based
- Responsibilities of youth in leadership/supervisory positions
- Three R's



# The Three Rs

**Recognize** that anyone could be a sex offender.

**Respond** (formerly “Resist”) when someone is doing something that goes against your gut or against the safety guidelines.

**Report** attempted or actual molestation or any activity that you think is wrong.



# One Scout at a Time...



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# Resilience

## Definition

“The innate ability of children (youth) who experience negative life experiences to **bounce back.**”



**Research and Top Experts all agree  
Scouting Builds Resilience in youth.**



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# Scouting Models Resilience

- Provides safe environments for youth to:
  - Achieve
  - Make Mistakes
  - Learn from their mistakes



# Scouting Teaches Kids

- Concrete, life long skills
- Problem solving
- Leaders model resilience



**Thank YOU for all you do to make  
Scouting safe for youth.**



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# Future

- Continued YPT-2 Roll-Out San Diego NAM
- Champions' Duties evolving
- Florida Sea Base and Philmont Champions Training dates set for 2016
- Revised Camp Staff Training and Guidelines



# Region Champions

## Special Thanks

- CR - Michael Yost
- NE - Dr. Robert Sadock
- SR - Lawson Hembree
- WR - John Cottam



# Questions

- See you at the Youth Protection Exhibit Booth!
- Resource – Council YP Champions
- Send email to **Youth.Protection@scouting.org**





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