

Rationale	<p>Child marriage occurs in many countries where the UMC is present. It is important to include in our social principles that this is an unacceptable form of marriage in the eyes of the United Methodist Church.</p>
	<p>Total Number of Pages: 1</p> <p>Suggested Title: Specify the Rejection of Child Marriages</p> <p><i>Discipline</i> Paragraph or <i>Resolution</i> Number, if applicable: ¶161 II C</p> <p>General Church Budget Implications: None</p> <p>Global Implications: Yes</p> <p>Amend ¶ 161 II C as follows:</p> <p>C) Marriage—We affirm the sanctity of the marriage covenant that is expressed in love, mutual support, personal commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman. We believe that God’s blessing rests upon such marriage, whether or not there are children in the union. We reject social norms that assume different standards for women than for men in marriage. <u>We reject the practice of child marriages, in terms of arranged marriages with minors, as it violates children’s rights.</u> We support laws in our society that define marriage as the union of one man and one woman.</p> <p>Date:</p> <p>Date: 7/23/2018</p> <p>Agency or Entity: United Methodist Young People’s Convocation</p>