

Rationale	<p>We believe that one of the manifestations of the rejection of love of God is the presence of sexual harassment and gender-based discrimination. We call on upon United Methodists to work against this.</p>
	<p>Total Number of Pages: 2  Suggested Title: All of Sacred Worth: A Declaration on Sexism  <i>Discipline</i> Paragraph or <i>Resolution</i> Number, if applicable: New Resolution  General Church Budget Implications: None  Global Implications: Yes</p> <p><b>Whereas</b>, the United Methodist Church confesses faith in One, True God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the World. We also confess our need for forgiveness because we diverged against the will of God, that is, to be loving and just. No one is exempt from the need to be restored into the image and likeness of God. Thankfully, no one is beyond God’s reach;</p> <p><b>Whereas</b>, grounded in this confession, we affirm that every person is of sacred worth. Regardless of what the person has done or is doing, every person is beloved by God. However, we acknowledge that each person can always choose to accept or to reject God’s love. Accepting God’s love enables us to live a just and meaningful life.</p> <p><b>Whereas</b>, we believe that the presence of sexual harassment and gender* based discrimination is not in accordance with the love of God;</p> <p><b>Whereas</b>, we mourn with shame before God over the presence of sexism in our homes, schools, churches, and in workplaces. Some of its forms include treatment of women as second-class leaders, pay gap between women and men, lack of freedom in choosing one’s spouse, and pressure for single people to get married. We also acknowledge the fact that the United Methodist Church has been lenient in dealing with sexual harassment and gender-based discrimination and in caring for the victims;</p> <p><b>Therefore be it resolved</b>, as we acknowledge that injustices are rooted in the rejection of God’s love, and we commit to proclaim the Good News of salvation found in Jesus Christ alone. We will continue to struggle in upholding the authentic, selfless love of Jesus in all of our dealings with one another, in public and in private spheres. We will uphold all leaders in</p>

the church in prayers and respect. In our workplaces and businesses, we will work to ensure that people of the same qualifications enjoy equal pay for equal work. We will advocate for restorative justice especially in cases involving sexual harassment and gender-based discrimination;

**Further,** we call all in the household of faith to join us in this life of love. We call upon all levels of the United Methodist Church and related institutions to invest greater resources in dealing with the concerns of sexual harassment and gender-based discrimination and to seek justice for those who have been victimized in any of the above ways. It is through our collaborative work that God's will shall come to pass.

**Further,** we call upon the governments to ensure that their respective policies and regulations be grounded in an understanding that every person is of worth and dignity.

\*For an understanding of gender in the United Methodist Church please see Book of Discipline ¶161 sections F-J

Date: 7/23/2018

Agency or Entity: United Methodist Young People's Convocation