Negotiable and Non-Negotiable Standards by Developmental Stage

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AGE OF INNOCENCE	 MAINTENANCE OF AN ORDERLY HOME Non-Negotiable What chores will the child be responsible for? NOTICE OF LOCATION Non - Negotiable Parents should always know where their children are, who they are with, what activity is occurring. MEDIA: Negotiable. What programming can be viewed? What websites are allowable and which aren't? What rules are there for chat rooms, instant messaging, texting? How much time can be spent using internet, TV, iPods, cell phone, games? PRACTICE OF THE FAITH Non – Negotiable Parents should ensure that the child is attending Mass weekly, learning basic
	prayers and demonstrating virtues daily.
ADOLESCENCE	 MAINTENANCE OF AN ORDERLY HOME Non-Negotiable What chores will the child be responsible for? CURFEW: Negotiable Will there be one? Will it be flexible depending on the activity or the age of the youth? Will a phone call be required if there is a change of plans? ALCOHOL AND DRUGS: Non-Negotiable The use of alcohol or drugs is not allowed. Help your youth set up strategies on how to handle situations where alcohol or drugs are present. DRIVING: Negotiable If a youth is a licensed driver, what are the rules for the use of the car? Who pays for insurance, gas, upkeep, etc.? If friends drive, what are your expectations: seatbelt usage? Number of youth in the car? How far away from home can you go? Do you share the cost of the gas? BOUNDARIES: Non-Negotiable Planned activities or dates need to be cleared with a parent. There need to be guidelines on the age of the friends, distance from home an activity can be, what activities are and are not allowed. MONEY: Negotiable Where does the money come from for the activity? Do the boys always pay? Is there a limit on how much can be spent? PHYSICAL SELF-CONTROL: Non-Negotiable Before a youth begins socializing with peers there needs to be a firm decision on what physical boundaries will be set. Boundaries that respect each person include never taking your clothes off, never putting your hands under anyone else's clothes and never lying down together. MEDIA: Negotiable. What programming can be viewed? What websites are allowable and which aren't? What rules are there for chat rooms, instant messaging, texting? How much time can be spent using internet, TV, iPod, cell phone, etc? PARENTAL ROLE: Non-Negotiable Any party situation needs to be supervised by parents or responsible adults. PRACTICE OF THE FAITH Non - Negotiable Parents should ensure that the youth is attending Mass weekly, praying and demonstrating virtues daily.