Sexual harassment is a form of abuse. It is a recognised form of sexual violence and misconduct, and also an abuse of power over another, not only inappropriate sexual or gender-directed conduct. The Methodist Church is committed to working to promote a safer culture and to prevent abuse from occurring and it seeks to respond well to those who have been abused.

It is therefore important that we understand and respect appropriate boundaries. Stepping over these boundaries can violate another person’s sense of self, dignity and integrity. Even if unintentional, the impact of our behaviour can sometimes be offensive or demeaning of others. Sexual harassment communicates that someone’s value is based on the sexual role they play without their consent, and diminishes them to an object for use by the harasser.

This guidance will help us understand more about this vitally important subject and to know that if we have experienced this behaviour we will be listened to and taken seriously.

The full document may be found at:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/news/latest-news/all-news/methodist-church-publishes-guidelines-on-sexual-harassment/>

There is also a short video clip - Youtube link for the short video clip - <https://youtu.be/dLW7V3od3bA>