

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, GENDER, SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

DIRECTORATE OF CHILDREN SERVICES

It takes ALL of us to Protect CHILDREN.

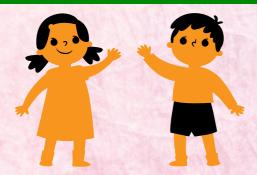


THE 2022 ELECTIONS

Child-Focused Protection Messages

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Messages for Children



- In case there is trouble, children need to stay together; older children shall take care of the younger ones.
- Children need to know their parents or caregivers' name, phone number and the home area.
- Children should seek their parents' or caregivers' permission before leaving home.

- In case a child is abused (physically, sexually or emotionally), the abuse should be reported to a trusted adult, government office or call telephone number 116 which is toll free.
- Lost children should look for help in safe places like hospitals, police stations, churches, mosques, government offices or call the toll free number 116.
- Children should NOT be forced by anybody to attend political meetings.
- Children should avoid walking alone in risky places.
- Children are not voters, they should not be involved in political activities.

Messages for Caregivers

- Caregivers need to ensure their children are safe at all times (before, during and after the elections period).
- In case of an emergency involving children, parents or caregivers should report to government offices or call the toll free number 116.
- Caregivers should provide appropriate and unbiased information to the children about elections.



- Children should report any form of violence, abuse and exploitation to caregivers, trusted people or to authorities by calling 116 toll-free.
- Caregivers should NOT allow their children to attend or be involved in political rallies.
- Caregivers should always leave children in the care of a responsible adult.

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Messages for Teachers



- Any form of violence against children is unlawful. In case of any violation, teachers should report to the relevant authorities or call the toll free line 116.
- Teachers have the responsibility to create a child-friendly environment in schools that is free of violence.
- Teachers need to educate learners on the importance of peace and offer them guidance and counselling where necessary.

- Teachers shall be role models to the learners by advocating for peace during and after the electioneering period through plays, poems, drawings and essays.
- Teachers shall teach children about elections without any political inclination.
- Children DO NOT belong to a political party. So teachers should NOT discriminate against them because of their caregivers' membership to or support for a political party.

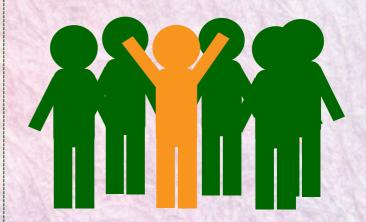
Messages for the Private Sector

- As the business community, we shall respect children's rights.
- We shall ensure that children are safe in all business operation areas.
- We shall give assistance, both material and non-material to the children affected by emergencies.
- We shall support community and government efforts to protect and fulfil children's rights.



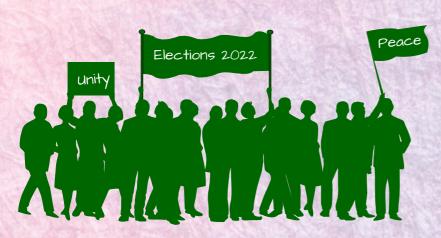
Messages for Community Leaders

- Children belong to the community, we MUST protect them at ALL times.
- We shall promote safety and unity before, during and after the elections.
- We shall encourage children to be alert during this election period.
- We shall share with children information on where they can get help and protection in case of any emergency or abuse.



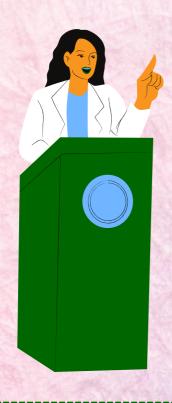
- Elections are for adults, community leaders MUST NOT involve children.
- Emotionally stable and safe children for a stable Kenya.

Messages for the General Public



- You shall maintain peace throughout the election process.
- You shall share accurate and truthful information regardless of your political affiliation.
- You shall protect our country regardless of one's personal interest.

Messages for Politicians



- Children are future voters. You shall protect them at ALL times.
- Political party manifestos shall take into consideration children voices.
- Children shall NOT be used during elections, they need a safe environment.
- Learning institutions should NOT be used for political campaigns and rallies.
- Children photos and images shall NOT be used for campaigning.

Messages for Humanitarian Actors

- We shall serve ALL children without favouritism or unfairness.
- We shall prioritise the orphaned, separated, unaccompanied and children living with disabilities when providing services.
- We shall ensure mental, social and physical well-being of all children and encourage participation from all children.
- We shall ensure all children within their area of operation are not left unattended to.
- Joint planning and response is key to child safety during emergency.



Messages for Security Personnel

- We shall ensure that children are safe during the elections period.
- We shall investigate alleged offences against children;
- We shall Identify and refer children who might be at risk from abuse and neglect;
- We shall NOT publicly show favouritism to one party.
- We shall promote peace.
- We shall NOT use violent means to handle political riots.
- We shall provide security for all learning institutions and services.
- All cases to be reported to the nearest police station or call the hotline 999/112.



- We shall work with other relevant agencies including health service providers to share information that is key to child protection issues.
- We shall assist in taking children at risk of harm/survivors of harm to approved places of safety under Directorate of Children Services.

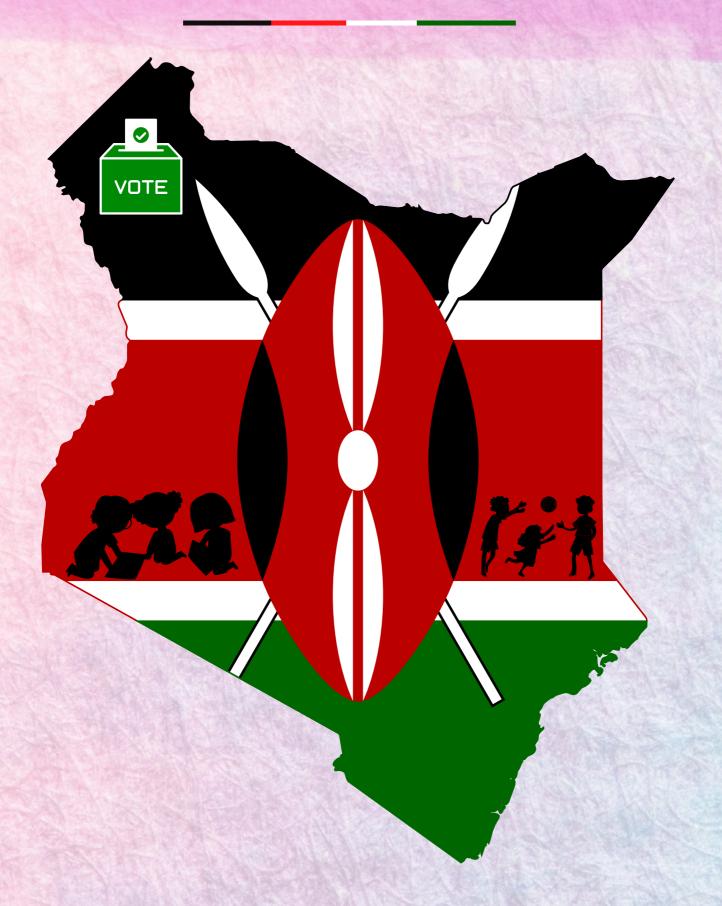
Messages for Media personnel



- We shall report child-friendly messages during the elections period.
- We shall protect the identity of children while reporting.
- We shall report impartially.
- We shall take the interest of the child with great importance.

All POLITICIANS and the ELECTORATE have a responsibility to ensure that CHILDREN are protected.

Our CHILDREN deserve PEACEFUL Elections!





FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US:

Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programs

- www.socialprotection.go.ke
- øSP_Kenya;
- **State Department for Social Protection**
- watotoidara@gmail.com

You can also visit our County or Sub-County Children Offices



This Publication has been supported by:





