

***Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Phoenix***  
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November 12, 2014

**Children are the most precious treasure a community can possess, for in them are the promise and guarantee of the future. They bear the seeds of the character of future society which is largely shaped by what the adults constituting the community do or fail to do with respect to children. They are a trust no community can neglect with impunity. An all-embracing love of children, the manner of treating them, the quality of attention shown them, the spirit of adult behavior toward them – - these are all among the vital aspects of the requisite attitude. Love demands discipline, the courage to accustom children to hardship, not to indulge their whims or leave them entirely to their own devices. An atmosphere needs to be maintained in which children feel that they belong to the community and share in its purpose.**

**Universal House of Justice (The Ridvan Message, 2000)**

Beloved friends and co-workers in His Cause:

Greetings from the Phoenix Assembly. We are fast approaching the Grand Canyon Baha'i Conference, in preparation of safe guarding our children, junior youth, and youth under 18, the Assembly would like to bring your attention to the guidelines provided by the National Assembly.

**Children, junior youth and youth under 18, should not be left unsupervised at Bahá'í events. It should be borne in mind that the purpose of supervision is not only to prevent abuse, maltreatment or injury. Well-organized, high-quality supervision for children, junior youth and youth at Bahá'í events will facilitate a positive experience for them and aid the Bahá'í community in its aspiration to create for its young people environments that are emotionally safe and accepting, respectful, nurturing, courteous, fair, full of love, spiritually inspiring, and conducive to bringing out their best. (Guidelines from National Spiritual Assembly, 2009)**

To insure the well-being, protection, and safety of all participants under the age of 18 during the sessions, meal time, free time, and evenings, all attendees under 18 must be registered and be accompanied by an adult who is also present at the conference at all times. If you're unable to be present at the conference, please make sure another adult, who is in attendance, can take the responsibility of supervision and protection of your child. Sponsorship and Medical release forms for minors can be found on [www.grandcanyonbahai.org](http://www.grandcanyonbahai.org).

We look forward to be of service to all those who will be participating at the conference.

With loving Baha'i greetings,

Spiritual Assembly of Phoenix,  
Marjan Halstead, secretary