

CHILD SAFETY COMMITMENT

This form contains information about safety of the child(ren) placed in your care through adoption. Your signature indicates your acknowledgement of the safety requirements outlined in this form and that you are in agreement with the safety requirements for adoptive homes as stated below.

Animal Safety: As children are the primary victims of animal bites, I/we agree to comply with the following mandates listed below to assure the safety of any child placed in my/our home:

- Provide close supervision of children when around animals.
- Refrain from keeping dangerous or aggressive dogs, or other pets, in the home, unless properly secured with a leash, fence or cage, etc.

Gun Safety: To prevent accidental death or injury of any child placed in my/our home, I/we agree to the following mandates:

- Keep all firearms unloaded and out of the view and reach of children in the home.
- Properly secure all firearms in my/our home.
- Keep ammunition stored in a separate locked container.
- Never allow children placed in the home to handle firearms and/or ammunition.

Motor Vehicle Safety: Motor vehicle accidents are the leading causes of death for children of all races, ages 5-14, according to the national statistics. To ensure safety of the children placed in my/our care, I/we agree to adhere to the following safety precautions while riding or driving motor vehicles:

- Secure children 4 years of age and younger in a federally approved child safety restraint seat that is properly installed to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Secure children older than 4 years of age in the rear seat of the vehicle with federally approved and properly installed safety seat belts or an appropriate car seat.
- Refrain from transporting children/youth under 18 years of age in the bed of a pickup truck at any time. Children must always be properly secured with safety belts.

Supervision: Children in care are required to be supervised by appropriate adult

caretakers at all times. In keeping with this requirement, I/we agree to adhere to the following:

- Provide appropriate adult supervision for the children in my/our care at all times.
- Refrain from leaving children placed in my/our care in the supervision of minors.
- Do not leave children unattended in a motor vehicle.

Water Safety: According to the recent statistics, drowning ranks highest among the causes of accidental death for children and youth ages 0 to 24. Adoptive parents, whose primary or alternative place of residence is equipped with any swimming pool, are required to take extra safety precautions with children placed in their care. To ensure safety of the children in my/our home, I/we agree to the following water safety guidelines:

- Inform World Links immediately if/when our home has a swimming pool.
- Know or learn how to swim.
- Ensure direct adult supervision of children when around bodies of water.
- Ensure the compliance with any local or state ordinances regarding pools or waterfront property.
- Secure the entire perimeter of the pool area with a fence and locked gate of sufficient height to prevent the entry of young children.

Note: Homes with ponds, or homes located on waterfront property are required to employ substantive safety measures to ensure the protection of children in the home.

Discipline Policy: World Links policy prohibits the use of corporal or unusual punishment on a child in the home. To ensure the safety and well being of the children placed in my/our home, I/we agree to the following:

- Refrain from the use of any corporal or unusual punishment on a child placed in my/our home, including, but not limited to the following: spanking, slapping, switching, shaking, pinching, biting, twisting, or pulling; tying with rope, withholding food, force feeding, denying mail, denying appropriate contacts with family, denying contact with a social worker or placement supervisor; degrading child or child's family, or humiliating a child; creating fear, anger or anxiety, locking child in a room, closet, or outside the home; group punishment or delegating older children to administer punishment; destroying the child's property and any other practices which may physically or emotionally damage the child.
- Seek on-going information/training to build and enhance my/our child behavioral management skills.

- Immediately inform the agency of the need for assistance in managing the behavior of any child placed in my/our home, through international adoption.

I/We, _____ have read and understand the above child safety precautions and agree to abide by these standards of care.

Signature

Date

Signature

Date