

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

#### DIRECTORATE OF CHILDREN SERVICES



THE 2022 ELECTIONS

Child focused protection messages



#### 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/guardians name, phone and home area
- Children should seek their parents' 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 free
- Lost children, should look for help in safe places like hospitals, police station, churches, mosques, government offices or call telephone number 116 which is free
- 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 (during and after the election period)
- In case of an emergency involving children, caregivers should report to government offices or call telephone number 116 which is free
- Caregivers should provide appropriate and unbiased information to our children about elections
- Children should report any form of violence, abuse and exploitation to caregivers, trusted people or to authorities by calling 116, which is 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



### 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 pupils on the importance of peace and offer them guidance and counselling where necessary
- Teachers shall be role models to pupils by advocating for peace during this period of elections through plays, poems, drawings and essays
- Teachers shall teach children about elections without favouring any tribe or party.
- Children do not belong to a political party. So teachers should not discriminate against them because of their caregivers' membership to or support of a political party

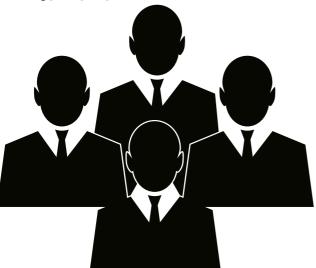
### Messages for the Private Sector

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

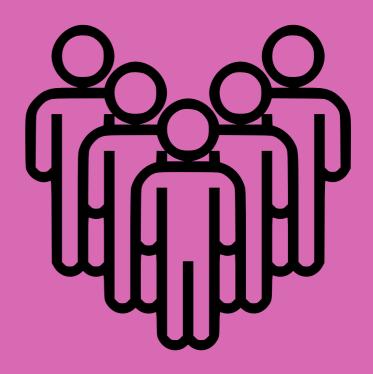


## Messages for the Community Leaders

- Children belong to the community, we should protect them at all times
- The community shall promote safety and unity before, during and after the elections.
- The community leaders shall encourage children to be alert during this election period
- Community leaders 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, a stable Kenya tomorrow



# Messages for the General Public



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

### Messages for the 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/images shall not be used for campaigning

# Messages for the Humanitarian Actors

- Shall serve all children without favouritism or unfairness
- Shall put first orphaned, separated, unaccompanied, and children with special needs when providing services
- Shall ensure mental, social and physical well-being of all children and encourage participation from all
- 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 the Security Personnel



- Security officers and organisations shall ensure children are safe during the election period.
- Shall not publicly show favouritism to one party
  - Shall promote peace.
- Shall not use violent means to handle political riots
- Shall provide security for public institutions and services
- Shall be professional in their line of duty
- All cases to be reported to the nearest police station or call the hotline 999/112

## Messages for the Media personnel

- Shall report child friendly messages during the elections period.
- Shall protect the identity of children while reporting
- Shall report without favouritism to one party
- Shall take the interest of the child as of great importance





#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### **CONTACT US:**

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You can also Visit our County Children Offices

