

# Photographing and videoing children and young people on pilgrimage

## CONSENT

It is important to remember that photography and videography may be viewed differently at home and overseas. If you are preparing for an overseas trip, research the policies of the countries and areas you will visit and do the following:

- Talk to administrators in the places you are visiting to fully understand their policies regarding photographing in their environment and the people they work with. They will provide the best advice regarding specific religious, legal, political or cultural issues you need to consider.
- You must obtain consent from all clearly identifiable people in your photos/videos.
- If a photo or video features a child or youth under the age of 18, you must obtain consent from the child's parent or guardian, as well as the organisation.
- If you do not have the materials needed to gather written consent, or you are in a situation where it isn't appropriate (in such cases where people may find it too formal, intimidating or uncomfortable), explain the potential use of the images and make a detailed note of the conversation in your field journal or diary.
- You must explain the possibility of how the images may be distributed (via print, the Internet or digital and online media), regardless of the way you obtain consent.
- If consent cannot be obtained, do not include the person in the photograph. If you have already taken the photo, either delete the photo (in some cases it may be appropriate to show the person you have deleted it) or be sure it isn't included in your distributed photos or videos.

## TOUR PHOTOGRAPHY /COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

- If you have engaged a tour photographer, ensure that you understand and agree to the arrangements for ownership of the images and how they can be published.
- Ensure that the photographer has formally addressed the issue of consent by getting written permission. This is the best option legally, and it provides more protection than relying on someone giving oral permission. A consent form should outline the details of what is being consented to, where the content will be used and the date.

## APPROPRIATE CONTENT

When creating and distributing visual content that represents your trip uphold a respectful level of conduct by featuring positive aspects of your experience (interactions between people, cultural activities), and avoid publishing material that features either prohibited activities such as alcohol or civil unrest, or is disrespectful of a person's vulnerability.

## CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING POLICY

When capturing photos or videos that involve or highlight children, there are specific requirements to consider:

- Avoid displaying personal information regarding place or residence details.
- Do not name children in your captions.
- All children must be fully clothed, including tops on boys.
- Try to show more than one adult in photos with children.
- When photographing adults with children, be sure it is relevant to the activity and work being done with the child and that the image clearly illustrates such.
- Reduce the ability to download images from websites (lock images on websites).
- Refrain from displaying information about hobbies, likes/dislikes, school, which could be used against the safety of the children.

## Further resources

For child safe practices and the Australian federal legislation regarding the depiction of children and young people:

- E-Safety Commission: [consent sharing photos](#)
- Australian Institute of Family Studies – [Images of Children and Young People Online](#)
- Australian Sports Commission – [Guidelines on the Use of Images of Children \(PDF\)](#)
- ThinkUKnow Australia – [Cyber Safety Program](#)