

## Description of the Program

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As Catholics, we believe that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. Each of us is sacred and our lives—body, mind and soul—should be treated with respect. Called to Protect™ for Youth gives our young people practical tools, in language and medium they can understand, to realize this fundamental teaching of our faith.

The statistics are staggering. Before the age of 18, one in four girls and one in eight boys will be sexually abused. And starting at about the fifth grade, kids can be especially vulnerable. That's when they begin spending more time away from their parents, their curiosity about sexual development increases, and they start testing limits and taking risks.

Called to Protect™ for Youth is the first comprehensive program specifically designed to teach middle- and high-school youths self-protection skills. The program uses a three-part DVD series and guided group discussion to teach kids how to recognize their personal boundaries, how to respond if someone tries to violate their boundaries, and what to do if someone is sexually abusing them or someone they know.

### Meet Katie and Szucceed

Research shows that child molesters use the same methods time after time, so the more youths know about how molesters operate, the safer they are. That's where Katie and Szucceed come in. These two young adults host the series with a manner that puts kids at ease. Katie and Szucceed present just what kids need to know in a non-threatening and educationally sound way.

### Part One

In Part One, Katie and Szucceed describe the three types of boundaries—physical, emotional and behavioral. They show

interviews with child molesters who describe the methods they used to violate kids' boundaries, and interviews with kids who talk about how their own boundaries were violated.

### **Part Two**

After learning how to recognize their boundaries, kids need to know what to do if someone tries to violate them. In Part Two of Called to Protect™ for Youth, four young actors join Katie and Szucceed to demonstrate a variety of ways kids can respond. Each of the actors portrays a different personality type—shy, funny, spunky, and wholesome—so all kids watching the program learn methods that will work for them!

### **Part Three**

For some kids, sexual abuse has already happened—or maybe it is still happening. And they haven't told anyone. They're living with the secret, trying to pretend that it doesn't bother them. Katie and Szucceed show interviews with kids who have been molested, explaining why it was so difficult for them to tell someone, and interviews with child molesters describing the methods they used to keep kids from telling. Then, Katie and Szucceed bring back their young friends to demonstrate ways kids can tell their parents or another trusted adult if someone is abusing them or someone they know.