

La Leche League International Purpose and Principles Reference Set

Purpose

<p style="text-align: center;">General Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To help the mother learn to breastfeed her baby. • To encourage good mothering through breastfeeding. • To promote a better understanding of breastfeeding and related subjects. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Vision Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To realize, deepen, and share the love and wisdom found in the breastfeeding relationship.
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Principles

In pursuit of purpose, participants will:

Honor each other's:	When working with others:	Work as a system to:
<p>Right and responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine their own identity and needs, and follow their own judgment and instincts. • Protect what belongs to them, what is important to them and their privacy. • Inform their choices considering scientific knowledge, experience and intuition. • Voluntarily connect with others to pursue their goals. <p>Right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new parts of the system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make room for family. • Honor obligations. • Encourage/educate, not compel. • Be open to look for opportunities for generosity and joy. • Work through and resolve conflict without threats, coercion or intimidation. • Freely and fully exchange information. • Are explicit about values. • Are mutually affirming, supporting and accountable. • Deliberate and make decisions in ways that reasonably represent those who are both relevant and affected without any one dominating. • Entrust only sufficient authority and power as necessary to accomplish common work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain open and welcoming to new participants and parts. • Ensure diversity and health. • Create conditions which foster learning, development and growth. • Keep or shift power, authority and resources to the smallest or most local part that includes those affected. • Create no built-in advantage or disadvantage for any part or participant. • Remain coherent and disciplined as a whole. • Protect, not undermine, breastfeeding, mothering and family.

*These Principles are interpreted and considered as a whole.
No Principle will be applied to the exclusion of others.
They are intended to balance and inform each other.*