

Media Communications: Privacy and Use Policy

Last Updated- April 7, 2023

The intent of this regulation is to provide the guiding principles of Stop Abuse Today, Inc, hereinafter referred to as the (“Corporation”) concerning all media published by us. This shall include all forms of print media, electronic media, digital media, social media, and any website, blog, e-mail, text message, or instant message, platform, domain, application, or other network made available by the (Corporation).

For purposes of this policy, these communication systems shall be collectively known as our (“sites”) and include stopabusetoday.org¹ and any other internet-based, web-based, cloud-based, electronic, digital, or mobile medium that is published by or made available for use by the (Corporation). This regulation shall apply to the (Corporation) and all task forces, committees, and other official groups- subsidiaries of the (Corporation).

This policy is designed to ensure that the content of our media communications remains consistent with the principles and values of the (Corporation) and remains in accordance with the Rules and Orders for the Governance of Stop Abuse Today, Inc². This policy also informs the user of the information that our (sites) may collect, how it is used, to whom it may be disseminated, and how you can access it.

Based on this knowledge, the user can make an informed decision about utilizing our (sites) and whether or not to share information with us. This regulation shall be used in addition to other policies and regulations of the (Corporation), not in place of.

The subject matter of all media communications and (sites) published by or made available for use by the (Corporation) and its subsidiaries shall remain consistent with the exclusive purpose of the (Corporation) to provide education, awareness, outreach, and support concerning domestic abuse, elder abuse, and bullying among our youth.

Your utilization of our (sites) shall constitute an acknowledgment of your consent to abide and be bound by the policies of the (Corporation).

Prohibited Content

Our media communications and (sites) shall not be utilized to promote a political, economic, social, or individual ideology or theory, hate speech, misinformation, or propaganda, or any information that the (Corporation) deems as an attempt to incite violence or any other inappropriate activity.

Our media communications and (sites) shall not be utilized to advertise, promote, publicize, or advocate for any other organization, person, or event without the consent of the (Corporation), provided that, the (Corporation) may permit material for events and organizations that the (Corporation) has officially endorsed or partnered with.

¹ [Official Website of Stop Abuse Today, Inc](http://stopabusetoday.org)

² [Rules and Orders for the Governance of Stop Abuse Today, Inc](#)

Moderation

Members, individuals, or external agencies authorized by the Executive Governance Committee of the (Corporation) may monitor our (sites) to ensure that content inconsistent with the standards and ideals of the (Corporation) is not present. Those moderators may act on behalf of the (Corporation) in matters pertaining to our (sites) content and may remove any content that is in violation of this policy at any time and without notice to the poster of the content.

The (Corporation) reserves the right to remove any user content that is deemed by the (Corporation) as inappropriate, unsuitable, divisive, offensive, spam, or otherwise irrelevant, misdirected, or false, whether or not a deliberate intention to deceive is present. The (Corporation) reserves the right to remove any user content that the (Corporation) deems as a campaign to bring about political or social change for any subject that is not consistent with the philosophy, standards, principles, intention, and purpose of the (Corporation). The (Corporation) reserves the right to remove any user content that personally identifies another and any content that contains information pertaining to a situation, act, or accusation of another.

The (Corporation) reserves the right to allow moderators to permit information or links from external organizations provided that, the content is consistent with the philosophy, standards, principles, intention, and purpose of the (Corporation). The (Corporation) shall not be responsible or liable for any inaccurate, erroneous, incorrect, untrue, or otherwise false or faulty content published or linked to.

Any discrepancy or disagreement pertaining to the content within our media communications and (sites) shall be adjudicated and resolved by a majority vote of the Executive Governance Committee of the (Corporation). Please note, content added to our (sites) by users does not necessarily constitute an endorsement or agreement by the (Corporation) or the members thereof.

Privacy

The (Corporation) makes every attempt to protect user privacy in accordance with best practices and standards. Whenever you visit our (sites), users should be aware that some information may be automatically collected. None of the information automatically collected is personally identifiable, which means this information would not identify you as an individual. However, any of our (sites) that require the creation of a user account or the submission of a form, will require you to provide additional, and potentially personally identifiable, information.

Because some of the information that we receive may be subject to lawful records requests, the (Corporation) cannot ensure absolute privacy. Any information that you submit to us may become subject to disclosure upon request. The (Corporation) shall comply with mandated reporting requirements and reserves the right to comply with information requests from law enforcement, attorneys, and the courts.

As you navigate our (sites), you may see links that, when clicked, will take you to other platforms operated by external organizations. These other platforms may have individual privacy policies tailored to the interactions available through each site. Because this policy only applies to Stop Abuse Today, Inc., we recommend that you examine the privacy policy of any other site that you access while using our (sites).

Personally Identifiable Information

For purposes of this policy, the term “personally identifiable information” shall mean any information that could reasonably be used to identify the user. This includes your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, Social Security number, birth date, bank account information, credit card information, or any combination of information that could be used to identify you.

Information voluntarily provided by users: Our (sites) may collect voluntary information through surveys, online forms, e-mail correspondence, suggestions, requests, blogs, wikis, and comments posted on our (sites). All such information, including comments and e-mails sent by users, may contain personally identifiable information, and the (Corporation) shall not be held liable for any voluntary information provided by a user when utilizing our (sites).

Information that may be automatically collected and stored: Our (sites) may collect and store your Internet Protocol (“IP”) address, indefinitely, as well as information about the date and time of your visit, whether a file you have requested exists, and how many “bytes” of information our (sites) transmitted to you over the web. We may use your IP address to assess the frequency of visits to our (sites) and the popularity of its various pages and functions. We will not attempt to match any personally identifiable information that you provide to us with your IP address unless there are reasonable grounds to believe that doing so would provide information that is relevant and material to a criminal or civil investigation or hearing. The one exception is that when you fill out information in a form on our (sites), we may receive your IP address along with this submission. We do not use this form-related IP address information unless it may be relevant and material to a criminal investigation.

Dissemination of personally identifiable information: The (Corporation) does not sell any personally identifiable information collected or submitted in conjunction with using the functions on our (sites) and there is no direct or online public access to the information. However, once you voluntarily submit personally identifiable information to us related to your use of our (sites), the dissemination thereof may be governed by applicable laws and regulations. For this reason, part or all of the information you send us may be provided in response to a lawful records request.

Online Forms, E-mails, and Other Electronic Correspondence

Third-party services may provide online forms and e-mail management on our (sites). When you use such a service, your submission is either sent directly to an e-mail account monitored and controlled by the (Corporation) or a member thereof or is securely made to the service provider and stored there. Forms and e-mails submitted to the service provider are then transmitted to the (Corporation) or the member’s e-mail. The (Corporation) or member may then delete submissions from the service provider’s environment when there is no longer an administrative need to retain them there.

Information submitted to the service providers will be used only for internal purposes and will not be distributed or sold to other third parties unless required by law or pursuant to a valid government request. The information that you voluntarily submit will be disclosed only to employees and officials of the (Corporation) or those partnered with the (Corporation), with a “need to know” for purposes of fulfilling their job responsibilities. The information may be used for such purposes as, mandated reporting, providing and improving service offerings, answering your questions, responding to any requests for assistance, generating summary statistics about usage, auditing applications and detecting

fraud, aiding in the planning, design, and development of the (Corporation), and fulfilling the (Corporations) legal obligations.

The (Corporation) may collect and aggregate the information you provide through surveys and through our (sites) collection of non-personally identifying analytics data to improve our (sites) and make them more responsive to customer needs. Where appropriate, we may provide the information you submitted voluntarily through a form or e-mail to the person or company that is the subject of your inquiry, or to an agency responsible for the matters referred to in your communication.

Cookies and Usage Data

Cookies are simple text files stored on your web browser to provide a means of distinguishing among users of websites. The use of cookies is a standard practice among internet websites. Our (sites) may use cookies and tools for data collection and analytics to learn more about how visitors to our (sites) find and interact with the pages they visit. We may use this information to improve our service offerings and better tailor individual user experiences. These tools may also collect data such as browser information, operating system, and page views through the implementation of "persistent cookies" or "session cookies".

Our (sites) may employ the use of "persistent cookies." The purpose of these persistent cookies is to collect and aggregate data regarding visitor activity in order for the (Corporation) to continuously evaluate and improve its website services. You may elect to disable the Persistent Cookies. Please be advised that disabling the Persistent Cookies may affect your ability to view or interact with our (sites). Persistent cookies may allow the website to recognize you when you visit again and tailor the information presented to you based on your needs and interests. Any persistent cookies in use on our (sites) cannot be used by anyone other than the (Corporation) or the software publisher of the tool in accordance with that software publisher's terms of use.

Our (sites) may also use "session cookies" to enhance or customize your visit. Session cookies can be created automatically on the device you use to access our (sites). These session cookies do not contain personal information and do not compromise your privacy or security. We may use the cookie feature to store a randomly generated identifying tag on the device you use to access our (sites).

The software and hardware you use to access our (sites) allow you to refuse new cookies or delete existing cookies. Refusing or deleting these cookies may limit your ability to take advantage of some features of our (sites). Except as set forth in this policy (e.g., possibly in response to a lawful records request), we do not combine the information collected through the use of any tool with personally identifiable information.

Security

Because information sent to our (sites) may not be encrypted, it is not recommended that users send messages containing information that the user considers highly sensitive. We use standard security measures to ensure that information provided by you, including your personally identifiable information, is not lost, misused, altered, or unintentionally destroyed. We may also use software to monitor network traffic to identify unauthorized attempts to upload or change information, or otherwise cause damage. Except for authorized law enforcement investigations, we make no attempts to identify individual users or their usage habits.

Disclaimer

The information provided in this policy, within our media publications, and on our (sites), should not be construed as business or legal advice from the (Corporation), or warranting as fail proof, of the security of information provided through our (sites). The (Corporation) reserves the right to amend the terms of this policy at any time and we encourage you to review this page periodically to stay informed of any updates. Any modifications made to this policy shall be effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

Please note that portions of the content in this policy were compiled by reviewing examples from other organizations and amended and furnished to meet the requirements of the (Corporation). This includes the privacy policy of the official Website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts³.

³ Mass.gov® Privacy Policy- Effective 6/1/2022