

**SCOUTS-L**

-----

**UNREGISTERED  
PARENT**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Tue Sep 19 00:57:11 1995**  
**To: SCOUTS-L Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**  
**Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent**

**On Mon, 18 Sep 1995, Stephen Rex Goode wrote:**

**> What are the limitations and/or opportunities for an unregistered parent  
> of Scouts in the BSA?  
>**

**The opportunities for an unregistered parent are endless. Any Scout unit can always use extra help, whether it is driving to an activity, helping organize an activity with the unit's leadership (including PLC), making phone calls, doing a newsletter, etc. The limiting factor is imagination. Seriously though, if the parent starts to be a regular helper it is best to get them registered to avoid any liability problems for them. There is no bright line as to when this must be done. If it looks like they are acting as one of the unit's adult leaders or are filling in a position, get them registered. Otherwise encourage every ounce of help and participation they are willing to give.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Wed Sep 20 00:32:15 1995**  
**To: "Paul H. Brown" <phbrown@CapAccess.org>**  
**Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent**

**Paul,**

**Oh my! Unfortunately the rules are fairly simple and straightforward, precluding him being a registered leader once it is known that he is a "homosexual". He can do a lot to help, but not in any registered capacity. Now all of this assumes he really is what he thinks he is. Are we sure that he's not just going through some kind of mid-life confusion? Or having other problems? I've heard of folks at about the 40-50 age range deciding they were homosexual at about the time their marriage was on the shoals with kids growing up and out of the house cause their only friends were guys, ergo I am . . . I'm afraid some of this stuff gets beyond my understanding when it gets to psychology and so**

many arguments about what is or isn't a cause or attribute of homosexuality. Seems a lot of people do a lot of talking about what they don't know much about and where they don't use the same language. But for now, BSA is firm on its stance. Guess there's not much that can be done at our level other than to empathize with Rex and pray that he can either work things out with himself or learn how to adjust to his situation. Dang.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Wed Sep 20 23:50:28 1995  
To: "Paul H. Brown" <phbrown@CapAccess.org>  
Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent

Paul,

Glad that you are working with the CC and making contact with the ADC.  
Good starting points.

As to Rex . . . He is an awkward spot. In my opinion, he no longer should hold any position that requires registration. Any other helper positions that are transitory are up to his unit. His case is one of those that makes BSA's position tough to take. And we can easily understand that membership would take a nose dive, if BSA started accepting avowed homosexual leaders because most parents wouldn't go for it.

No easy answers here.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Thu Sep 21 01:14:07 1995  
To: SCOUTS-L Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent

The questions that Rex has raised about the role of an unregistered parent seem to have gone beyond the general question of parents helping to that of specific parent with some specific constrictions on

registration. This suggests that either there is a personal reason for the parent not feeling able to register or a question of whether the parent would meet the criteria for registration. In such cases, I think that the parent in question ought not to take a position that requires a registration. As to other roles, this is something that needs to be worked out with the chartering organization and the local professional staff. Obviously we do not have the specifics and it probably would not be appropriate to get into personal matters affecting the privacy of the individual on this forum. In my opinion this needs to be addressed privately and with the chartering organization that is ultimately responsible for assuring the character and quality of leadership and with the local DE who can address registration issues and speak for BSA. My concern here is with trying to address an issue without sufficient information to make informed opinions and with the privacy of the individual concerned.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Sat Sep 23 23:11:11 1995  
To: Stephen Rex Goode <rexg@TELEPORT.COM>  
Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent

Rex,

You may believe that I was making an assumption about your inquiry being for a specific person. My way of responding was made based on your choice of words and on information (accurate or not) sent by another Scouter in private e-mail that stated you had resigned your membership in Scouting. My concern was that in continuing the discussion the questions and comments would lead to unwarranted and unkind comments about the reasons for not being registered without seeing the value in the person. In either case my concern would still be pretty much the same. We have too many who would like some litmus test to exclude instead of looking to see the positive and value in each of us. Please see my posting as an act intended in friendship and if anything overly protective.

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**Date: Sat, 23 Sep 1995 20:31:27 -0700  
To: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
From: rexg@teleport.com (Rex Goode)  
Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent**

**Michael,**

**We're OK. I was not offended at all by anything you have said. I'm glad there are people looking out for me. Truth is, the question IS about me, and the private e-mail was probably accurate. I understand your concern and appreciate it. I am just trying to figure out how I can fit in now.**

**---**

**Rex Goode  
rexg@teleport.com  
I used to be a buffalo...**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Sat Sep 23 23:43:38 1995  
To: Rex Goode <rexg@teleport.com>  
Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent**

**Rex,**

**Glad you weren't offended. Seems to me that your interests in computers and your ability to write would lend themselves to doing newsletters and resource development that could be used at the unit level without much fuss. Most units rely on unregistered parents for just this sort of thing. It does get a bit ticklish, because people always are going to want a good person to do more and then want to know why not. No easy answer there. For me, I applaud your efforts to still be of service and help, even when the giving is not as easy as it might be.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Mon Sep 25 02:44:55 1995**  
**To: Rex Goode <rexg@teleport.com>**  
**Subject: Re: BSA: Unregistered parent**

**Rex,**

**Yes, the private e-mail did give a reason for your resignation. The writer indicated that you had discovered you were a latent homosexual. This is something that I have not and will not pass on whether true or not. The writer apparently sent the e-mail out of concern from all appearances without any malicious intent. I think the idea was that I sometimes am seen as a moderating influence in discussions and one that might steer things away from trouble.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**