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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150

October 15, 1982

To: All Stake, Mission, and District Presidents; Bishops; and Branch Presidents

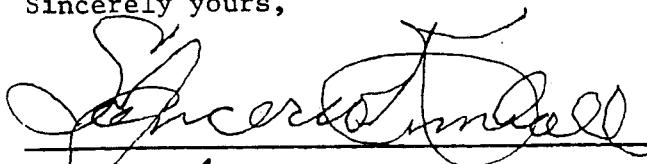
Dear Brethren:

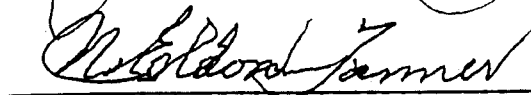
Under date of January 5, 1982, we addressed a letter to you which outlined procedures to be followed in conducting worthiness interviews. Since then, we have received a number of letters from members of the Church which indicate clearly that some local leaders have been delving into private, sensitive matters beyond the scope of what is appropriate.

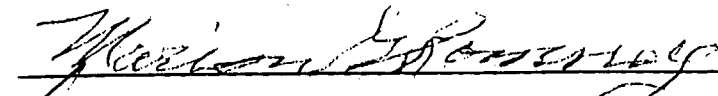
In conducting worthiness interviews, you should follow carefully the instructions contained in our letter of January 5, 1982. Also, you should never inquire into personal, intimate matters involving marital relations between a man and his wife. You should never deviate from or go beyond the specific questions contained in the temple recommend book. If in the course of such interviews a member asks questions about the propriety of specific conduct, you should not pursue the matter but should merely suggest that if the member has enough anxiety about the propriety of the conduct to ask about it, the best course would be to discontinue it. We feel, brethren, that if those who conduct these interviews are sensitive and wise, they can avoid such explicit questions being asked by those being interviewed.

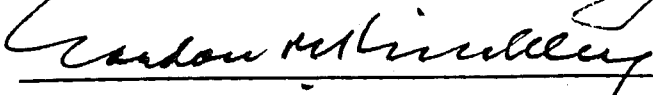
We request that stake presidents and mission presidents make certain that those under their jurisdiction who are authorized to conduct worthiness interviews are properly instructed about this matter. Also, when new brethren are called to offices which include the authority to conduct worthiness interviews, stake presidents and mission presidents should make sure that these new appointees are properly instructed in the same way.

Sincerely yours,









The First Presidency