



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY NAPLES ITALY
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NAVSUPPACTNAPLESINST 1754.7C
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NAVSUPPACT NAPLES INSTRUCTION 1754.7C

From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy

Subj: SUPERVISION OF MINOR CHILDREN

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3120.32D
(b) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1990, 0702
(c) NAVSUPPACTNAPLESINST 5800.3B
(d) OPNAVINST 1740.4E

Encl: (1) U.S. Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy Child Supervision Chart

1. Purpose. To promulgate guidance and procedures for the supervision of minor children onboard all U.S. Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPPACT), Naples, Italy, installations.

2. Cancellation. NAVSUPPACTNAPLESINST 1754.7B

3. Definitions

a. Adult. Someone 18 years of age and older who is responsible for the supervision of a designated child and is capable of responding within a reasonable amount of time.

b. Babysitter. Someone who has been given the responsibility to supervise a child/children while the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) are temporarily away. A babysitter will be assessed by the child's parent/legal guardian(s) as responsible and displaying maturity, as well as knowledge about maintaining safety. A babysitter will be at least 12 years of age or 11 years of age if they have taken the American Red Cross babysitting course.

c. Child. A child is an unmarried person, 17 years of age or under, or one who is incapable of self-support due to mental or physical incapacity. This includes a biological child, adopted child, foster child, stepchild or ward; this excludes active duty members and spouses.

d. Minor Guest. A minor guest is a child visitor who is temporarily residing with a member of the Armed Forces, Department of Defense (DoD) civilian or family member, thereof.

e. Child Neglect. The negligent treatment of a child through acts or omissions below the lower bounds of normal caregiving, which shows a striking disregard for the child's well-being under circumstances indicating the child's welfare has been harmed or threatened by the deprivations of age-appropriate care.

f. Supervision. Supervision is the monitoring of the child's whereabouts and activities per his/her maturity level and with regard to the child's mental and physical capabilities in order to ensure his/her safety and well-being.

4. Scope

a. This instruction is applicable to all individuals, military or civilians onboard NAVSUPPACT Naples and family members and guests, thereof. This instruction is not intended to and does not create any rights or entitlements; nor does it confer defenses in favor of any individual. It places no limits on the lawful prerogative of the Commanding Officer (CO), NAVSUPPACT Naples, Italy, or its officials. Authority to implement this policy derives from references (a) and (b).

b. Moral and legal obligations require appropriate measures to safeguard the welfare of children by ensuring they are not left unsupervised in a situation that exceeds their maturity level. Parents and guardians have primary responsibility for appropriate and adequate supervision of their minor family members and guests at all times, whether on or off base, to ensure they are safe and pose no danger to themselves, others, or the public peace by their actions.

c. Violations of this policy may lead to administrative or disciplinary action. Every effort will be made to handle alleged violations with maximum deference to parental rights. However, cases of child neglect will be referred to the appropriate chain of command, and the Family Advocacy Program, as appropriate. Military members who violate the provisions of this instruction may be prosecuted for violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and may be subject to other administrative action. Civilians who violate this instruction shall be subject to administrative action as defined in reference (c).

5. Discussion. The overseas community differs from Continental United States (CONUS) military and civilian environments in many ways. In CONUS, the COs seldom become aware of minor children's misconduct through official channels, as in most cases primary responsibility for child law enforcement resides with the state. On the installations outside CONUS, the CO is responsible for safety and law enforcement. Per reference (a), it is incumbent on the CO to ensure the safety and welfare of minor children.

6. Guidelines

a. To the maximum extent possible, parents and guardians are required to know the whereabouts of their children and minor guests 24 hours a day.

b. To the maximum extent possible, parents and guardians should be aware of the intended activities and schedules of their children and minor guests.

c. Parents and guardians whose children and minor guests participate in unofficial extracurricular activities or gatherings at locations other than Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) or Department of Defense Education Activity facilities are encouraged to communicate with each other to ensure adequate supervision.

d. Defiance of base guidelines may be cause for referral to Family Advocacy, but is not necessarily considered neglectful behavior unless the alleged act or omission meets the established criteria set forth by DoD in the definitions for child neglect.

e. Participation in Italian cultural events is encouraged. However, it is recommended that parents and guardians implement reasonable safeguards, as warranted by the situation, to ensure the proper conduct, health, and safety of their children, minor dependents, and guests.

f. Parents and guardians will discourage their children and minor guests from loitering in unsupervised locations. The entire community should be vigilant of unsupervised activity of children.

7. Supervision. Primary responsibility for supervision of minor children is with the parent/guardian. Parents are responsible for the behavior, safety, and proper discipline and well-being of their children, regardless of age. A minor child violating the restrictions listed below will be detained by base security until a parent or guardian assumes custody. The following general restrictions apply to all minor children. Parents should assess their child's developmental and maturity levels, and if necessary, raise the minimum age limits listed below to ensure the safety and well-being of their child. A supervision chart can be found in enclosure (1) of this instruction. The supervision restrictions below apply to all NAVSUPPACT Naples installations:

a. Children newborn to five years of age may not be left unattended in quarters, playground areas, or outside of quarters for any length of time and shall not be left unattended in a vehicle.

b. Children ages six through nine may be outside the quarters unattended with immediate access to an adult/babysitter but shall not be left in quarters without adult/babysitter supervision or in an unattended vehicle.

c. Children between ten and 15 years of age may be left unattended in quarters, playground, public areas, and outside the quarters.

d. Children age 16 years and above may be:

(1) Left unattended in quarters and all outside areas.

(2) Left in quarters when parents or guardians are on vacation or in a Temporary Assignment of Duty (TAD) status with immediate access to an adult who can provide assistance. Vacations or TAD should not exceed two weeks. A Family Care Plan must be submitted to the sponsor's command prior to departure.

e. Schools and MWR youth activities have the right to enforce their own escort and supervision policies. Absent such policy, the following restrictions apply:

(1) Children must be escorted to and from school and other youth-related functions until they are six years old and in first grade.

(2) Children ages six years old and in first grade may walk to and from school and other adult supervised activities within the fence line of any of the NAVSUPPACT Naples installations, such as ballet, gymnastics, sports practices, boy scouts, girl scouts, and other youth-related functions, without the supervision of an adult, when they have a self-release permission form on record with that specific program.

f. Children 12 years and older may care for younger children. Those children 11 years old must take the American Red Cross babysitting course to care for younger children. All children who wish to babysit are strongly encouraged to complete an American Red Cross babysitting course or CPR/First Aid course.

(1) Children under 12 years of age are allowed to babysit for no more than 3 hours and no later than 2200.

(2) Children between 12 and 13 years of age may babysit for no more than 6 hours and no later than 2200.

(3) Adolescents ages 14 and 15 years old may babysit until 2400.

(4) Adolescents 16 years and older may babysit overnight.

g. A designated adult should be capable of responding in person within a reasonable amount of time to any child left unattended. Personality, environment, developmental progress, medical conditions, and maturity levels are factors parents must consider when determining whether children are ready to accomplish activities with little or no supervision. Parents should assess their child's maturity and, if necessary, raise the minimum age limits outlined above.

8. Specific Restrictions

a. Barracks. Off-limits to all children under the age of 18 years.

b. Pools. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult or guardian (over 18). Children between the ages of 12 to 17 must have the Navy Youth Swim License to be at the pool unsupervised. Swim licenses are administered by MWR lifeguards.

c. Theaters. Per MWR policy, movie ratings shall be enforced. Children under 13 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to all movies. No children under 10 will be admitted to R rated movies. Children under 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for admission to an R rated movie.

d. Fitness Spaces. Children 16 and 17 years of age may be unsupervised in the fitness spaces. For those children 15 years and younger please see the MWR Fitness Age Authorization for details.

e. Single Parents, TAD, and Leave. Personnel in these categories are not exempt from ensuring minor children are supervised per this regulation. Members are expected to fully comply with this instruction and reference (d). Powers of Attorney are strongly recommended when leaving children with a guardian for more than 24 hours. The U.S. Navy Region Legal Services Office Europe, Africa, Central is available to draft and notarize these Powers of Attorney. Members are required to fully brief their designated caregiver on financial and logistical arrangements, location of important papers, and significant medical/dental issues.

f. Shuttle Buses. Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a supervising adult or a child 16 years or older. This restriction only applies to NAVSUPPACT Naples shuttle buses, and does not apply to school buses. Schools have a right to enforce their own school bus and supervision policy.

9. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per SECNAV-M 5210.1.

10. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, NAVSUPPACT Naples will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will automatically expire 10 years after effective date unless reissued or canceled prior to the 10-year anniversary date, or an extension has been granted.

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CHILD AND YOUTH SUPERVISION GUIDELINES



AGE	ALONE AT HOME	ALONE OVERNIGHT	WALK ALONE TO/FROM ADULT-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES	OUTSIDE UNATTENDED	IN VEHICLE UNATTENDED	MAY BABYSIT
 0-5	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
 6-9	NO	NO	YES* 6 YO AND IN FIRST GRADE	YES DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS IN PLAY-GROUNDS & YARDS WITH IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO AN ADULT	NO	NO
 10-11	YES WITH ACCESS TO AN ADULT BUT NO MORE THAN 3 HRS & NO LATER THAN 2200	NO	YES	YES	YES EXCEPT IN HOT WEATHER & <10 MINUTES WITH IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO AN ADULT	NO* 11 YES WITH BABYSITTING COURSE & NO MORE THAN 3 HRS OR LATER THAN 2200
 12-13	YES WITH ACCESS TO AN ADULT BUT NO MORE THAN 6 HRS & NO LATER THAN 2200	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES WITH ACCESS TO AN ADULT BUT NO MORE THAN 6 HRS & NO LATER THAN 2200
 14-15	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES NO LATER THAN 2400
 16+	YES	YES WITH IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO AN ADULT	YES	YES	YES	YES

