

# Isolated Moments

Anyone working with children runs the risk of being accused of child abuse. Although rare, some children will give false information to destroy the reputation of the individual or organization. Many of the kids in Russia and the ones we want to help and minister to have been abuse victims. You as a SAC volunteer are there to help these kids. At the same time we need to protect ourselves to ensure we are not put in a position of compromise.

The Director of Organization MIR, a Russian based charity led by an American, once wrote;

*Recently a Christian was (I believe falsely) accused of sexual abuse--he was alone with some orphans (foolishly) and has no way to defend himself--his word against theirs--and the police have apparently paid the orphans to give false testimony, in order to destroy this man's work. There are some VERY evil people here who can ruin a ministry in a heartbeat. We have to be EXTRA careful these days--this is not America, and there are forces at work here in Russia that WANT to discredit people doing the kind of work we do.*

This is not written to scare you but to remind you that we need to be careful in all things that we do. With this in mind SAC volunteers need to be aware of situations that will be referred to as “Isolated Moments”.

*An isolated moment occurs when you are alone with a child without a translator or another adult in the room.*

This could be a situation where you are vulnerable to accusation. By being knowledgeable and conscience of isolated moments and working to avoid them, you can reduce the risk of compromise.