

CHASTITY

Ye are forbidden to commit adultery, sodomy and lechery. (Bahá'u'lláh)

Beware lest ye commit that which would sadden the hearts of your fathers and mothers.
(Bahá'u'lláh)

According to the Bahá'í Teachings no sexual act can be considered lawful unless performed between lawfully married persons. (From a letter written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi)

Before marriage absolutely chaste, after marriage absolutely faithful to one's chosen companion. (From a letter written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi)

Here one must learn to control and direct one's animal impulses, not to be a slave to them.
(Universal House of Justice)

Such a chaste and holy life, with its implications of modesty, purity, temperance, decency, and clean-mindedness, involves no less than the exercise of moderation in all that pertains to dress, language, amusements, and all artistic and literary avocations. (Shoghi Effendi)

Chastity in no way implies withdrawal from human relationships. It liberates people from the tyranny of the ubiquity of sex. A person who is in control of his sexual impulses is enabled to have profound and enduring friendships with many people, both men and women, without ever sully that unique and priceless bond that should unite man and wife. (From a letter written on behalf of the Universal House of Justice)

It is neither possible nor desirable for the Universal House of Justice to set forth a set of rules covering every situation. Rather it is the task of the individual believer to determine, according to his own prayerful understanding of the Writings, precisely what his course of conduct should be in relation to situations which he encounters in his daily life. If he is to fulfil his true mission in life as a follower of the Blessed Perfection, he will pattern his life according to the Teachings. ... When his life is oriented toward service to Baha'u'lláh, and when every conscious act is performed within this frame of reference, he will not fail to achieve the true purpose of his life. (Universal House of Justice)

Bahá'ís must make the utmost effort to uphold Bahá'í standards, no matter how difficult they may seem at first. Such efforts will be made easier if the youth will understand that the laws and standards of the Faith are meant to free them from untold spiritual and moral difficulties in the same way that a proper appreciation of the laws of nature enables one to live in harmony with the forces of the planet. (From a letter written on behalf of the Universal House of Justice)