

Ira Hobbs banned from meetings with children in Missouri

Jun 12

Dear Friends,

We have a zero tolerance policy for child sexual abuse/ sexual abuse. Our goal is to provide as safe place for children in our meetings as we can. To minimise the risk to us as a responsible church and ministry we have made the decision that Ira Hobbs will not be able to attend any meetings where there are children present. Allegations of abuse have followed Ira for many years and so this seems prudent as an abundance of caution.

We love our children and we know they are very precious in God's eyes. We pray for the welfare of each child in our midst spiritually and naturally.

We appreciate your prayers as we navigate these difficult times. We are trusting that God will guide all our decisions as we move into the future.

Your Brother, Craig [Winqvist]

WINGS Note: Ira Hobbs is the former overseer of Texas who was removed from the work for allegations of child sexual assault (CSA). He also labored in the work in Florida, Georgia, Ohio, Colorado, Kentucky, and Louisiana.

On May 30th 2008, Ray Hoffman (overseer of Texas) distributed a letter to most members of the Friends and Workers Fellowship in Texas. The letter stated that Americo Quispe and Ira Hobbs, two Texas workers, were under investigation by law concerning Child Sexual Abuse. The letter also included an attachment titled 'Information on Child Sex Molesters' and an address for a web site which concerns CSA issues. See the letter here: <https://wingsfortruth.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/rayhoffman-2pp2.pdf>

However, until June 10, 2023, Ira Hobbs was still attending meeting with young children in attendance in Alton, Missouri. Elders pleaded with Craig Winqvist to have him permanently removed from meetings in Missouri. Now he has only been removed from meetings where children attend.