

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL YOUTH AUTHORITY (NYA) STATEMENT ON TRENDING “HOLY KISS” VIDEO

Management of National Youth Authority has noted with uncompromising disdain a video of a church priest supposedly giving “holy kisses” to students reportedly of St. Monica’s Teacher Training College.

The Authority condemn in the strongest terms the conduct of the priest in the video whose actions in our candid opinion does not augur well and inure to the overall development of our youth, particularly young females who ought to be protected.

We are by this statement calling on the Ministry of Education to conduct their own internal investigations and the clergy, particularly the Christian Council of Ghana to immediately take steps to withdraw the said priest from the school even as investigations continue. We further call on appropriate authorities to conduct thorough investigations and subsequently make their findings public as a matter of urgency.

The Authority perceives the conduct of the priest as a gross infringement on the rights of the affected female students. Also we can hardly come to terms with the priest's conduct, especially, during this COVID-19 period when we are constantly admonished to abide by strict health protocols, especially that of social distancing.

Additionally, we are of the opinion that the priest's conduct constitute an abuse of office and that must be critically looked at.

Whilst calling on all stakeholders in the youth development space to come together and more importantly continue to partner with the Authority to ensure a systemic and meaningful process of building a resilient and dynamic youth, equipped to contribute to our nation's growth and development efforts, we unreservedly regret to state that such conduct as exhibited by the supposed priest merely goes to undermine our efforts, more so the noble initiatives and programmes being implemented by the government of H.E Nana Addo Darkwa Akufo-Addo geared at improving the lot of the Ghanaian youth.

Finally, we wish to reiterate our commitment to continue to ensure that our country's youth in general, and young females in particular are well protected in our schools, communities and places of worship.

We hereby pledge to continue to work as per our mandate, espoused by the National Youth Authority Act 2016 (Act 939) in the supreme interest of the Ghanaian youth.

Signed:

Mr. Nelson Owusu Ansah

Ag. Chief Executive Officer

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