

Code of Conduct on 2010 Elections for St. Vincent and the Grenadines

1. Candidates will address themselves to issues and principles dealing with national growth, development and the real concerns of the people.
2. Candidates will not make grandiose promises, which they know cannot be kept.
3. Candidates will not use half-truths, lies, innuendos or bribes to gain political advantage.
4. Candidates will not use race, religion, country of origin, or class to mobilize support or to vilify any individual, family or section of the society.
5. Candidates will not engage directly or indirectly in character assassination.
6. Candidates will not say or do anything to incite, encourage or foster hatred, resentment, or any form of violence, but rather will do everything to promote tolerance, harmony, and peace.
7. Candidates will maintain the highest moral principles in keeping with Christian Ethics during the campaign, the elections, and afterwards.
8. There shall be no organised and advertised motorcades.
9. Chairpersons of meetings shall appeal for peaceful behaviour at all times.
10. The Christian Council along with the NMCM, shall monitor political meetings and ensure that the code of conduct is observed.
11. Candidates shall take all reasonable steps to influence supporters and members of the public to abide by the Code of Conduct.
12. All parties shall cooperate with the police in maintaining law and order.
13. Where political meetings are held at the roadsides, vehicles shall be allowed to pass freely.
14. Each Party shall have equal free time on the National Broadcasting Corporation.

The principle of equality shall also hold for other electronic media, in so far as free access is concerned. The Principle of equality shall also hold for the use of strategic venues for the holding of political meetings.

15. Parties shall respect hours of church service and not disrupt public worship as far as possible. Churches holding public meetings I times of Elections shall inform the Commissioner of Police of their intentions in order to avoid unnecessary clashes with planned political meetings.
16. Political parties shall avoid defacing public buildings and structures. The rights of private property owners shall be respected.
17. Posters may go on lampposts and other appropriate structures provided that no nails or staples or metallic objects are used to affix same.

Political parties shall publicly discourage the defacing or removal of their opponent's election campaigning material.

18. Political Parties Leaders shall maintain an open line of communication with one another.
19. The members of the NMCM shall meet with the Commissioner of Police from time to time.
20. Parties shall adhere to the letter and the spirit of the Representation of People Act. Chairpersons and Platform Speakers and other authorized Persons making public statements on behalf of Political Parties have the same responsibility as the Candidates in adhering to the Code of Conduct. The Christian Council and the NMCM are responsible for monitoring the Code, which includes the adherence to the letter and spirit of the representation of the Peoples Act. Although this Code is not a legislative instrument it is expected that all leaders and Candidates shall scrupulously register objection to any breach of the Code and report to the Council and the NMCM accordingly.

The Code was signed by the Leader of the Unity Labour Party and the New Democratic Party on the 2nd December, 2010.