

WHY WE MADE THE CHANGE

- During the 2015 Boy Scouts of America National Annual Meeting in May, Dr. Gates encouraged the Scouting family to reflect on the challenges, primarily regarding adult leadership standards, facing the BSA and potential alternatives for addressing them. Dr. Gates' remarks can be found on [Scouting Newsroom](#).
- The BSA faces the prospect of litigation in multiple states in the very near future. Legal counsel has advised national leadership that the likelihood of being able to defend the policy going forward is very low. Due to the social, political, and legal changes taking place in our country and in our movement, the past adult leadership policy could not be sustained.
- The best way to allow the BSA to continue to focus on its mission and preserve its core values was to address the issue and set its own course to ensure it continues to provide life-changing experiences to youth they cannot get anywhere else.