



CODE OF ETHICS

PROPRIETY

The Doula shall maintain a high standard of personal conduct in the capacity or identity as a labour support provider.

COMPETENCE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A Doula should strive to maintain professional knowledge through continuing education, affiliation with related organisations with other labour support providers.

INTEGRITY

A Doula should maintain professional integrity at all times.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO CLIENTS

CLIENT'S INTEREST

The Doula's primary responsibility is to her clients, without jeopardizing medical safety.

CLIENT'S RIGHTS

A Doula does not act on behalf of her client, nor does she make decisions for her client, but rather serves to provide support and information.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The Doula will respect the privacy of her client.

OBLIGATION

The Doula should assist each client seeking labour support either by providing support or making appropriate referrals.

RELIABILITY

When the Doula agrees to work with a particular client she must agree to do so reliably for the term of the contract.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Doula will treat all members of the birth team with respect, courtesy, fairness and good faith. Conflicts and/or differences in opinion will never be discussed in the presence of the labouring women or during the labouring process. All matters that arise pertaining to conflict will be discussed calmly and well after the birth process is completed.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE LABOUR SUPPORT PROFESSION

MAINTENANCE AND ADVANCEMENT

The Doula shall uphold and advance the ethics and knowledge of the professional childbirth companions.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

The Doula will continue to work towards increasing public awareness of the benefits of the professional childbirth companions.

SOCIETAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Doula shall promote the general health and wellbeing of women and their infants and extend this responsibility to their families at all times.

I,agree to bind myself to the above **CODE OF ETHICS** for the duration of my WOMBS membership.

DATED

SIGNED