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*Sri Hemkunt Foundation Inc.*



*Panthic Digital Voice Program*

*Cultivating original Sikh-Centric short films  
that convey important Sikh messages through examples.*

*Frequently Asked Questions*

**Q1.** If parents or other adults help a child, will that disqualify them? Does 100% of the work have to be performed by the child? Or can he or she accept some help from a parent or older student?

Please consider the following. A grade-school or high-school teacher can almost always tell when a parent has helped too much in doing any assignment. It is usually quite obvious.

In filmmaking, it is the same thing. The judges will generally be able to tell very quickly, whether the film is from the mind and hand of a student, or an adult (or an older student). If the judges feel that the film is not primarily the work of the student in question, they will ask for a meeting to discuss various points, and may disqualify the film.

Parents may offer moral support and some minor assistance, and organizational support in procuring locations, bringing food, contacting the other parents to coordinate schedules, etc. So in general, yes, the parents can offer limited help, especially if the child is having difficulties.

Parents can also help in a physical way, carrying equipment, for example. And logistically, for example, helping to ARRANGE for auditions (testing out various actors) where they are needed. NOT to conduct auditions, though; that is not allowed.

Some other specifics: parents are NOT RECOMMENDED TO:

- 1.) come up with the storyline(s) or themes or premise or script or characters of the film
- 2.) think up the locations.
- 3.) do any actual auditioning or casting.
- 4.) do any editing

Parents CAN view the work and give feedback, which should be constructive, not too critical or discouraging. They can also help the child with understanding and concept of the Topic, which is "Kirat Karo" for this year.

Bottom line, you know your child, use common sense, help them minimally, as if the judges were observing you. Your conscience will be your best guide. You want your child to emerge more confident about his or her filmmaking skills, and not feeling dependent upon his or her parents.