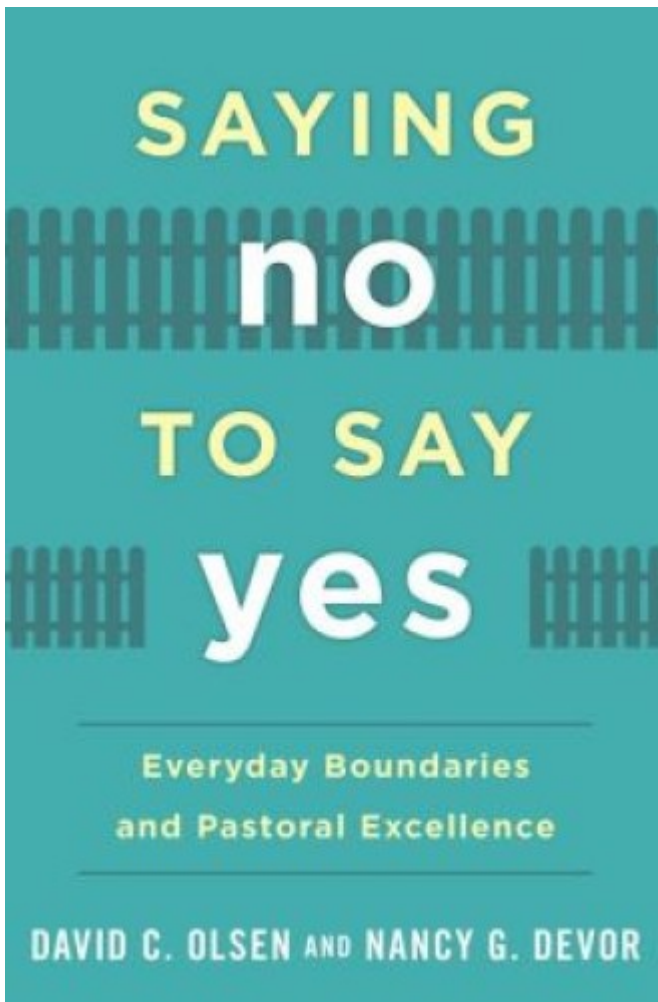


Saying No to Say Yes, by David C. Olsen and Nancy G. Devor

Books in the [May 13, 2015](#) issue

In Review



Saying No to Say Yes

By David C. Olsen and Nancy G. Devor
Rowman & Littlefield

Clergy sexual misconduct gets the most attention when boundary violations are discussed. Olsen and Devor believe that focus gets in the way of addressing the need for other kinds of boundaries that help ministry to flourish. They argue that

boundary problems mostly arise when there is confluence between unresolved personal issues on the part of a pastor and high stress in the congregational system itself. Boundary maintenance is needed not only so that pastors don't burn out, but so that congregations can thrive. Pastors may set boundaries that are too rigid, which tends to drive people away. Olsen and Devor recommend the formation of clergy groups in which people hold each other accountable to boundary awareness and maintenance.