

Across the States

The State of Kansas has no law in place to mandate where an offender can or cannot live, nor does Kansas Law allow for local jurisdiction to have such laws.

KBI Offender Registration Web site

Maryland does not have any residency restrictions. Information put out by other states has shown that residency restrictions do not help to prevent sexual offenses from occurring because the victims and the offenders, in most situations, know each other.

Maryland Public Sex Offender Registry Website

“It is unreasonable and oppressive to forbid registered sex offenders from living within 2000 feet of a school or park.”

California Appeals Court Ruling, Sept. 2012

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that local sex offender residency restrictions are preempted by state law and therefore unconstitutional (May 2011). The court explained that the effect of these sex offender residency ordinances is to create colonies of sex offenders, and as a result, they are prevented from any chance at rehabilitation in normal society.



Pursuing Rational Laws and Policies



“[Sex offenders] need to have a place to live, they need to be able to get jobs. They need to be able to support themselves and their families... Residency restriction laws can permanently separate offenders from their families and children who depend on them, or force entire families to relocate, creating psychological and financial hardship to innocent family members.”

Dr. Jill S. Levenson, Lynn University

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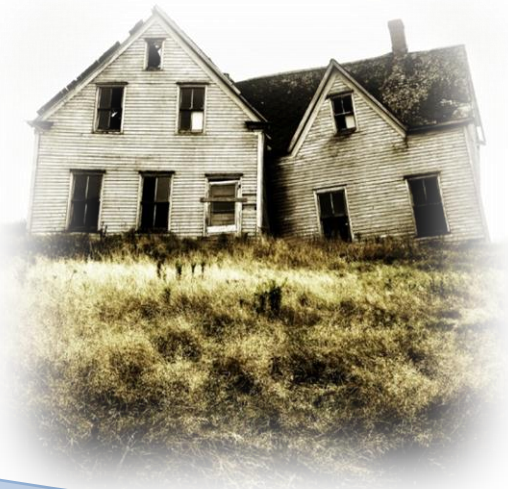
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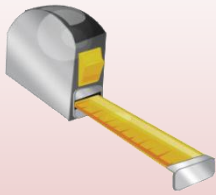
RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS And CHILD-SAFE ZONES

**Creating *Instability*
Harming *Families*
Wasting *Resources***



TexasVoices.org

TVRJ, Inc., a 501(c)(4)
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Texas Parole and Probation restricts most registrants on supervision from living within specific distances of places such

as schools, parks, and day care centers. Such policies are expensive to enforce and are arbitrary-they have no empirical support.



Research shows that there is no correlation between residency restrictions and reducing sex offenses against children or improving the safety of children.



Research does not support the belief that children are more likely to be victimized by strangers at places where children gather than at other places.



One of the most concerning aspects of the implementation of residence restrictions, locally or nationally, is the passing of policy and law without consideration for research, best practice, and effective methodology. This often results in unintended, counterproductive consequences which negatively impact community safety.

*Colorado Sex Offender Management Board
Residence restrictions 2009*



Many Texas cities and municipalities have enacted their own residency restriction policies that continue to limit where

registrants may live *after* serving their sentences.



Research has concluded stability and support increase the likelihood of successful reintegration for offenders. Policies that make it more difficult for offenders to succeed ultimately increase taxpayer burden without improving public safety.

**There is no evidence,
there are no statistics,
there are no studies,
there are no reports**

**supporting the theory that the
imposition of residency restrictions or
child safe zones
improve public safety.**



Rather than lowering sexual recidivism, housing restrictions may work against this goal by fostering conditions that exacerbate sex offenders' reintegration into society. Enhanced safety due to proximity restrictions may be a comfort factor for the general public, but it does not have any basis in fact...

Minnesota Department of Corrections 2007



“The problem is these laws may do more harm than good, if they work at all.”

Jacob Wetterling Resource Center

BAD FACTS

MAKE

BAD LAWS