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# What most people believe about the Sex Offense Registry is simply wrong.

## *In Fact...*

The **scientific consensus** is that **registries do not prevent sex offenses** nor enhance public safety, making them an enormous **waste of taxpayer resources**.

Most people convicted of a sex offense never repeat that crime. Overwhelming research has shown that the **recidivism rate for sex crimes is very low** compared to other types of offenses.

The vast **majority of new offenses** are **committed by someone** who is **already known by the victim** and NOT on the registry.

**Registries are counterproductive** because they push registrants to the margins of society, making it difficult to obtain **employment**, gain an **education**, find **homes**, and take care of their **families**.

**Banishment ordinances** that restrict how closely people on the Sex Offense Registry may live to schools, day cares and parks **do not reduce or prevent sex crimes**.

**SOURCES:** [texasvoices.org/study-sources](https://texasvoices.org/study-sources)

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**Spending** untold **millions** of dollars legislatively **demonstrating** one's **distaste for sex crimes** **does** absolutely **nothing to reduce** the incidence of **sex crimes**. It calls to mind the many public servants who declare they will do anything to see that not one more child is harmed, but do not take the trouble to acquaint themselves with the relevant empirical literature that might make their deliberations effective. **TVRJ believes there are better ways** all around, and **we are devoted to promoting dialogue** about them.

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**Texas Voices for Reason and Justice** is a statewide, non-profit, volunteer organization devoted to promoting a more balanced, effective, and rational criminal justice system.



# TexasVoices

FOR REASON AND JUSTICE

**TVRJ** advocates for **common sense, research based laws** and policies through education, legislation, litigation, and **support for persons required to register** for sex related offenses as well as for **members of their families**.

## ***We Believe:***

- **No sexual abuse is ever acceptable.**
- Sex offense **laws and policies** should be based on sound research and **common sense, not panic or paranoia.**
- Current laws and policies that **paint all sex offenses with one broad brush** are **counter-productive, wasteful, and cause needless harm.**
- Each offense must be judged on its own merits with a **punishment that fits the crime and does not waste taxpayer dollars.**
- The public sex offense registry and housing **banishment laws do not protect children** but instead, **ostracize and dehumanize entire families.**
- **Money spent** on purely punitive measures **would be better used for prevention, healing, and rehabilitation.**

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