

*Residency Restrictions*  
*1-1-2015*

*Residency restrictions for people who have committed a sexual offense do not work, and create much "collateral damage" according to research by Dr. Jill Levinson et al. Forcing people to be homeless and thus without any stability in their lives just creates conditions that make it more likely that they will either go underground or commit another offense, not necessarily a sexual offense.*

*I brought up the companion issue of registration and how worthless it is in terms of preventing present or future sexual offenses at the Registration/SVP Committee Meeting, and when I commented that the literature showed clearly that registration does nothing to limit sexual offenses, Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky, Program Administrator for the Sex Offender Management Board, made the comment that there was literature supporting registration as a deterrent (he would agree with us that residency restrictions are not a deterrent). I asked the Public Defender on the committee who is also the research article "expert" on these issues whether that was correct, and she said that there were at least 15 articles supporting the fact that registration does not limit new sexual offenses, and just two articles that purport to show that it does!*

*The fact that some legislators and some communities (too many) across the country choose to ignore the research on both of these issues is sad indeed. The article and comments in this link show that a few folks in the U.S. are finally waking up to the fact that exposing people to homelessness through both residency restrictions and registration make our cities and states less safe and more likely to experience offenses, as they limit the ability of those who have been convicted in the past from getting housing, jobs, and family or community support, things the literature also shows are crucial to their restoration.*

[http://sentencing.typepad.com/sentencing\\_law\\_and\\_policy/2014/11/growing-awareness-of-the-limited-efficacy-of-local-sex-offender-residency-restrictions.html](http://sentencing.typepad.com/sentencing_law_and_policy/2014/11/growing-awareness-of-the-limited-efficacy-of-local-sex-offender-residency-restrictions.html)

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*Consider giving to CSOR. We are working hard to assist in the restoration of lives that will reduce sexual offending and enhance the safety of us all!*