

Child Safety

Good morning/afternoon. I'm (your name), a Florida resident, and am asking you to:

- Create a process for removal from the sex offender registry for the people who committed their offense as kids.
- Eliminate the juvenile sex offender registry and replace it with research-based rehabilitation that supports these young people to become productive, contributing members of society.

Imagine a teenager who made a seriously bad decision, a decision which led to sexual misconduct; and, hence, into contact with the juvenile justice system. Now, instead of receiving the guidance and rehabilitation they need, they're placed on a sex offender registry, facing a lifetime as a permanent societal outcast based on temporary immaturity.

This isn't just a hypothetical scenario; it's a reality for hundreds of thousands of youths nationwide. 25% of people on Florida's sex offender registry are there for offenses committed as kids.

Research shows that juveniles have underdeveloped brains, which leads them to make impulsive decisions they wouldn't as mature adults. Despite this, Florida imposes lifelong adult consequences on these kids, contradicting the very purpose of having separate juvenile and adult courts. These lifetime consequences: severe social stigma, harsh barriers to education, employment, housing, social support, and the risk of physical harm.

There is irrefutable statistical evidence that the sex offender registry doesn't make our communities safer. In fact, it creates larger societal problems by pushing these youths into a cycle of oppression and marginalization. We have evidence-based rehabilitative options that honor the foundational principles of the juvenile justice system. By supporting these approaches, we can help these young people reintegrate into society as productive, law-abiding citizens instead of utilizing lifelong punishment under the false pretense of increasing societal safety.

Think about how many bad decisions we made as adolescents. Can you imagine a more inhumane societal response to a group of young people who are temporarily immature? Our children in Florida deserve better.

Thank you.

Child Safety 90 seconds

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- Eliminate the juvenile sex offender registry and replace it with research-based rehabilitation that supports these young people to become productive, contributing members of society.

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Think about how many bad decisions we made as adolescents. Can you imagine a more inhumane societal response to a group of young people who are immature? Our children in Florida deserve better.

Child Safety 1 minute

I'm (your name) and am asking you to:

- Create a process for removal from the sex offender registry for those who committed their offense as kids.
- Replace the juvenile sex offense registry with rehabilitation programs that support young people to become contributing citizens.

Imagine a teenager who made a seriously bad decision which led to sexual misconduct. Now, they're placed on a sex offender registry, facing a lifetime as a permanent societal outcast based on temporary immaturity.

25% of people on Florida's registry are there for offenses committed as kids.

Research shows that juveniles have underdeveloped brains, which leads them to make impulsive decisions they wouldn't as mature adults. Despite this, Florida imposes lifelong adult consequences on these kids - severe social stigma, harsh barriers to education, employment, and housing.

Evidence shows that the registry doesn't make our communities safer - but creates larger societal problems by pushing these youths into poverty.

Think about how many bad decisions we made as adolescents. Can you imagine a more inhumane response to youths? Our children in Florida deserve better.