

SEX OFFENDER RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS IN NEW JERSEY

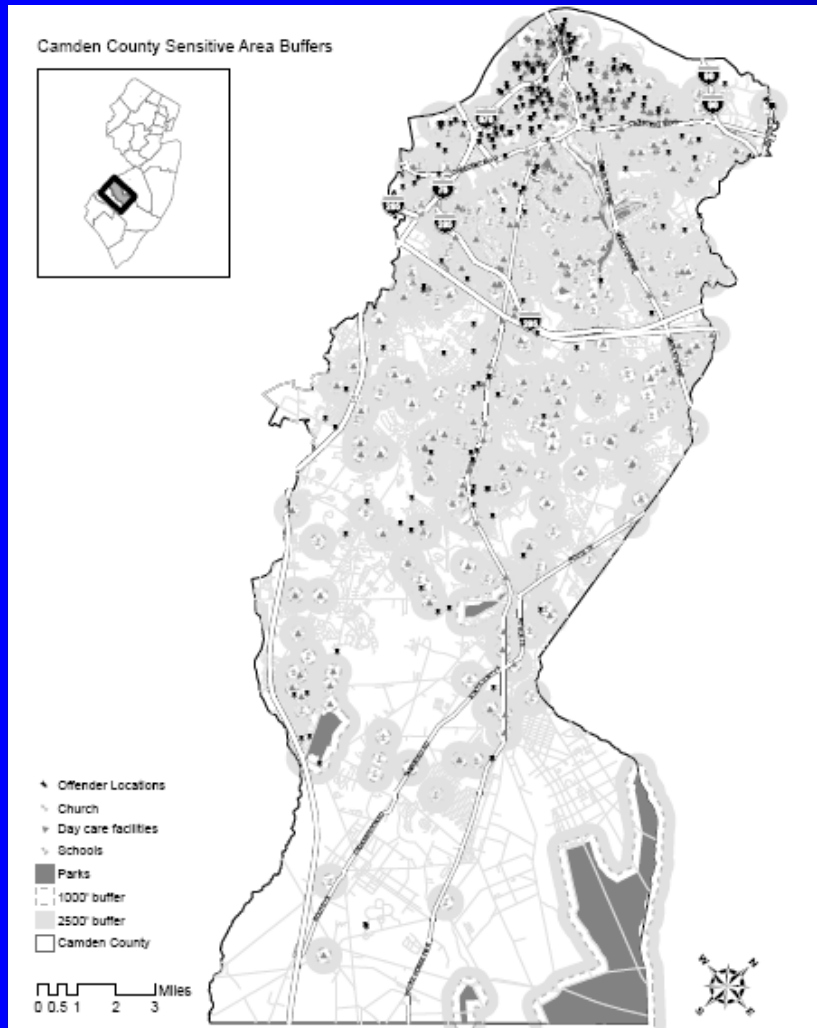


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Zgoba, K., Levenson, J. S., & McKee, T. (in press).
Examining the Impact of Sex Offender Residence
Restrictions on Housing Availability.
Criminal Justice Policy Review.

- The purpose of this study was to explore the potential impact of residence restrictions on housing availability for registered sex offenders in Camden County, New Jersey (n = 211).
- Using Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping technology, we sought to determine the proportion of registered sex offenders who live within typical exclusionary zones of 1,000 and 2,500 feet of schools, day care centers, churches, and parks.

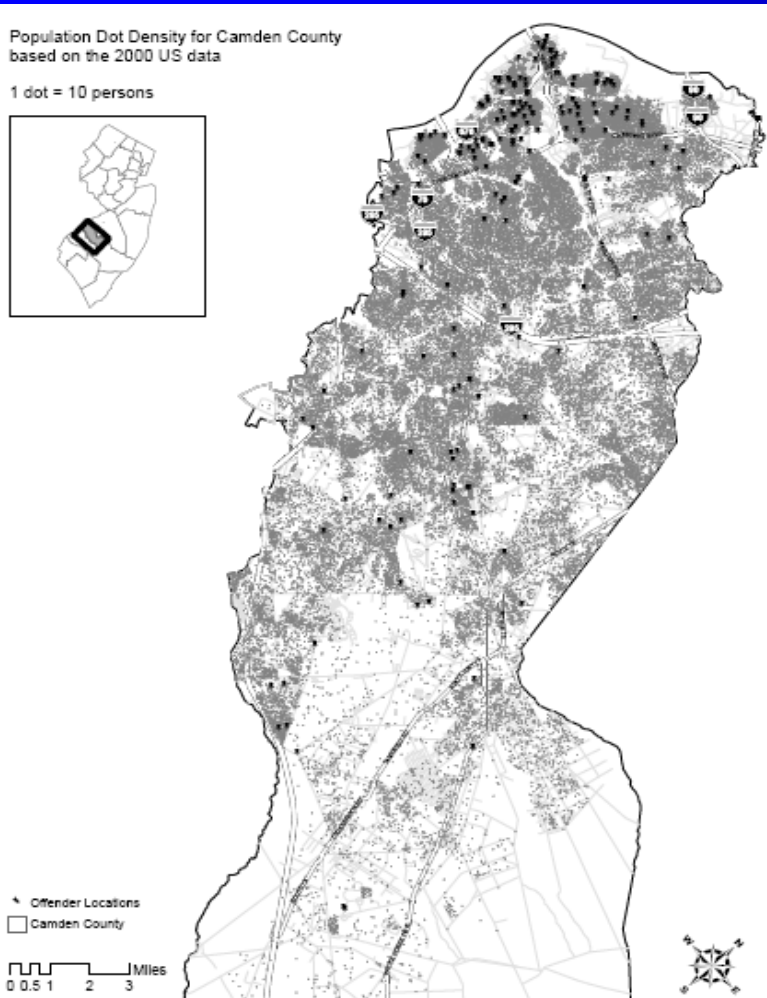
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The majority of sex offenders lived within 2,500 feet of schools (71%), day care centers (80%), parks (40%) and churches (18%).

88% lived within 2,500 feet of any of the four “hot spots.”

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Comparatively, 80% of non-offending citizens lived within 2,500 feet of such places.

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- Offenders of adult victims lived significantly closer to schools than did those with child victims.
- The results suggest that a large majority of sex offenders would be unable to live in their current homes if residence restrictions were in place, and that few options for housing exist outside of common buffer zones.

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Locations of interest	% of sex offenders living within 1,000 feet	% of citizens living within 1,000 feet	% of sex offenders living within 2,500 feet	% of citizens living within 2,500 feet
Schools	26%		71%	
Daycares	37%		80%	
Parks	16%		40%	
Churches	6%		18%	
Any "hotspot"	58%	36%	88%	80%

Chajewski, M., & Mercardo, C. C. (2008). An analysis of sex offender residency restrictions in Newark, New Jersey. *Sex Offender Law Report, 9, 1-6.*

- In Newark, New Jersey, 98% of sex offenders live within 2,500 feet of a school and 65% live within 1,000 feet.
- 93% of Newark's inhabitable territory is located within 2,500 feet of a school and would therefore be unavailable to sex offenders.