



Pennsylvania Association for Rational Sexual Offense Laws
A Pennsylvania Safe and Just for All

PARSOL – Who are we?

The Pennsylvania Association for Rational Sexual Offense Laws (PARSOL) is a grassroots, all volunteer, non-profit organization committed to preventing sexual abuse and increasing public safety for all. We seek to provide accurate and current information to organizations, the public, the media, and legislators. In addition to education, PARSOL provides support and encouragement to individuals on the registry and to their families and friends.

PARSOL believes that public registration policies are failing in their stated goal of keeping people safe from sexual victimization. The resulting ostracizing and stigmatizing of registrants negatively impacts not only the registrants, but also their families, including their children, while, at the same time, creating in the minds of the public a false sense of security that studies show are neither warranted nor contributory to the goal of increasing public safety.

It is the position of PARSOL that public registries are punitive in nature, and bear close resemblance to historical shaming practices. It is further the position of PARSOL that the current laws governing sexual offending have typically been retributive responses to exceptionally rare crimes which are particularly heinous. Moreover, PARSOL supports current research which clearly indicates public registries do not contribute to reducing sexual abuse or increasing public safety.

We reach out to law enforcement and state legislators in ensuring that best practices are being utilized. PA's Constitution Article I §1 grants all Pennsylvanian's "*indefeasible* rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing and protecting property and *reputation*, and of pursuing their own happiness". It is our goal to work toward preserving these rights.

PARSOL does not condone any form of sexual violence or victimization. People who commit sexual crimes should be prosecuted, but that prosecution must be constitutional, reasonable, proportional, ethical, fundamentally fair, and consistent with the legitimate best interest of all Pennsylvania citizens.