Youth who are out late may need special services, resources, or simple guidance. Others may work late-night jobs to provide for themselves or their family. Some are homeless. None should be saddled with tickets, court time, or a criminal record.

**Four Things to Know**

1. Under Austin’s Juvenile Curfew Ordinance (JCO) youth who are out between **11 P.M. AND 6 A.M.** can be charged with a **CLASS C MISDEMEANOR.**

2. Curfew violations are “status offenses,” meaning **YOUTH ARE TICKETED BECAUSE OF THEIR AGE, not because they committed any real crime.**

3. **CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS 10** can be sent to **ADULT CRIMINAL COURT** without an attorney, face fines of up to $500, and end up with a criminal record.

4. **Ticketing is at the discretion of individual police officers.**

**The Impact**

Research shows this type of justice system contact is harmful for youth, making it less likely they will succeed in school and more likely that they will have future court and police interactions.

**Boys Are Impacted Most**

Boys account for 74% of all nighttime curfew violations.

**Black Youth Are Disproportionately Affected**

In 2016, Black youth accounted for 17% of all nighttime curfew violations, though they represent just 8% of the youth population.

**APD Nighttime JCO Violations by Race (2016)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Proportion of Nighttime JCO Violations</th>
<th>Proportion in Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Texas Appleseed is part of a 29-member workgroup convened by the Austin City Council to find more appropriate solutions for youth than ticketing. The initial recommendations from this group of experts, practitioners, and youth include:

1. **ENDING THE JUVENILE CURFEW IN AUSTIN**
2. **Utilizing existing resources within the city to provide NON-LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERVENTIONS TO YOUTH**
3. **REQUIREING YOUTH-FOCUSED TRAINING** for law enforcement and other agencies and individuals that interact with young people.

For More Information:
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