



GETTING TO KNOW CHILD IMPACT STATEMENTS: PRACTICE EXERCISE

Pick one of the following scenarios and respond to the questions below to get some practice with child impact statements. You can make up data or other relevant information not included in the prompt. Have fun with it!

Scenario One: Following complaints from small business owners about young people loitering outside and shoplifting from their stores, the city council may impose a 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew on youth under 18. Violations would result in fines or community service. \$500,000 is budgeted for training/outreach. No resources are budgeted for youth support services (like after-school programming).

Scenario Two: The local school district is piloting a new phone-free policy. Starting next semester, all middle and high school students must lock their phones in secure pouches during the school day. The district says this will reduce distractions, bullying, and mental health harms tied to social media. Some parents and students argue it limits communication, safety, and self-expression. Teachers will receive training, but no new mental health or extracurricular supports are included in the rollout.

1. **How do you think the policy or program would impact children and youth? Would the impact be positive, negative, or a combination of both?**
2. **Do you think any particular groups of young people might be affected more than others? What type of research/data could you look for to back this up?**
3. **Were young people consulted? If so, do you see evidence that their views were incorporated?**
4. **What recommendations would you make to strengthen this proposal?**