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NLC Summaries of "SOB Land Use" Studies

*Crime Impact Studies by Municipal and State Governments  
on Harmful Secondary Effects of  
Sexually Oriented Businesses*

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**Tucson, Arizona**

**Land Use Study**

**Dated May 1, 1990**

**OVERVIEW:** This report is a memorandum from Police Department Investigative Services to the City Prosecutor describing events and activities at "adult entertainment bookstores and establishments" that demonstrate the need for stronger ordinances. Investigations had been in progress since 1986 following numerous complaints of illegal sexual activity and unsanitary conditions.

**FINDINGS:** Officers found a wide variety of illegal sexual conduct at all adult businesses. At virtually every such business, employees were arrested for prostitution or obscene sex shows. Dancers were usually prostitutes where, for a price, customers could observe them performing live sex acts. At several businesses, customers were allowed inside booths with dancers and encouraged to disrobe and masturbate. Many times, dancers would require customers to expose themselves before they would perform. Underage dancers were found, the youngest being a 15 year old female.

Within peep booths, officers found puddles of semen on the floor and walls. If customers had used tissues, these were commonly on the floor or in the hallway. On two occasions, fluid samples were collected from the booths. In the first instance, 21 of 26 samples (81%) tested positive for semen. In the second sampling, 26 of 27 fluid samples (96%) tested positive for semen. "Glory holes" in the walls between adjoining booths facilitated anonymous sex acts between men.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** (1) The bottom of the door in peep booths must be at least 30 inches from the floor so that an occupant can be seen from the waist down when seated. (2) The booth cannot be modified nor can a chair be used to circumvent the visibility of the client. (3) Employee licensing procedures that include a police department background check should be put in effect. (4) In the event of a denied or revoked license, the requirement of a hearing before any action is taken.

**Garden Grove, California**

**Land Use Study**

**Dated September 12, 1991**

**OVERVIEW:** This report by independent consultants summarizes statistics to determine whether adult businesses should be regulated because of their impact on the community in terms of crime, decreased property values and diminished quality of life. Statistics were measured from 1981 to 1990, and included crime data and surveys with real estate professionals and city residents. Garden Grove Boulevard, which has seven adult businesses, was selected as the study area. The study incorporated many control factors to insure accurate results. The report includes a brief legal history of adult business regulation and an extensive appendix with sample materials and a proposed statute.

**CRIME:** Crime increased significantly with the opening of an adult business, or with the expansion of an existing business or the addition of a bar nearby. The rise was greatest in "serious" offenses (termed "Part I" crimes: homicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, theft and auto theft). On Garden Grove Boulevard, the adult businesses accounted for 36% of all crime in the area. In one case, a bar opened less than 500 feet from an adult business, and serious crime within 1,000 feet of that business rose more than 300% the next year.

**REAL ESTATE:** Overwhelmingly, respondents said that an adult business within 200-500 feet of residential and commercial property depreciates that property value. The greatest impact was on single family homes. The chief factor cited for the depreciation was the increased crime associated with adult businesses.

**HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS:** 118 calls were completed in a random sample of households in the Garden Grove Boulevard vicinity. The public consensus was that adult businesses in that area were a serious problem. Nearly 25% of the surveyed individuals lived within 1,000 feet of an adult business. More than 21% cited specific personal experiences of problems relating to these businesses, including crime, noise, litter, and general quality of life. 80% said they would want to move if an adult business opened in their neighborhood, with 60% saying they "would move" or "probably would move." 85% supported city regulation of the locations of adult businesses, with 78% strongly advocating the prohibition of adult businesses within 500 feet of a residential area, school or church. Women commonly expressed fear for themselves and their children because of adult businesses.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The report concludes that adult businesses have a "real impact" on everyday life through harmful secondary effects and makes four recommendations: (1) Keep current requirement of 1,000 feet separation between adult businesses; (2) Prohibit adult establishments within 1,000 feet of residential areas; (3) Enact a system of conditional use permits for adult businesses with police department involvement in every aspect of the process; and (4) Prohibit bars or taverns within 1,000 feet of an adult business.

## **Ellicottville, New York**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated January, 1998**

**OVERVIEW:** On April 28, 1997, the Ellicottville Village Board of Trustees and Town Board placed a moratorium on approvals of new sexually oriented establishments. There were four purposes for the move: 1) to allow the community time to study the effects of adult entertainment businesses; 2) "to determine if a regulatory response was necessary;" and 3) "if stronger land use controls were warranted to draft the regulatory changes for the legislative board's consideration." As there were no adult businesses in Ellicottville at the time of the study, the report cites secondary effects studies in other jurisdictions as a means of

forecasting the effects of an Ellicottville adult business. The negative secondary effects examined included: economic impacts, property values, fear of crime, and negative impact on community character.

**FINDINGS:** Ellicottville is a community that relies upon attracting tourists. As such, "the atmosphere and aesthetic features of the community take on an economic value." Though active land use controls have been practiced to maintain the look and vitality of the community, currently there are no differentiations made between the regulation of an adult business and, say, a juice bar.

To assess potential secondary effects, studies administered in other New York jurisdictions will be helpful. The 1994 NYC Adult Entertainment study found the following: adult businesses tend to cluster in certain areas, a rise in crime is linked to clusters of adult businesses, negative reactions toward adult businesses were common among adjacent business and home owners, isolation of adult businesses limited secondary effects, real estate brokers believe property values are negatively impacted by nearby adult establishments, and adult business signs are often larger and more graphic.

Allowing adult businesses to locate within the historic business district would negatively impact Ellicottville's efforts to provide a family-friendly community. Similarly, permitting adult businesses to locate near residences would have an eroding effect on "aesthetic qualities" and property values. The type of signage typically used by adult businesses would run counter to the business district. The following uses seemed most prone to negative secondary effects: the Ellicottville historic district, places of worship (6 churches in Ellicottville), the school, the child care facility, recreation parks/areas/playgrounds and public/civic facilities, and residential neighborhoods.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The Town and Village should adopt zoning regulations that create a land use category, and regulate adult establishment uses, allowing them to locate in industrial zones and the industrial-service commercial district. The establishment of adult businesses should be considered Conditional Uses (requiring approval of a special use permit). Exterior advertising, signs, and loudspeakers and sound equipment should be regulated. The following distance buffers should be set for: 500 feet (town) or 300 feet (Village) from residential areas; 1000 feet (town) or 500 feet (Village) from other adult businesses; and 500 feet (town and Village) from a church, school, day care center, park, playground, civic facility or historic resource. Definitions for adult uses should be added to existing zoning regulations.

## **New York City, New York**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated November, 1994**

**OVERVIEW:** This study of the secondary impacts of adult entertainment uses on communities in New York City (NYC), prepared by the Department of City Planning (DCP), includes: a survey of studies in other jurisdictions, a description of the adult entertainment business in NYC, a review of studies previously done in

NYC, a DCP survey of the impacts on NYC communities, and maps showing SOB locations.

**FINDINGS:** Recent trends in sexually oriented businesses (SOBs) in NYC show a 35% increase over the last decade (75% of which were located in zoning districts that permit residences). However, since the survey for this information focused only on XXX video and bookstores, adult live or movie theaters, and topless or nude bars, this may be an underestimate of total SOB uses. Also in the past decade the availability of pornographic material has increased, the price has decreased greatly, and the image of nude bars has become more sophisticated or "upscale", contributing to the wide-spread availability of SOBs in NYC. SOBs have continued to concentrate in specific areas, specifically in three communities within Manhattan. Between 1984 and 1993: the concentrated areas of SOBs have nearly tripled; the number of SOBs has increased from 29 to 86 (74% of which were adult video stores - not included in the 1984 survey); adult theaters declined from 48 to 23, and topless/nude bars increased from 54 to 68 (54%).

After examining studies from other jurisdictions, this study concludes that the negative secondary impacts are similar in every jurisdiction, despite size of city, variations in land use patterns, and other local conditions. The study specifically examines the negative secondary impacts documented in Islip, NY, Indianapolis, IN, Whittier, CA, Austin, TX, Phoenix, AZ, Los Angeles, CA, New Hanover Co., NC, Manatee Co., FL, and MN, which evidenced problems with "dead zones", declining property values, high turnover rates in adjacent businesses, and higher sex crime rates. Various studies done on the City of New York (including Times Square) showed that concentration of SOBs had resulted in significant negative impacts, including economic decline, decreased property values, and deterrence of customers, and significantly increased crime incidence. Business owners strongly believed their businesses were adversely affected by SOBs. The DCP did its study in NYC boroughs where there was less concentration of SOBs. The negative impacts in these areas were harder to measure, but there was a definite negative perception among residents about the presence of SOBs. It has been shown that negative perceptions related to SOBs can lead to disinvestment and tendency to avoid shopping in adjacent areas - leading to economic decline. Residents reared potential proliferation of SOBs and the resultant negative impact on traditional neighborhood-oriented shopping areas. Eighty percent of real estate brokers surveyed responded that an SOB would have a negative impact on property values (consistent with a national survey). Residents were also concerned about exposure to minors of sexual images.

The DCP concluded that it would be appropriate to regulate SOBs differently from other commercial businesses, based on the significant negative impact caused by SOBs.

**Times Square, New York**

**Land Use Study**

**Dated Aril, 1994**

**OVERVIEW:** The Times Square Business Improvement District (BID) conducted a study of the secondary effects of adult businesses on the Times Square area. Due to an increase in the number of adult use establishments from 36 in 1993<sup>(1)</sup> to 43 in 1994 the BID conducted this study to obtain evidence and documentation on the secondary effects of adult use businesses in the Times Square BID, and of their dense concentrations along 42nd Street and Eighth Avenue. The study was performed by combining available data on property values and incidence of crime, plus in-person and telephone interviews with a broad range of diverse business and real estate enterprises, including major corporations, smaller retail stores, restaurants, theatres and hotels, as well as with Community Boards, block associations, activists and advocates, churches, schools, and social service agencies.

**FINDINGS:** The study made the following four findings:

- 1) Surveys - All survey respondents voiced optimism about the future of Times Square, even as they bemoaned the increase of adult use establishments. Many respondents felt that some adult establishments could exist in the area, but their growing number and their concentration on Eighth Avenue constitute a threat to the commercial property and residential stability achieved in the past few years.
- 2) Crime - Although the study was unable to obtain data from before the recent increase in adult establishments and, thus, unable to show if there's been an increase in actual complaints, there were 118 complaints made to the police on Eighth Avenue between 45th and 48th compared to 50 on the control blocks on Ninth Avenue between 45th and 48th Streets. In addition, the study reveals a reduction in criminal complaints the further one goes north on Eighth Avenue away from the major concentration of these establishments.
- 3) Property Values - The rate of increase of total assessed values of the Eighth Avenue study blocks increased by 65% between 1985 and 1993 compared to 91% for the control blocks during the same period. Furthermore, acknowledging the many factors that lead to a property's increased value, including greater rents paid by some adult establishments, an assessment of the study blocks reveal that the rates of increases in assessed value for properties with adult establishments is greater than the increase for properties on the same blockfront without adult establishments.
- 4) Anecdotal evidence - Many property owners, businesses, experts, and officials provided anecdotal evidence that proximity to adult establishments hurts businesses and property values.

**CONCLUSION:** BID's findings support the results from other national studies and surveys. Adult use businesses in Times Square have a negative effect on property values, cause a greater number of criminal complaints, and have an overall negative impact on the quality of life for the residents and small businesses of Times Square.

## **Oklahoma City, Oklahoma II**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated June 1992**

This study, written by Jon Stephen Gustin, a retired sergeant for the Oklahoma City Police Department, examines a history of the successful abatement of sexually oriented businesses (SOBs) in Oklahoma City between 1984 - 1989, which ultimately reduced an alarmingly high crime rate in the city, which is one of many harmful secondary effects related to the operation of SOBs in the community.

This study indicates that in the early 1980's there was a large growth of SOBs in Oklahoma City in conjunction with a boom in the oil industry resulting in a large influx of oil field workers in the area. Houses of prostitution, nude bars and adult theaters spread throughout the city. SOB promoters and entrepreneurs from around the country came to the area to compete for their share in the market. By 1984, over 150 SOBs and an estimated 200 prostitutes operated in the city. SOB owners competed by using more and more blatant signs and advertising. As a result, the city experienced epidemic proportions of crime problems associated with the SOBs. Citizens began to voice concerns over the decay of community moral standards, the increased crime rate, and decreased property values.

Although Oklahoma City had a history of unsuccessful prosecution of cases related to pornography, prostitution, and related SOBs, public pressure from citizens and elected officials ultimately resulted in support by the Chief of Police, the City Council and the city's District Attorney to prosecute SOBs that were in violation of the law. Abating prostitution and related businesses was the first priority. The media aided this effort by publishing names of arrested customers and prostitutes, and airing live coverage of arrests and raids. This bolstered citizen support of police and prosecutors.

At adult bookstores and peep booths arrests were made for customers propositioning undercover officers to engage in sex acts, for the sale and possession of pornography, the display of pornography and for health department violations (including seminal fluids on the walls and floors of peep show booths). [Note that the author uses the term "pornography" referring to illegal pornography, also known as "obscenity."]

The city next focused on prosecution for violations at nude and semi-nude dance bars, where customers engaged in sexual favors with nude employees in exchange for the purchase of expensive cocktails. Repeated arrests in these bars forced them into compliance, causing a lack of customer support. Simple arrests at escort services, which were organized fronts for prostitution, did little to abate the illegal activity. Therefore, police worked undercover, arresting solicitors of the service. Also an attempt was made to prohibit businesses that had been convicted on prostitution charges from having access to phone service.

As a result of the aggressive arrest and prosecution efforts, only a handful of the original 150 SOBs remained by early 1990. All remaining SOBs operated within statutory guidelines. It has been documented that incidents of reported rape in Oklahoma City decreased 27% during that period, while it increased 16% in the rest of the state. In 1983 nearly one-half of the rapes in

Oklahoma occurred in Oklahoma City, decreasing to one-third by 1989. This is an example of the benefits of stringent enforcement and prosecution of the so called "victimless crimes" associated with SOBs.

**Cleburne, Texas**

**Land Use Study**

**Dated October 27, 1997**

**OVERVIEW:** This is a report by Regina Atwell, City Attorney for the City of Cleburne, Texas, on how and why the city organized a joint, county-wide sexually oriented business (SOB) task force. The purpose of this report is to educate and provide assistance to other jurisdictions on what the author considers important aspects of organizing, drafting and adopting an SOB ordinance or amendment to an SOB ordinance. In the introduction, Ms. Atwell cautions that although SOBs now appear more sophisticated and have begun to integrate into the mainstream, the secondary effects of these businesses are still harmful to the community. She offers a set of questions to help assess a local government's needs to enact or update its SOB ordinance. Also, she gives a brief legal history of zoning regulations for SOBs.

**ORDINANCE ENACTMENT:** The City of Cleburne decided to update its existing SOB ordinance in response to plans by Houston and Dallas to revise their SOB ordinances, as well as related concerns that Dallas-Ft. Worth SOBs might subsequently infiltrate the Cleburne area. After learning that the County did not have an SOB ordinance, county officials and officials from all cities in the county were invited to appoint task force members to join the Cleburne's SOB Task Force. Due to an excellent response from the county and many cities within the county, a Joint County-Wide SOB Task Force was formed, realizing that a united stand on this issue was imperative.

After researching the law, consulting experts, examining sample ordinances from other jurisdictions, thoroughly investigating SOBs and their negative secondary effects on the community, and deciding which time/place/manner regulations were most appropriate to protect the governmental interests of their area, the Joint Task Force presented a draft of an SOB Ordinance to their city and county officials. For all its functions, the Task Force relied on the following guidelines: (1) Drafting an ordinance is done by the city planning office, the city attorney and the ordinance review committee, in reliance on case studies discussing secondary effects of SOBs. It is important that the actual studies be presented to legislators; (2) Public hearings should be held to discuss the ordinance and a legislative record created to preserve testimony, studies, maps, and other evidence; (3) Draft a good "Preamble" indicating the council's concern with secondary effects of SOBs; (4) Keep legislative record clean from any suggestions that impermissible motives have influenced the legislative process; (5) Be sure the ordinance allows reasonable "alternative avenues of communication" for SOBs to locate, and include zoning maps with measurements and available sites for the record; and (6) If interested in enacting a licensing ordinance, be sure that it is narrowly drawn to serve legitimate state interests without restricting 1A speech of SOBs. The report also gives extensive tips for how to hold public hearings.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Regulation of SOBs, including licensing, was necessary to combat the detrimental effects of SOBs, including high crime rate, depreciated property values, and spread of communicable diseases. In addition, the Task Force recommended enforcement of public nuisance laws, diligent prosecution of obscenity and sexual offense cases, and specialized training for local police and sheriffs.

## **Dallas, Texas**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated April 29, 1997**

This study, which is an update of a December 14, 1994 report prepared by The Malin Group, analyzes the effects of sexually oriented businesses (SOBs), specifically those that offer or advertise live entertainment and operate as an adult cabaret, on the property values in the surrounding neighborhoods. The study concludes that there is a much greater impact on the surrounding neighborhoods when there is a high concentration of these businesses in one locale.

The study found that the presence of an SOB in an area can create a "dead zone" which is avoided by shoppers and families with children that do not want to be in areas that also have adult uses. Also, the late hours of operation combined with loitering by unsavory people in the area where SOBs are located, appear to lead to higher crime in the area. In fact, a look at police calls for service over a four year period (1993-1996) shows that SOBs were a major source of the calls. One area averaged more than one call to police per day, where there was a concentration of seven SOBs. In that same area there was a much higher incidence of sex crime arrests than in similar areas with none or fewer SOBs.

This study applied the conclusions of several other studies completed by New York, Phoenix, Indianapolis, Austin, and Los Angeles, finding that the methodology used was appropriate and the conclusions were sound. This study concludes that the finding in these other studies would not be any different in Dallas. The studies found that SOBs have negative secondary impacts such as increased crime rates, depreciation of property values, deterioration of community character and the quality of life. In addition, real estate brokers interviewed in the Dallas area reported that SOBs are "perceived to negatively affect nearby property values and decrease market values." There were similar results from surveys taken in New York City and a national survey completed in Indianapolis and Los Angeles. The study also showed that community residents were concerned that the business signs used by SOBs were out of keeping with neighborhood character and could expose minors to sexual images. In areas where SOBs were concentrated, the signs were larger more visible and more graphic, to compete for business.

The study shows that a concentration of SOBs has a higher negative impact on the surrounding communities than an area with one isolated SOB. When concentrated, SOBs tend to be a magnet for certain businesses such a pawn shops, gun stores, liquor stores, etc., while driving away more family-oriented businesses. It can be harder to rent or sell vacant land in areas where SOBs are located. In fact, the negative perceptions associated with these areas have a significant impact on declining property values, even where other negative effects of SOBs are difficult to measure. Interviews with owners of commercial property near SOBs confirmed that the loss of property value manifested in a variety of ways, including: increased operating costs, like additional security patrols, burglar alarms, and trash cleanup; properties selling at much lower sales

prices; and extreme difficulty in leasing properties. Owners thought that if the SOBs were gone, their property values would increase.

## **Houston, Texas II**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated January 7, 1997**

**OVERVIEW:** This is a summary of a legislative report prepared by the Sexually Oriented Business Revision Committee for the Houston City Council, analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the City's current SOB ordinance, and making recommendations for amendments and additions principally pertaining to employee licensing, lighting configurations, location requirements, prohibition of "glory holes," elimination of closed-off areas, public notification of SOB applications, clear lines of vision inside SOBs, and dancer "no-touch" policies. This report summary includes discussion of prior regulation efforts, testimony by HPD Vice Department, citizen correspondence, industry memos, legal research, and summaries of public testimony.

**SUMMARY:** This study was a result of increasing community concern over increasing proliferation of SOBs under the existing SOB ordinance and the HPD's need for better control over increasingly repetitive serious violations at numerous SOBs. The Committee made the following findings: (1) Due to criminal activity associated with SOBs, licenses should be required for all SOB employees (requiring criminal background investigations); (2) There are obstacles to successful enforcement of public lewdness, prostitution, indecent exposure, and other criminal activities (i.e. entertainers can detect when a patron is an undercover cop); (3) "Glory holes" between enclosed booths promote anonymous sex and facilitate the spread of disease, so prohibition of these openings was recommended; (4) The lack of a clear line of vision between manager's stations and booths or secluded areas (V IP rooms) encourages lewd behavior and sexual contact (also difficult to observe during inspections); (5) Multi-family tracts were being counted as one tract, so new formula devised based on homeowners' property size; (6) Inadequate lighting in SOBs makes it difficult for SOB managers and police to monitor illegal activities, so minimum requirements for "exit" signs in Uniform Building Code was suggested; (7) Locked rooms within SOBs are usually fronts for prostitution, so prohibition of enclosed rooms recommended; (8) Public and expert testimony requested the inclusion of "public parks" as a sensitive use in the zoning location ordinance; (9) Repeated testimony requested notification to public regarding pending SOB permits, so posting of a sign notifying of pending permit was required; and (10) Continuing amortization provisions was preferable to grandfathering in those SOBs not in compliance with the amended ordinance (i.e. 6 months plus extensions for recouping investment).

**CONCLUSIONS:** The Committee concluded that strengthening the ordinance would achieve expedited revocation process, accountability to SOB employees through licensing, aid to police investigations by improved lighting and configurations, protections to the community by increasing distance requirements, and reduction of disease from anonymous spread by eliminating "glory holes."

## **Newport News, Virginia**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated MARCH, 1996**

**OVERVIEW:** As of November, 1995, there were 31 "adult use" establishments: 14 "adult entertainment" establishments ("exotic dancing girls", "go-go" bars, "gentlemen's clubs", etc.); 8 "adult book/video stores" (outlets selling and renting pornographic magazines, videos, and sex devices); and 9 night clubs (music, dancing, or other live entertainment). Of the 31 uses, 17 are in the General Commercial zone, 5 in the Regional Business District zone, 7 in the Retail Commercial zone, and 2 are in the Light Industrial zone. They are dispersed along two streets with a few clusters. A proposed ordinance would require "adult uses" to be 500 feet from from other "adult" uses and to locate at least 500 feet away from sensitive uses (churches, schools, homes, etc.), with no distance limits in the downtown zone.

**CRIME:** The Police Department researched calls for police responses to the 31 businesses, by address, for the period of January 1, 1994, to October 31, 1995, with a cross-check to assure accuracy of the calls to the correct address. The effects of concentrations of "adult uses" were also checked by comparing study areas with control areas. Study area 1, with 4 "adult" uses, had 81% more police calls than nearby control area 1. When adjusted for population differences, the study area had 57% higher police calls and 40% higher crimes than the control area. For the 31 sexually oriented businesses, there were 425 calls of those: 65% were to strip clubs and go-go bars, averaging 23 calls per "adult entertainment" business; night clubs had 30% of the calls, averaging 14 calls per business; and "adult" bookstores and video stores had 4%, averaging 2 calls per business; . The reasons for the calls included: 25 assaults; 18 malicious destructions of property; 39 intoxications; 60 fights; and 151 disorderly conduct incidents. A selected list of restaurants with ABC licenses averaged 11 calls for service during the same period. One particular downtown "adult entertainment" establishment had 116.7 "police calls per 100 occupancy" compared to a regular restaurant, non-adult use, located across the street, with 50 calls per 100 occupancy.

**MERCHANTS/REAL ESTATE:** A very high percentage of realtors indicated that having "adult uses" nearby can reduce the number of people interested in occupying a property by 20 to 30%; would hurt property values and resale of adjacent residential property. Realtors expressed concern for personal safety, increased crime, noise, strangers in the neighborhood, and parking problems. Merchants associations surveyed supported strengthening the city's regulations of "adult uses" and expressed a common concern that additional "adult uses" would contribute to deterioration of their areas.

## **St. Croix Co., Wisconsin**

### **Land Use Study**

**Dated September, 1993**

**OVERVIEW:** At the time the St. Croix County Planning Department did this study, the County had two adult cabarets, but did not have a problem with concentration of sexually oriented businesses (SOBs). The study acknowledges that SOB zoning ordinances have generally been upheld by the courts as constitutional and suggests the County consider following the lead of other communities who have enacted similar ordinances. The main concern surrounded possible growth of SOBs resulting from future plans for an interstate highway system linking St. Croix County and the great Twin Cities metro area. To preserve the County's "quality of life" the study indicates the need to take preventative vs. after-the-fact action.

**SUMMARY:** The study notes the continued growth of the SOB industry and analyzes the economic, physical, and social impact it has on the community. It examines documented economic impact of SOBs in Los Angeles, CA, Detroit, MI, Beaumont, TX, and Indianapolis, IN, noting that concentrations of SOBs results in decreased property values, rental values, and rentability/salability. General economic decline is also associated with concentration of SOBs. Residents surveyed in other studies perceived a less negative impact on property values of residential and commercial areas the further away SOBs were located. The study also noted that economic decline caused physical deterioration and blight. During night time operation hours, traffic congestion and noise glare could also be problems. Social impacts studied included negative effects on morality, crime, community reputation and quality of life. It noted the 1970 Commission on Obscenity and Pornography saying porn has a deleterious effect upon the individual morality of American citizens. It sites the Phoenix, AZ study reporting a tremendous increase in crime in three study areas containing SOBs (43% more property crimes, 4% more violent crimes, and over 500% more sex crimes). The study mentions Justice Powell's quote in *Young v. American Mini-Theatres* regarding using zoning to protect "quality of life."

The study analyzes different zoning techniques, including dispersal and concentration of SOBs, and their constitutionality. It also discusses the use of "special use" and "special exception" permits. Other regulatory techniques discussed include licensing ordinances, active law enforcement, sign regulations, and nuisance provisions. The study includes detailed examples of SOB definitions, a proposed zoning ordinance, and a bibliography of the sources used for this study.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The study recommended that the county adopt a zoning ordinance using the dispersal technique. It also suggested the county explore the possibility of licensing SOBs.

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1 This number is a great deal lower than the all time high of 140 in the late 1970s. During that time the Times Square area was referred to as a "sinkhole" by the (The Daily News, August 1`4, 1975).