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How Criminal Activity Nuisance Laws Can Hurt Victims of Domestic Violence

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Focus on Facts

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- As part of a class project, a group of Cleveland State graduate students (Masters of Public Administration and Law) successfully lobbied for the City of Euclid to amend its law in December 2016 to remove domestic violence as a listed nuisance.
- As a result of the public attention the students brought to this issue, several other cities in Cuyahoga County are studying their nuisance laws. Lyndhurst and Maple Heights, for example, have recently amended their laws to protect victims of domestic violence.
- We are using the adoption and implementation of criminal activity nuisance laws in Ohio to better understand how local governments make policy choices, to look for racial or other disparities in enforcement, and to examine the relationship between housing stability and contact with law enforcement.
- We also plan to expand this study to understand how criminal activity nuisance laws affect victims and their families in both the long and short term.

Distribution of Ohio Municipalities with and Without Nuisance-Related Domestic Violence (DV) Ordinances

