

### Real-Life Connection

Many teenagers live in towns and cities that have curfew laws, which say young people cannot be in public places at certain times. Some adults and teenagers feel that curfew laws are unjust. Other adults and teens feel the laws serve an important purpose. What do you think the two sides of this argument might be? Make a pro and con table like the one shown below. Use it to write what you think people might say to support their views.

Teen Curfews Are Useful

Teen Curfews Are Not Useful

### WORD BANK

**cause** (kawz) *verb* To **cause** something to happen is to be the reason that it happens.

**EXAMPLE:** *Your untied shoelace might **cause** you to trip.*

**oppose** (uh POHZ) *verb* When you **oppose** something, you take a position against it.

**EXAMPLE:** *We **oppose** cutting the music program to save money.*

**reaction** (ree AK shuhn) *noun* A **reaction** to something is the feeling it causes or the action taken in response.

**EXAMPLE:** *When Lucia read the cartoon, her **reaction** was to laugh.*

**solution** (suh LOO shuhn) *noun* A **solution** is an answer to a problem.

**EXAMPLE:** *Once I figured it out, the **solution** to the puzzle seemed simple.*

**violence** (VY luhns) *noun* **Violence** is the use of physical force to harm someone or to damage property.

**EXAMPLE:** *The **violence** of the crowd resulted in broken store windows.*

THE B  
2  
TI  
QU  
Y  
Now y  
down a  
the ga  
the car  
sidewa  
you. Yo  
your fi  
After  
second  
becaus  
driver.  
along  
Th  
over to  
what?  
your n  
the an  
watch  
the str  
game  
Th  
being  
do, yo



## Can all conflicts be resolved?

Many adults and law-enforcement professionals think, "Keep the kids off the streets during the night, and crime will go down." Others, though, say that teen curfews do not really do anything positive. They just restrict the rights of law-abiding teens. What do you think? As you read the article, ask yourself: **What do teen curfews accomplish?**

# The Curfew Question

**Y**our basketball game ran really late. Now you find yourself hurrying home down a dark street. Your mind is on the game. You do not even notice the car easing along the curb of the sidewalk until it stops right next to you. Your heart skips a beat because your first **reaction** is to be afraid. After all, it is late at night. Your second **reaction**, though, is surprise, because you recognize the car and driver. A police car has pulled up alongside you.

The police officer waves you over to the car, and you think, "Now what?" As soon as the thought crosses your mind, though, you also know the answer. Looking quickly at your watch, you realize that you are out on the street past curfew. Overtime at the game kept you too late.

Though you have a good reason for being out, you might still get a ticket. If you do, you or your parents will have to pay a fine.



Curfew laws ensure that teens do not stay out too late.