

TOWNSHIP OF BETHEL, ORDINANCE NO. 1979-1

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHEL,
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, PROHIBITING
CERTAIN CHILDREN FROM BEING OR REMAINING
IN OR UPON ANY OF THE STREETS, ALLEYS,
PARKS OR PUBLIC PLACES IN THE TOWNSHIP
OF BETHEL AT NIGHT AFTER SPECIFIED HOURS
UNLESS ACCOMPANIED AS HEREIN PROVIDED;
PRESCRIBING THE MANNER OF ENFORCEMENT;
AND FIXING THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF
THE ORDINANCE

The Township of Bethel, Berks County, Pennsylvania,
hereby ordains as follows:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for boys and girls under the age of sixteen (16) years (such persons being defined for the purpose of this Ordinance as "children") to be or remain in or upon any of the streets, alleys, parks or public places in the Township of Bethel at night after the hour of 10:00 o'clock P.M. unless such child is accompanied by any parent, guardian or other person having the legal custody of such child. It shall be unlawful for boys and girls between the ages of sixteen (16) years and eighteen (18) years (such persons being also defined for the purpose of this Ordinance as "children") to be or remain in or upon any of the streets, alleys, parks or public places in the Township of Bethel at night after the hour of midnight (12:00 o'clock P.M.) unless such child is accompanied by any parent, guardian or other person having the legal custody of such child. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any of such children going to or returning from work or scheduled church or school functions

Section 2. It is hereby made unlawful for any parent, guardian or other person having the legal care or custody of any of the children of the ages above designated to allow or permit any such child, ward or other person under such ages

while in such legal custody to go or be in or upon any of the streets, alleys, parks or public places in said Township after the times prohibited in Section 1 of this Ordinance, except as therein provided.

Section 3. Any child as above designated found upon the streets, alleys, parks or public places within the Township in violation of Section 1 of this Ordinance shall be taken into custody by the Township Police and delivered to his or her parents, guardian or a person having the legal custody of said child and report thereof made immediately to the Township Secretary, who shall make a record thereof in a book to be kept for that purpose. If said parent, guardian or person having legal custody of said child shall again allow him or her to be on said streets, alleys, parks or public places in violation of Section 1 of this Ordinance, said parent, guardian or person having the legal custody of said child so offending shall, upon conviction thereof before any Justice of the Peace or District Justice, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and costs, and in default of payment of such fine and costs, to imprisonment in the County Jail for not more than thirty (30) days, and a like fine or imprisonment shall be imposed upon any person aiding or abetting in the violation of the intent and purpose of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Said children who shall violate this Ordinance more than three (3) times shall be reported to a society or organization whose purpose is to take charge of incorrigibles and delinquents and proceedings shall be then taken in the Court of Common Pleas or Juvenile Court for their permanent welfare and a like procedure shall be taken in cases where the arrest of the parent, guardian or legal custodian

shall not be effective or where, for any other reason, the provisions of Section 1 of this Ordinance cannot be made effective by the fines and penalties imposed hereunder.

Section 5. The police officers of the Township in taking children into custody under this Ordinance shall use their discretion in determining age and in doubtful cases may require positive proof and until such proof is furnished, the officers' judgment shall prevail.

Section 6. Any Ordinance or part of any Ordinance inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed insofar as it is inconsistent herewith.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this *15th* day of *October*,
A.D. 1979.

(08/16/79)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF BETHEL

Leah H. Brown
Edwin L. Yeakley
John O. Gunkley