

# Noise control



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Noise Control SITUATION A: You have been notified that there is a case before Council to approve a new nightclub in your neighborhood. The owners of the proposed nightclub have operated several other clubs in your city. They have a reputation for being insensitive to those who live nearby in the community.

QUESTION 1: What restrictions would you recommend the city require the new nightclub to meet before granting an approval Should hearing protection be worn by employees

First, I feel that in order to decide on what restrictions to recommend, the community as a whole should meet in order to discuss any foreseen problems that may occur. Community members may have problems with the night club being in the area in the first place, but if they are able to voice their concerns and implement restrictions, they may feel better about the process. In my opinion, the first restriction that community members will desire is that of a set boundary. People visiting the night club should not be allowed to loiter, and must stay within the actual boundaries of the night club, and not wander into the residential area. Second, the night club should be expected to shut its doors at a particular time period each night, and stay open no later than 1: 30 AM in the morning. Next, the night club should not be too loud so as to disturb the people in the neighborhood; the night club should maintain a respectful volume so that the citizens of the area and the children of the area are well rested enough to wake up and go to school and work in the morning. If the volume is kept at a level where it does not interfere with the community, the community would be more likely to accept the nightclub in its area. The night club should also make sure to maintain a heavy security staff, since the night club is close to a residential area, and

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intoxicated individuals should not be allowed to wander or wreck havoc in the residential area. Furthermore, a heavy security staff will probably also help to make the community itself more comfortable with the idea of a night club in its area.

Hearing protection should be worn by employees of the night club. Often times, the loudness of the music can cause ear drum damage, and in order to prevent harming their employees, the night club should certainly consider promoting this idea.

SITUATION B: Radon gas emits Alpha particles which may cause lung cancer if inhaled by an individual. Several friends of yours are purchasing a new home in an area where you understand that radon gas may be common.

QUESTION 2: What advice would you give to your friends who are considering purchasing a new home in an area where radon gas levels may be high

I would advise my friends, from the bottom of my heart, not to purchase a home in that area. I would hope to dissuade them from such a decision by informing them about the potential effects radon gas could have on them. I would hope that my concern would cause them to reconsider their actions; if it would not, I would do research on my own and attempt to bring that research to my friends. I would remind my friends that " Indoor Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and the leading cause among non-smokers" (Indoor Radon). I would do my best to try and prove to them the hazards. If they still decide to move into the area, there is obviously little I could do if I brought so much information to the forefront already, but I would be careful to visit the area for my own protection and safety. I would also attempt to let my friends know I am a little

uncomfortable with visits to their houses because of what I have learned about radon gas. Also, if I had children, I would be especially careful about visiting their area, and I would do my best to let my friends know how I felt in a tactful manner.

One of the friends suggests that inexpensive tests can be performed and most problems can be remediated. Do you agree

To me, again, even if this were true, it simply would not be worth the risk, especially if my friends had children. I am not sure if believing in the test or not is really something that is important, anyway. However, chances are, I would be suspicious. I would ask my friends where they heard such information, and what sources back up this fact. I would then proceed to do my own research on those sources in order to discover whether or not the test is actually helpful. Basically, I'd need more than just words to prove this to me; I'd need some kind of proof before I'd be willing to believe my friend.

#### Works Cited

" Indoor Radon." United States Environmental Protection Agency. 4 March 2005. < <http://www.epa.gov/radon/>>