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Targeting Ice Cream Trucks

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 Posted By: [Catherine Varnum](#)

It's a familiar summertime sound. Now, ice cream truck drivers are the targets of a new law to keep your children safe from sex offenders.

It's now a crime for a convicted sex offender to operate an ice cream truck. Many parents were shocked to learn lawmakers have just passed this law.

Up until now, a convicted sex offender could've been serving your child ice cream when the truck drives through your neighborhood. However, at least one company in the Southern Tier didn't wait for the lawmakers to make that illegal.

"Moe Knows Ice Cream" has been serving kids ice cream in Schuyler County for 15 years. The truck is only driven by one person, Maureen Colunio. She says even if she had more drivers, background checks would be a must before they got behind the wheel of the ice cream truck. "It's a child attractor. You hear that music and kids come running. They're on the spot with ice cream and we need to be more protective of them," said Ice Cream Truck Driver Maureen Colunio.

Parents 18 News spoke with agree this law will protect their kids more. They were shocked to learn lawmakers didn't put the law into effect earlier. "Without any warning. They have no idea who they're working with it's not a good idea," said Tony Bennett of Elmira. "Before a kid goes up to a truck and it's a sex offender giving the kid ice cream and they could try to handle your child while serving them," said Kim Eastwood of Elmira. Now that the law has passed, parents like Eastwood say she feels safer letting her kid get ice cream from a summer time tradition.

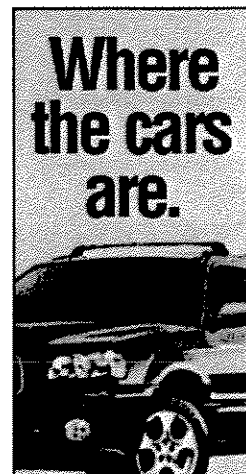
If a convicted sex offender is caught operating an ice cream truck, it's considered a misdemeanor, and they could be facing up to a year in jail.

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