

Drug Trafficking, Homeless Encampments, Infringement On Public Freedom, Rights, Safety

Core Principle: Rights Are Shared, Not Absolute

In legal systems, **freedom is reciprocal**. Your freedom ends where another person's **health, safety, or peaceful enjoyment** is materially infringed.

Homelessness or addiction may create unsafe conduct that spills into public space.

How Certain Conditions Can Infringe on Peaceful Enjoyment

1. Public Safety & Threat of Harm

When drug trafficking or unmanaged encampments introduce:

- Violence or credible threat of violence
- Weapons, trafficking, coercion, or gang control
- Fires, explosions, or hazardous materials

→ This infringes on:

- The right to bodily safety
- Freedom of movement
- A reasonable expectation of security in public and private spaces

2. Health & Sanitation Impacts

Unmanaged public drug use and encampments can lead to:

- Human waste in shared spaces
- Needle exposure and biohazards
- Spread of communicable disease
- Contamination of parks, sidewalks, waterways

→ This infringes on:

- Public health

- Children's safety
- The right to use shared civic spaces without risk

3. Noise, Disorder, and Psychological Stress

Chronic exposure to:

- Yelling, threats, drug activity, or erratic behavior
- Property damage and vandalism
- Constant emergency response presence

➔ This infringes on:

- The right to **peaceful enjoyment of one's home**
- Mental health and well-being
- Sleep, work, and daily functioning

4. Property Rights & Economic Harm

Effects may include:

- Trespassing and theft
- Damage to homes, vehicles, and businesses
- Loss of foot traffic and closures
- Reduced property values

➔ This infringes on:

- Lawful ownership and use of property
- Livelihoods
- Economic stability of neighborhoods

5. Unequal Burden & Forced Exposure

When cities fail to intervene:

- The burden is shifted to residents, families, and small businesses
- Vulnerable populations (children, elderly, disabled) bear disproportionate harm

➔ This infringes on:

- Equal protection under the law
- The right not to be involuntarily exposed to danger

Drug trafficking is always a crime. Being homeless may be a crime. Endangering others, trafficking drugs, or occupying public space in ways that cause harm or cause others to feel unsafe is an **infringement on public freedom.**

A rights-respecting society must:

- Protect the dignity of vulnerable individuals
- **AND** protect the public from ongoing harm

These are not mutually exclusive.

What Lawful Balance Looks Like

A healthy system does **all** of the following:

- Enforces laws against trafficking, violence, and coercion
- Provides treatment, shelter, and pathways out, **not tolerance**
- Prevents permanent safety and rights of shared civic spaces, *no homeless loitering*
- Restores parks, sidewalks, and neighborhoods for public use
- **Protects residents' right to safety and peace**

Tolerance must end. American citizens have a right to safety, peace and freedom. Safety must come first.