Dear Reporter,

There are some juveniles who have committed heinous, violent sex crimes that need to be monitored for years, but research shows that most juveniles with a sex offense have a relatively low re-offense rate (committing another sex crime). So much money and manpower are spent monitoring a large group of people where the majority will statistically never commit another sex offense.

This excessive, unnecessary monitoring by law enforcement is overtaxing our resources, thereby spreading our resources too thinly. Phillip Garrido, a truly dangerous sex offender in California, who kidnapped and held Jaycee Dugard in his backyard for 18 years and abused her repeatedly, slipped through the cracks. He was on the sex offense registry for prior incidents of molestation and kidnapping. Because law enforcement was overtaxed by monitoring California’s 83,000 registrants, they never performed a thorough search of his house that would have located Dugard.

Monitoring so many juveniles for years, who committed a one-time-only sex offense when they were younger with a frontal lobe that was not fully developed, is a waste of valuable resources that could be spent on monitoring the minority of registrants who are considered high risk.

In Florida, once these juveniles reach 18 years of age, they will be placed on the sex offense registry for life, regardless of their risk level.

I am enclosing some evidence-based information on juveniles who have been placed on the sex offense registry.

Sincerely,