

From: karjef@aol.com
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: definition of family change to 6 unrelated adults
Date: Saturday, February 27, 2021 1:42:08 PM

I am opposed to changing the definition of family and allowing 6 rather than 4 unrelated adults to live in what have previously been known as "single family homes." Sure, some St. Paul residents can come up with stories of nice, polite college students who are quiet and respectful. This dismisses the huge number of complaints for decades about college students who are drunk, noisy, damage property, steal or destroy Christmas ornaments, party late into the night. Even well behaved students: if you have 6 unrelated adults, that could be 6 cars taking up parking where a single family might have one or two. A family often coordinates meals, entertaining company, coming and going to activities, bedtimes and work schedules, etc. Unrelated adults can have odd uncoordinated schedules and hours, lots of visitors, noise, lights which can significantly have a negative impact on the lives of neighbors.

The problem is that colleges like St. Thomas are pouring students out into the neighborhoods rather than providing ample student housing on campus. It has been a long time coming for St. Thomas to REQUIRE that first and second year students live on campus. This was just implemented in 2021. I went to a big university on the East Coast many decades ago and it was required that freshman live on campus and were not allowed to have a car on campus.

I don't understand why the quality of life for current St. Paul residents who are homeowners is not more important to the City of St. Paul. Without adding to the burden of city living by crowding more people into single family homes, residents who live in the city experience more crime, more pollution, more airport noise, more traffic etc. than those who live in the suburbs. We put up with it because we enjoy the amenities, being close to shops, restaurants, walkable neighborhoods, the river, good colleges, museums, etc. but there comes a tipping point where the city is favoring more density which will increase all the problems I mentioned above...more noise, more crime, more pollution, more hassle.

Please help retain the quality of life for St. Paul neighborhoods by retaining the 4 unrelated adults definition.

K. Jefferson