



Examples

- *Your child, five years of age, accompanied by a friend's family, wants to visit a movie house to watch an animated cartoon.*
- *Your family is visited by an adult cousin. Your son, aged 17, takes him to a new disco. Both of them stay until 1 a.m. and return home, as promised and permitted.*
- *Your child attends a leisure activity of a sports club supervised by a guide/coach. The entire group goes to a dance in the youth centre.*

In all the above cases, you, the parents, have appointed the accompanying adults to the status of custodial persons to take care of educational custody for the given occasion.

You may issue a custodial order in the following cases:

- Your daughter/son below the age of six years may visit a movie theatre, provided she/he is accompanied by a custodial person, which otherwise would be reserved to parents.
- Children (as of six years), independent of film certificates, may not even watch youth-certified movies in movie theatres unless the performance is finished by 8 p.m. The time limit for adolescents aged below 16 years is 10 p.m. and that for adolescents above 16 years midnight. This rule does not apply if your child is accompanied by yourself or an appointed custodial person.

- Your children below the age of 16 may visit discos, dances and restaurants when accompanied by an appointed custodial person. This, otherwise, is legally permitted only in the company of a parent.
- Legally specified time limits are binding on adolescents as of 16 years for visits to any of the above places or involvement in any of the above events. The time limit (midnight) does not apply to adolescents accompanied by persons with parental power or appointed custodial persons.

The following considerations should be made before a custodial order is issued:

- The appointed custodial individual shall be of full age.
- The appointed individual should be a mature personality and capable of rendering responsible support to your child in the situation concerned.
- Your child's safe trip home from an evening event (e.g. disco) should be assured.
- You should ensure that the appointed custodial person is not under the effect of alcohol or other drugs while accompanying your child.
- Children and adolescents below the age of 16 years must not even consume alcohol in the public when escorted by adults with parental authority. Consumption of tobacco products and brandy-containing beverages (e.g. rum, vodka or brandy-containing mixed drinks) by children and adolescents below the age of 18 is equally prohibited.
- Make sure that the person(s) you have appointed are capable of living up to their care-related responsibility.
- Certain scenes in a movie may arouse fears and


irritation, which may be of relevance to visitors below the age of six years. Children in this age group usually cannot distinguish between a movie plot and reality. This should be realised and considered for adequate response by an appointed custodial person.













































Supervised presence of your child in a child-care facility (e.g. kindergarten or after-school home), youth centre, leisure activity group or sports club is always associated with an educational responsibility.

The Protection of Young Persons Act provides just the legal framework for protection. Parents, therefore, should carefully think about relevant situations and persons involved and make an adequate assessment of what is tolerable for their children and of the extent to which they can trust their appointed custodial persons. A formal care-taking agreement, therefore, might be advisable. Such agreement should be the basis for the educational mission and should be produced on request. The agreement may be oral or in writing, since no binding format has been legally specified. You may have to be accessible by telephone in case of an oral agreement to give disco or movie theatre staff a chance of reassurance, i.e. verification of the information provided to such staff by your child or appointed custodial person.

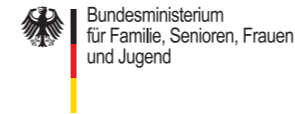


Legal provisions for youth protection (excerpt)

 Not permitted

	Protected age groups	Children below 14 years		Adolescents below 16 years		Adolescents below 18 years		Exceptional permission
		without company of custodial prs.	with company of custodial prs.	without company of custodial prs.	with company of custodial prs.	without company of custodial prs.	with company of custodial prs.	
§ 4, Sections 1+2	Restaurants					Until midnight		5 a.m. through 11 p.m. for one meal or drink (§ 4, Sect.1) permit by local authority (§ 4, Sect. 4)
§ 4, Sect. 3	Night clubs							
§ 5, Sect. 1	Public dances, e.g. disco					Until midnight		permit by local authority (§ 5, Sect. 3)
§ 5, Sect. 2	Dances sponsored by youth welfare bodies or artistic/folklore performances	Until 10 p.m.		Until midnight		Until midnight		permit by local authority (§ 5, Sect. 3)
§ 6	Gambling rooms (participation in games of chance)							Fun-fairs, folklore festivals with low-value prizes in kind (§ 6, Sect. 2)
§ 7	Presence at events with undesirable influence upon moral development and on high-risk industrial premises							Ban limitable by local authority (restrictive age/time provisions)
§ 8	Places with undesirable effect on moral development							
§ 9 Sect. 1.1	Sale/consumption of brandies (incl. alcoholic mixes or brandy-containing food)							
§ 9 Sect. 1.2	Sale/consumption of other alcoholic drinks (beer, wine etc.)							*** Company of custodial person (§ 9, Sect. 2)
§ 10	Sale/consumption of tobacco items							
§ 11	Public movie events rated 6/12/16	As of 6 years until 8 p.m.		Until 10 p.m.		Until midnight		Films labelled "Info" or "Educational" (§ 11, Sect. 1) for rating 12/6 company of custodial person (§ 11, Sect. 2)
§ 12	Sale of data media with films/games - rated 6/12/16.							Labelled "Info" or "Educational" (§ 12, Sect. 1) Not permitted

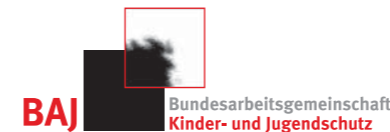
Sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth



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Published by
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Kinder- und Jugendschutz e. V. (BAJ)
Mühlendamm 3, D-10178 Berlin



www.bag-jugendschutz.de



Dear Parents,

What kind of change is brought about by the new Protection of Young Persons Act? More leeway and latitude for decisionmaking for all persons with parental power and at the same time more responsibility!

The Protection of Young Persons Act is to support you, natural and custodial parents, in your educational mission.

The time and age limits so far applicable to children and adolescents for visits of restaurants, movie theatres and discos have been kept in force by legislators and are intended to help you for orientation. They are legally binding on the business operators concerned. Nevertheless, the philosophy of legal protection may occasionally be in conflict with your child's desire for participation. You may contribute to reversal of some of those time and age limits by accompanying your child to attend a certain event. However, you may not be in the mood of joining in person or may not have time or opportunity to do so. In such case, natural parents may appoint a "custodial parent", i.e. a third person asked to take care of the minor.