

STREET GANG

RECOGNITION AND AWARENESS

Objectives:

- To inform teachers/adults in or out of the school system about gangs.
- To be able to identify gang members or those that want to be in gangs. (Wannabe's)
- To learn how to help juveniles before its too late.

What is a Criminal Gang?

35-45-9-1 “Criminal Gang” defined as:

- At least five or more persons that specifically participate in and require as a condition of membership to commit a felony which share a common:
 - Symbol
 - Name
 - Sign

That engage in criminal activity.

What is Criminal Gang Activity?

35-45-9-3 “Criminal Gang Activity” defined as:

- A person who knowingly or intentionally actively participates in a criminal gang commits criminal gang activity.

What is a confirmed gang member?

Must meet at least three of the following criteria:

- Admits gang affiliation
- Has gang related tattoos
- Wears gang colors
- Identified by other affiliates
- Writes about affiliation
- Photographed with affiliates
- Associates with known members
- Has family members affiliated with a gang

What is a suspected gang member?

- Must meet one quality from the criteria list.
- Maybe bumped to confirm gang member status with additional contact.

What makes one join a gang?

Family motives for joining:

- Stressful family life at home
- Lack of parental involvement
- Low or non-existent expectations from parents
- Limited English speaking households
- Abuse or neglect
- Permissive truancy attitudes

What makes one join a gang (cont.)?

Personal motives for joining:

- Low motivation
- Low educational/occupational expectations
- Low self-esteem
- Behavior/discipline problems
- Drug abuse
- Peer pressure
- Protection
- Negative police involvement
- Glamorization by media (Fashion, music, T.V., etc.)

What family vs. gang has to offer

Family

Food
Clothing
Love
Shelter
Discipline
Belonging
Status

VS.

Gang

Food
Clothing
Love
Shelter
Discipline
Belonging
Status
Power
Sex
Drugs
Guns

Common myths about gangs:

- Majority of gang members are juveniles.
- Gang related crimes are gang against gang.
- All gangs are “Turf” oriented.
- Females are not allowed to join gangs.
- “The cure” to gang membership is imprisonment.
- Gangs are a law enforcement problem.

“Clues”

- Changes in behavior
- Poor academic progress
- Lack of interest in extracurricular activities
- Unexplained truancies
- Resentment towards authority
- Signs of alcohol/drug abuse
- Change in clothing/friends
- Gang oriented drawings in books, clothing, body, etc.

Left and Right Rule

Left Rule

- People
 - Everything to the left side of the body
 - Hats and belts to the left
 - Rolled up left pant leg
 - Five pointed star or crown
 - Hate “Folks”

Left and Right Rule (cont.)

Right Rule

- Folks
 - Everything to the right side of the body
 - Hats and belts to the right
 - Rolled up right pant leg
 - Six pointed star or pitchfork
 - Hate “people”

Gangs

- Recruitment: starting from age 14 and up
- Deal with drugs and guns
- **Money = Drugs**
- Crimes include: shootings, murders, and drug deals
- Greater majority are drug related
- The organization of the gangs are similar to that of the mafia

Folk gangs

- Imperial gangsters (IG)
- Spanish gangster disciples (SGD)
- Black gangster disciples (BGD)
- Two – Six Nation (2 – 6N)

Imperial Gangsters

- “Colors” – **Pink** and **Black**
- Six point star, pitch forks, pink panther

Black Gangster Disciples

- “Colors” – **Blue** and **Black**
- **Six point star, flaming winged heart with tail, pitch forks**

2-6 Nation

- “Colors” – **Black** and **Tan (Beige)**
- Bunny head (Playboy bunny), 2 and 6 dice
- Originated out of Chicago 26th St.

“People” gangs

- Vice Lords
- Latin Kings

Vice Lords

- Mostly African-American
- Colors are **Red** and Black
- Five point star, top hat, cane, money symbols (\$)

Latin Kings

- Mostly Hispanic
- Colors **Black** and **Gold**
- Five dots, five pointed star, three-five pointed crown, and a kings head (playing cards)

Sur 13

- New gang
- All Hispanic
- Originates from California and South America
- No association with People or Folks

Organization of gang member

- Hardcore
- Regular members
- Futures, associates, and “wannabe’s”
- Potential “could be’s”

Combating gang influence

1. Develop good communication with your student or child
2. Spend time with the child
3. Occupy the child's free time
4. Set limits
5. Set curfews
6. Discourage children from hanging around gangs
7. Don't buy and discourage the use of gang style clothing
8. Don't allow the writing of gang symbols
9. Learn more about drugs and gang activity
10. Participate in school or community activities

Thank you for your attention!