

HCOM Senior Capstone Digital Poster Spring 2007

Name: Ana Echeverria
Project Title: Gang Prevention and the Community
Concentration: Pre-Law

Project Abstract

The issue of gangs and gang violence has been an ever growing problem in just about every community. In order to combat this growing problem many prevention programs have been established, however, determining which method is most effective can be deceiving. I firmly believe that the most effective prevention method is associated with those who are directly affected by the problem, which in this case are the members who make up the community. After conducting my research I have found numerous flaws within other prevention methods and ultimately conclude that the community is the best way to combat gangs because of its widespread availability of resources and ability to include everyone.

Project Context & Contributions

This issue of gang violence has been a constant growing epidemic across the



Photo taken by: Rolando Vega 2005.

Research Questions

1. How important is gang prevention in our communities?
2. Normally how large of an issue are gangs in communities?
3. Who is the typical target for prevention methods?
4. Are there any downsides to any prevention methods?
5. How are the prevention methods set up by the government or community being funded?

Evidence

In my research I used information located from scholarly sources, books, and related internet websites. In order to obtain an in-depth understanding of my topic I referred to a couple different MLO's. The first particular MLO that stands out is MLO2. This class gave me a lot of good insight with how the media and journalism interprets gang activity across California. Secondly, MLO1 played a critical role in the researching aspect of my topic of gang activity. This allowed me to fully utilize my empathic listening skills to incorporate all different viewpoints into my research and not just focus on one particular area.

Project Format

To present my research I have chosen a 30 page in depth research paper. This research paper includes an introduction, literature review, findings, and a conclusion. Also incorporated into my research paper are a couple of appendices and an annotated bibliography.

whole United States. Gangs are responsible for a number of different crimes in our communities and the majority of them go unsolved. Now days it seems as if gangs are recruiting kids at a very high rate no matter how old or what gender. There are many different prevention programs that are established to help stop this growing trend in gangs. In my research, I focus on some of the main types of prevention programs that are available in the community and highlight some of the negative points that are sometimes overlooked. After analyzing the research I took a stance that I felt best benefited the whole community.

Relevant Links

<http://safestate.org/index.cfm?navID=12>

http://www.ncpc.org/Topics/Violence/Strategy_Gang_Prevention_Through_Community_Intervention_With_High-Risk_Youth.php

<http://www.csgv.ca/content.php?ID=63>

being funded?

6. How does the community feel about gang prevention?
7. What prevention method has had the most success? Which has had the least?
8. Why do people feel they need to seek out involvement into gangs?
9. How large is the involvement in most gang prevention programs?
10. How many prevention programs do most communities have?
11. What are the school systems doing to educate children at a young age?

Key Findings

Gangs have become a major epidemic in our societies. Everywhere we now look some signs of gangs is visible. Due to this significant increase in gangs and gang violence many prevention programs have been established. Although some of these prevention programs may sound good at first thought, there are still some flaws that exist. The best prevention method to prevent gangs and gang violence is community action and assertiveness. This is the best overall means of prevention that covers everyone and everything.

Selected Bibliography

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