



SPEAKERS BUREAU TRAINING MANUAL

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Citizens Crime Commission of Tarrant County
903 Summit Avenue
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
877-5161

1:00 p.m. **LIVING IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY: PANEL ON CULTURAL SENSITIVITY**

Arlene Byrd
Executive Director
United Community Centers

Sgt. Jesse Hernandez
Fort Worth Police Dept.

Keng Vang
Tarrant County
MHMR

1:30 p.m. **TATTOOS AND NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION**

Steve Marshall
Tarrant County DA's Office

Bill Farmer
Tarrant County Deputy Sheriff

2:00 p.m. **WHY DO KIDS JOIN GANGS? RECRUITMENT AND INITIATION**

Panel of Gang Members

Arranged by: Cle Benson
Tarrant County CSCD

Brenda O'Quin
Tarrant County
Youth Advocate Program

3:00 p.m. **WRAP UP, NEXT STEPS** Maureen Doss
Chairman, Resources Committee
Gang Task Force

3:30 p.m. **ADJOURN**

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GANG TASK FORCE
SPEAKERS BUREAU
Expectations of Volunteers

Thank you for your commitment to be a pro-active participant of the Gang Task Force of Tarrant County. The success of achieving our goal to increase public awareness of the growing gang problem depends upon you and your level of involvement. Therefore, we have compiled a list of guidelines to assist you in contributing to the fulfillment of our goal. They are as follows:

- 1.) A minimum 2 year commitment (at least 5 presentations/yr. as your schedule permits)
- 2.) Participate in training sessions and other related workshops
- 3.) Complete your report forms in a timely fashion and return them to the Crime Commission office so that we may keep current records of community presentations.
- 4.) If you must change a speaking commitment, please contact Patsy Thomas or Maureen Doss at the Crime Commission office (877-5161) at least 48 hrs. prior to the scheduled time so that a replacement may be found. (You will be given the contact person's name and phone number in case you need to reschedule, but please do this as a last resort.)
- 5.) Please try to go to presentation sites in groups of two. You will be provided with a current list of Speaker's Bureau members and their phone numbers.
- 6.) Any audio/visual equipment, overheads, etc., will need to be reserved 24 hrs. before your presentation and returned to the Crime Commission office no later than 24 hrs. following your presentation.
- 7.) Please contact us for any other resources you feel you might need or that you might need to be referred to for additional information.

CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION OF TARRANT COUNTY

MISSION STATEMENT

To reduce crime and the fear of crime in Tarrant County through programs which involve the business community, citizens, organizations and institutions.

GOALS

- * To assure fair, swift, certain and uniform penalties for lawbreakers.
- * To assure that resources, facilities, programs and personnel are available to carry out the penalties imposed and rehabilitation of offenders.
- * To improve the coordination and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.
- * To conduct, support and/or promote programs in crime prevention.
- * To improve the effectiveness of law enforcement by providing assistance, support and resources.
- * To support and promote programs that address the causes of crime.
- * To assure that the public is informed about the criminal justice system's programs and activities.

THE GANG TASK FORCE

The Citizens Crime Commission of Tarrant County formed a Gang Task Force at the behest of the Fort Worth City Council in November, 1990 to develop a plan to deal with the issue of gangs and gang related crime that would include recommendations to combat the problem. The Gang Task Force realized from the outset the need to make recommendations for a county-wide solution of the problem. Committees and leadership were designated as follows:

Gang Task Force Chairman:

Robert Fernandez, CPA
Fernandez and Company, P. C.

Education Committee:

Carolyn Bell, Chair
Vice President, FWISD School Board

Prevention Committee:

Joe Cordova, Chair
Executive Director,
Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth

Intervention Committee:

Eloy Sepulveda, Chair
Attorney

Enforcement/Legislation Committee:

Hon. Sharen Wilson, Chair
Judge, Criminal District Court #1

Community Committee:

Belinda Gonzalez Hampton, Chair
Tarrant County Juvenile Probation Services

Research Committee:

Rich Boswell, Chair
Challenge, Inc.

Media Committee:

Jack Tinsley, Chair
Senior Vice President
Editorial Chairman,
Fort Worth Star Telegram

Gang Task Force Coordinator:

Patsy Thomas

Citizens Crime Commission:

Kelly White Rountree
Executive Director
Earle A. Shields, Jr., Chairman
Board of Directors

Ultimately, over 200 Tarrant County citizens have contributed to the final recommendations of the Gang Task Force.

HOW TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM

Solving the gang problem is not a simple task which can be accomplished within a short period of time. Tarrant County is fortunate in that it is still at the early developmental stages of hard-core, organized crime. However, the situation can change swiftly and dramatically unless a unified, community-based, holistic attack is launched immediately to convey the message that gangs and the related crime they perpetrate *are not going to be tolerated in Tarrant County.*

The citizens of Tarrant County must take advantage of and benefit from the experiences of large metropolitan areas in the nation - Los Angeles, Chicago, New York - and face the facts and reality of how gangs are contributing to the loss of our *next* generation as well as the crime of which we are all victims *today*. We must be cognizant of trends and implications for the future and plan accordingly. Being PROACTION is superior to REACTION.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GANG TASK FORCE

The Gang Task Force recommends a holistic, community-based, grass roots plan of action to address the problem of gangs and youth violence in Tarrant County. Specific strategies have been developed for implementation by designated entities of the community who significantly impact youth. The Citizens Crime Commission of Tarrant County is committed to seeing this plan into action and SUCCESS! The Citizens Crime Commission accepts responsibility for administration and oversight of the implementation of the plan.

A CALL TO ACTION

The Gang Task Force plan outlines specific strategies for designated entities in the community in three categories:

- 1. PREVENTION** targets pre-gang involvement. It is the most cost effective approach to the problem in terms of human, monetary, and time resources.
- 2. INTERVENTION** targets fringe members and wannabes. It requires creative approaches which take advantage of the fluidity of gang membership. Intervention must take place before a full commitment is made to the gang and/or a life of crime.
- 3. ENFORCEMENT** targets hard core gang members who have committed to the gang and the related criminal activities.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF STRATEGIES FOLLOWS

SPECIFIC STRATEGIES INCLUDE:

- Recognizing that children today lack consistent ethical instruction, **SCHOOLS** must accept the role of teaching social and moral as well as academic skills to students.
- **SCHOOLS**, with the assistance of the Citizens Crime Commission, should develop a *Handbook on Gangs and Violence Control*.
- **SCHOOLS** should develop and implement a life skills curriculum, K-12, to teach good decision making skills, to build self-esteem, and to provide information related to life issues.
- **SCHOOLS** should expand counseling programs into ALL levels of schools with more focus on social needs of youth and their families.
- **YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES** must be willing to look beyond traditional delivery systems and take services into the neighborhoods at times most needed by the community.
- **NEIGHBORHOODS** must take ownership of the problems and reclaim their communities.

- **BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS** must take the lead in creating meaningful job opportunities and training programs for youth.
- **POLICE DEPARTMENTS** need to become more community-based in an effort to gain trust and respect of citizens as well as to foster a better understanding of issues within neighborhoods.
- **POLICE STOREFRONTS** need to be created in public housing and in high risk areas.
- **ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES** in Tarrant County should participate in the county-wide computerized Automated Gang Intelligence Network (AGIN) by budgeting the \$50 to \$150 per month required for line fees.
- **GOVERNING BODIES** should tailor programming and times of use of public facilities to the needs of neighborhoods.
- **DECISION-MAKERS** need to value today's youth as tomorrow's resources and more effectively demonstrate a respect for their welfare by developing policy and resources for protecting their futures.
- **RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS** must become less insular and make a concerted effort to meet the social and physical, as well as spiritual, needs of youth and their families.
- **MEDIA** must recognize the power it exerts over youth and provide responsible programming which promotes positive qualities in youth, eliminating programming which glorifies negative behaviors and crime and ultimately desensitizes youth to violence.

STRATEGIES THAT MUST BE IMPLEMENTED BY ALL GROUPS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT DEAL WITH THE GANG PROBLEM INCLUDE

- Sensitivity training for all professional staff and constituents to respect cultural differences and ethnic diversity
- Development of community-based partnerships, to cut bureaucratic red tape territorial barriers
- Innovative and non-traditional methods of service and program delivery
- Education of professional staff and constituents about gangs, their activities, and the related issues of violence, drugs, and weapons possession
- Long term commitment to solving the problem
- Recognizing the value of PREVENTION, making it a high priority in programming and budgeting
- Creation of more opportunities for building self-esteem and civic pride in youth
- Creating and expanding mentoring programs for youth at risk
- Facilitating accessibility of services to youth and families who need them
- Removing graffiti as soon as it appears to tell gangs they are not welcome
- Commitment of resources (human, monetary, time) to provide long-term evaluation of prevention/intervention programs

DEFINITION OF GANG

Although many definitions of gangs exist, the work of the Gang Task Force is based on the definition as developed by the convening group.

“A gang is a number of individuals banded together as an independent entity who are recognized by the community as such and as a result of said affiliation, participate in illegal activity collectively or individually.”

THE GANG PROBLEM IN TARRANT COUNTY

Although neither the charge nor the intent of the Gang Task Force was to conduct a scientific assessment of the gang problem in Tarrant County, the following basic assumptions can safely be made based on our findings:

1. Gangs, usually composed of distinct racial groups, are perpetrators of criminal acts in Tarrant County.
 - a. Hispanic gangs are primarily territorial in nature although, according to police, they are becoming more profit motivated. Initiation rites into the gang include aggravated assaults and thefts. Drive-by shootings have been attributed to retaliation between rival gangs.
 - b. *Identified* black gangs are primarily profit motivated by the sale and distribution of crack cocaine. Violence is used as an enforcement tool.
 - c. Asian gangs normally prey on their own community, terrorizing victims through home invasions which result in brutalization of victims, rape, and robbery. Some parts of Tarrant County are considered “safe house” locations for traveling Asian gang members.
 - d. White supremacist gangs have been involved in murders and racially motivated harassment in Tarrant County.
2. Some municipalities within Tarrant County are refusing to acknowledge the presence of gangs in their cities.
3. Gang-related crime is escalating at an alarming rate.
4. Violent, profit-motivated gangs feared nationally (Crips, Bloods, Asian gangs, etc.) have infiltrated Tarrant County and found it fertile territory.
5. Denial of gang activity is dangerous. Communities should utilize indicators of gang activity (graffiti, flying colors, etc.) as warning signs for impending possible violence.
6. Poverty, a depressed economy, lack of education, drugs, and accessibility of weapons are major contributing factors to gang development and activity.
7. Crimes attributed to gangs in Tarrant County include drive-by shootings, murder, drug trafficking, burglary, robbery, attempted murder, auto theft, rape, aggravated assault.
8. Gang membership is fluid. While some gangs boast having 50-100 members, only 15-25% of the membership are considered “hard-core” members with the remainder being “associates,” “fringe members,” or “wannabes.”

9. The Gang Task Force survey of the 38 law enforcement agencies in Tarrant County identified 210 gangs with as many as 2,861 *identified* members. (Note this number does not include peripheral or fringe members or "wannabes".) Based on the assumption that as many as 85% of gang members are not totally committed to the gang, the implication for Tarrant County is that as many as 2,432 of these identified youth can still be salvaged if aggressive intervention strategies are implemented.
10. To develop and implement effective strategies for solving the problem of gangs and juvenile violence, focus must be placed on *behaviors* and the subsequent implications of gangs rather than on jargon, terminology, and "catch words."
11. While not wishing to glorify gangs nor validate their negative behaviors, the Gang Task Force firmly believes that Tarrant County must take advantage of the plight of cities like Los Angeles and Chicago and avoid their mistakes by acknowledging the existence of gangs, striving to promote community awareness of the issue, and initiating an aggressive, proactive approach to the gang situation while it is still manageable.

REASONS WHY YOUTH JOIN GANGS

Involvement in a gang is only a manifestation of many social ills plaguing our youth today. Research and interviews with gang members and service providers have developed the following lists of reasons for gang affiliation (NOT listed in priority order):

1. Low economic conditions
2. Fear/ need to protect self or family
3. Need to belong/recognition
4. Low self esteem
5. Cultural expectations
6. Avoidance of rejection
7. Intimidation
8. Too much unstructured, nonsupervised time
9. Profit from illegal drug trade
10. Strength in numbers while perpetrating a crime
11. Family tradition/cultural expectations
12. Lack of social activity; "no place to go"
13. Not wanting to feel different
14. Peer pressure
15. Younger boys (5th graders) try to emulate older boys
16. Lack of religion, value system, ethics within youth's home
17. Lack of work ethic demonstrated in the home
18. Sense of adventure
19. Lack of parental interest, support
20. Self deception
21. Insecurity
22. Unhappy kids trapped in unhealthy environments
23. Lack of education, lack of success in school, dropping out

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO GANG AFFILIATION

Low parental attachment is the major reason cited for causing most social problems in youth. Research reports validate the belief that parents and "parenting" play key roles in determining whether or not a juvenile joins a gang.

1. The Lamar T. Empey and Steven Lubeck (1971) study of 233 persistent teenage offenders and 85 non-delinquent teenagers in Los Angeles showed that the effects of poor child-parent harmony had a statistical significance on delinquent behavior.
2. Larson and Myerhoff (1968) found that anti-social behavior in boys results from disintegrated families.
3. L.N. Robins (1966) found that family disharmony, particularly when associated with an alcoholic or "sociopathic" father, had a direct correlation to gang affiliation.
4. Short and Rivera (1968) found that gang members' only contact with their significant adults was "in the streets".
5. Martin Roth, M. D. (1972) concluded that violent families produce violent children and that the most favorable haven for violent children is in a gang because gang members understand, accept, and encourage each others' violence.
6. Sonja M. Stefanie, a specialized officer at Travis County CSCD in Austin, Texas, developed and implemented an intensive supervision caseload for graduates of the Del Valle Correctional Complex 180 Boot Camp. The study, conducted in October 1990, included attitude interview, objective history, behavioral observations, and officer impressions of contributing factors. The results indicate that participation in Austin gangs correlates with low parental attachment to the youth. Of the 40 studied, 16 reported receiving physical punishment in their teenage years.
7. Carlela Vogel describes factors which put youth at risk in her article "*Priority Problem: Youth At Risk*" in *The United Way Problem-Based 1991-1993 Priorities Report*. The reality is that factors which place youth at risk of gang affiliation are synonymous with other social problems.

Factors placing youth at risk include:

- the demise of the traditional family unit
- parents lack parenting skills
- all adults work and leave children unsupervised
- home environments are stressful due to economic demands or custody
- mobility of society hampers development of stable peer relationship
- estimates are that half of all marriages today end in divorce
- 53.6% of all children under 18 live in households headed by a single female
- 2,427 child abuse cases were confirmed in Tarrant County in 1989
- one third of Texas families is affected by alcohol and drug abuse
- one fourth of Tarrant County children live in poverty; 42% of African American children and 43.2% of Hispanic children live in poverty
- 31% of all single parent families (54% of whom have female heads) are unemployed
- one out of eight 17 year olds is considered functionally illiterate; that is, they have reading and writing skills below the sixth grade level
- 6,261 students dropped out of school in Tarrant County in the 1987-88 school year
- 1,915 babies were born to teenage girls 18 and younger during 1988

DEFINITIONS OF GANGS

Youth gangs and gang incidents are defined differently across and within cities and jurisdictions by criminal justice, community based organizations, and schools. The lack of a common definition clearly prohibits an accurate assessment of gangs and related activities nationwide as well as locally. Following are examples of the variety of definitions which exist.

The definition of the Citizens Crime Commission was developed by consensus of law enforcement, service providers, prosecutors, and educators. It is the basis of recommendations contained in this report.

CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION: "A number of individuals banded together as an independent entity who are recognized by the community as such and as a result of said affiliation, participate in illegal activity collectively or individually."

FORT WORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT: A formal policy for the identification of gangs or gang members has not been developed.

FORT WORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT GANG INTELLIGENCE UNIT

1. A gang is defined as a number of individuals banded together as an independent entity, who are recognized by the community as such and as a result of said affiliation participate in illegal activity collectively or individually.
2. A gang member is an individual member of a group (as described above) who views himself as an integral part of the group and is recognized by the community as a member of said group.
3. An associate is an individual who fraternizes with gang members and participates in illegal activity but is not recognized by the gang as an integral part of the group.
4. Peripheral members are those individuals, mostly adolescents, who are at risk of becoming gang members. These youths are not recognized by the gang because of their young age but exhibit "gang type" behavior in efforts to gain recognition.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S 1991 REPORT

"Current legislation defines a gang as a group of two or three or more persons who have a common name, or identifying sign, or identifying symbols, or leadership; and who engage in a pattern of criminal gang activities. Criminal gang activity is then defined in terms of specific offenses, with the proviso that at least two such offenses are committed within a three year period. The offenses include murder, capital murder, involuntary manslaughter, aggravated assault, arson, criminal mischief, robbery, aggravated robbery, tampering with a witness, and retaliation; and various offenses under the Health and Safety Code, having to do with manufacturing, delivering, or possession of controlled substances."

YOUTH GANG SUPPRESSION AND INTERVENTION PROJECT, POLICE GANG SYMPOSIUM:

This is a two-year research project funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to identify and formulate promising justice system and also community based approaches for dealing with emerging and chronic gang problems. Twelve cities nationwide participating, including Fort Worth, did not agree on a definition but developed the following consensus:

"A gang is a group of people, predominantly male, who commit illegal acts often, but not exclusively, of a violent nature."

JOE MONTOYA, CRISIS SPECIALIST, DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

"A youth gang is a self-formed association of peers bound together by mutual interests, with identifiable leadership, well developed lines of authority, and other organizational features. Who act in concert to achieve a specific purpose which generally include the conduct of illegal activities and control over a particular territory, facility, or type of enterprise."

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

"A gang" is a number of individuals that meet ALL of the following criteria:

- (1) They have a name or an identifiable leadership.
- (2) They claim a geographic, economic, or criminal enterprise turf/territory.
- (3) They associate on a continuous and/or regular basis.
- (4) They engage in delinquent and/or criminal activity.

FLORIDA

"A gang member" is a person who engages in criminal gang activity and who meets two or more of several criteria:

- Is a youth under 21 who is identified by a parent or guardian as a gang member
- Admits to being a gang member
- Is identified as a gang member by a documented reliable informant
- Resides in or frequents a gang's territory and adopts its dress, hand signs, or tattoos, and associates with its known members
- Is identified by an untested informant with corroboration
- Has been arrested more than once in connection with the gang
- Is identified as a gang member by physical evidence (eg, photos)
- Has been stopped in the company of known gang members four or more times."

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

A gang is a group of persons joined together to commit acts of violence or any other anti-social behavior.

CHICAGO

Chicago uses four criteria to define a gang:

1. It is an organized group with a recognized leader and usually a less powerful under command.
2. It is a unified group which remains together during peaceful times as well as during conflict (in contrast to a mob which may unite in a riot but whose members go their separate ways when the riot is over).
3. The group shows unity in obvious ways, earrings, gang colors, sweaters, etc.
4. The group's activities are either criminal or somehow threatening to a larger society.

DEFINITIONS OF "GANG" AND "GANG MEMBERS."

- _____ Those who wear logos on their clothing that team together and do crime or drugs.
- _____ None currently described.
- _____ A gang is a group of people that share the same ideas or goals. A gang member is one who belongs to the group.
- _____ A group of students who by their behavior intimidate students, fight on/off campus defending "friends", are seen always together in areas where trouble occurs. They sometimes try to dress the same, but school policy prohibits this.
- _____ We have no definition; fortunately, we have not had any gang problems.
- _____ A student who claims to be a gang member and wears the clothing, symbols, etc. of the group.
- _____ We see colors (L.A. Raiders), but we do not believe we have gangs on campus.
- _____ Organized group of young people under one name.
- _____ Gangs - A group identifying itself by dress, particular styles or locations.
Gang Member - An individual belonging to a particular gang.
- _____ Person(s) who violate law or school or school district rule and are identified by self or testimony of others to have committed this violation for or because of their association with an avowed criminal group. The group would be the gang. The person or the individual would be the gang member.
- _____ Anyone who participates in an organized, illegal activity as a part of a group (informal) or club (formal).
- _____ Usually the dress code of a gang member is either a T-shirt and/or cap with street nickname.
- _____ A student who is associated with a known gang and becomes involved with a known gang and becomes involved in school or often school problems. We have identified gang members through nicknames, police reports, and weekend incidents.
- _____ Any group of 2 or more students who carry on activities on campus or off as a group that does not abide with campus or district policy.
- _____ "Student wearing gang-related clothing" is the only reference to a definition.
- _____ Any group of students grouping together in a manner to cause educational disruption on school premises.
- _____ A student or students who comprise an organization that enrolls members without any rules of the school. The members are selected without all students having choice to join.
- _____ Group or groups that come together for violence.
- _____ We have an unofficial definition: A group of students with similar identifiable characteristics such as dress, behavior and appearance, whose purpose is to project the image of a gang member.
- _____ A gang is an organized group of students with rules for membership, a gang name, means of identification (logo and/or colors), and a specific "turf" sometimes as simple as a hangout location. The group dictates what a member will and not do. The group is the significant other. Gang members have allegiance to each other, often wear the same type of clothing, and support each other in activities such as fighting, assault, vandalism, graffiti, truancy, substance abuse, and other criminal offenses.
- _____ Group banded together for a bad purpose.
- _____ Self identification, police reports.

EVOLUTION OF GANGS IN AMERICA

- 1700s - (*Pre Civil War*) / Irish immigrant gangs identified
 - 1865 - (*Post Civil War*) / First Ku Klux Klan founded in Tennessee
 - 1873 / **Industrial Revolution** (brought more immigrants to U.S.)
Child Labor Reform (put 100,000's of children, ages 5-15, out of work and on the streets)
 - 1900 / Thousands of street gangs existed
 - 1912 / Irish gangs declined Italians, Jews, Chinese Tongs formed gangs
 - 1915 / Second Klan chartered in Georgia
 - 1914-1918 / **World War I** - Gang activity diminishes
 - 1919 / **ERA of Prohibition** = "Golden Age of Gangs"
 - 1920 / Immigration from Asia and Europe stopped first sign of black gangs
 - 1924 / **Depression** - Klan reached zenith with 5 million members
 - 1943 / **World War II** - Heavy migration of blacks and Puerto Ricans to North seeking wartime jobs. Zoot Suit Riots
 - 1945 / White soldiers return from war reclaiming jobs, displacing minorities
 - 1950 / Introduction of drugs causes gangs to become more formalized unit
 - 1954 / **Desegregation** triggers white supremacists activities
 - 1958 / **First Neo Nazi Movement in U.S.**
 - 1960 / **National Klan Committee** meets in North Carolina, Texas Prison Gangs begin developing
 - 1964 / **Civil Rights Movement** begins
 - 1965 / **Immigration and Naturalization Act**: turning point in history of Chinese immigration to U.S.
- Vietnam War**
- Bussing/Desegregation**
- Black Militant Movement**
- War On Crime**

- 1970 / Crips found in Los Angeles
- 1974 / Jamaican gangs originated in Kingston
- 1975 / Immigration of Vietnamese to U.S.
- 1976 / Fall of Saigon
- 1979 / Immigration of Boat People
- 1981 / Downward trend of Klan activity
Identity churches emerge
Crack Cocaine appears on market
- 1989 / Neo Nazi group found in Dallas
- 1990 / George Bush signs **Federal Hate Crime Statistics Act**

- 1997 / Hong Kong passes from control of Britain
to Peoples Republic of China

THE EVOLUTION AND SOCIOLOGY OF GANGS

HISTORICAL PERIODS OF GANG DEVELOPMENT

Analyzing gang activity from an historical perspective highlights certain social, economic, political, psychological, and geographical factors that characterize the development of gangs. Gangs usually develop among ethnic and racial groups which are often victims of discrimination which manifests itself in housing, education, politics, health, and employment deficiencies.

Gang activity in the United States has had five distinct historical periods: Pre-Civil War Era, Post-Civil War Era, Industrial Revolution Era, Post World War I Prohibition Era, and the Modern Post World War II Era.

Youth gangs were first identified in the United States in the 18th century. They existed mainly in large urban areas and were predominantly white, recent immigrants. During the Pre-Civil War Era, the Irish were the first great wave of immigrants to the United States, but America did not prove to be a land of opportunity but instead a land of hunger and discrimination. Many of the unemployed adolescents and young men formed street gangs as a means of survival. As the Irish moved to other cities, parallel gang activity developed.

The Post Civil War Era experienced the emergence of gangs from other nationalities. The Klan was organized by six young men who were unemployed veterans. Southern whites joined the Klan because they felt that under reconstruction, the majority of whites who supported the Confederacy were denied the right to vote and lost much of their land, identity, and status. They terrorized blacks and other ethnic groups. Meanwhile, German gangs that were forming in the North robbed and beat strangers as well as their neighbors.

The Industrial Revolution expanded the labor force and drew even more immigrants to the United States where landlords and factories exploited them and put their children to work. By 1873 more than 100,000 children were working in U. S. factories. Children as young as five years old were employed until the Child Labor Reform Movement raised the average age for work to 16 years. Suddenly tens of thousands of unemployed, unsupervised children ages 5 to 15 were roaming the urban streets. This era is considered the true beginning of juvenile gangs in the U.S. Like their adult counterparts, they had gang fights and committed crimes. In 1889 of the 82,200 people arrested in New York, 10,500 were under the age of 12.

By the early 1900s thousands of street gangs existed and did not change much for the next fifty years with the exception of guns and increased use of drugs. By 1912 Irish gangs began to decline in size because they had gained legitimate economic and political power. Italians and Jews began to take over the gangs with Chinese Tongs forming their own gangs in the Chinatowns. They engaged in violent acts for hire.

World War I saw gang activity diminish greatly between 1914 and 1918. Reforms of 1916 brought overthrow of local governments resulting in the imprisonment of over 200 of the most important gang leaders. Immigration was all but cut off.

The Mafia rose to power during the Era of Prohibition in 1919. This era is called the golden era of gangs. Boot-legging became a multi-million dollar business. After the repeal of Prohibition, the Mafia shifted its focus to prostitution, gambling, and drugs.

During the 1920s immigration from Europe and Asia was cut off only to be replaced by the heavy migration of Blacks and Puerto Ricans to the urban north seeking war time labor positions during World War II. This continued until after the war ended in 1945. After the war, white soldiers returned to re-claim their old jobs leaving many jobless. The result was a rise in the number of black and Puerto Rican gangs marking the beginning of the modern post war era of gang development, which extends to today.

The civil rights movement in the mid 60s brought rapid social and political change. Super gangs emerged in several cities. The War on Poverty was stalemated, and on some fronts, totally lost.

While all this was happening, poverty became "urbanized" and structural changes in the economy resulted in the emergence of a new ghetto underclass. Drugs and firearms proliferated in urban areas and the "War on Crime" and the war in Vietnam drew attention away from efforts to work with ghetto youth.

Gangs have diffused to some cities as a result of the increased mobility of society. Although historically gangs have organized around neighborhoods, today's gangs are not as attached to particular boundaries as were earlier gangs. Court-ordered school desegregation had the effect of removing the neighborhood base of gangs. In Milwaukee, black children in one all-black neighborhood were bussed to 95 of the 108 elementary schools. Children who came together initially as "corner groups" evolved into gangs with no meaningful neighborhood identity. Parents and neighbors found their ability to participate in school affairs and to control Milwaukee's emerging gang problem severely reduced.

Today's gang problem has been compared to the golden age of the Mafia with drug trafficking replacing boot-legging. Gang memberships tend to cross ethnic lines and have more female involvement.

RESEARCH

Research and historical documentation of the evolution of gangs is sparse. A few papers written in the 1920s dealt mainly with Chicago street gangs. Publication of Albert K. Cohen's *Delinquent Boys: The Culture of the Gang* in 1955 began a period of intense interest in theories and reasons for juvenile delinquency and in delinquent gangs especially.

Most research in the 1960s was conducted by public and private delinquency agencies often with police cooperation. It included mostly field research and observation relying primarily on data from police, other law enforcement contacts, and informants.

While a few gang studies were published in the 1970s, by the middle of that decade a shift had occurred in research of the topic. Accompanying this shift was a preoccupation with delinquency control, rather than its prevention and with suppression of gang activity, rather than its monitoring and "working with" gangs in the interest of delinquency prevention as many police departments had done in the early to mid 1960s.

Changes were occurring at the same time federal delinquency policy was increasingly influenced by insights which had been highlighted in reports of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice and its Task Force on Juvenile Delinquency in 1967. These reports stressed the importance of community efforts to prevent delinquency. Gangs continued to exist through the 1970s with minimal attention from officials and the media. By the late 1970s police and city officials became increasingly concerned about gang activity and responded by building their gang units and gathering statistics. The passage of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 added even more funds to the millions of federal dollars being spent in support of projects designed to provide opportunities for youth in communities targeted as at risk for involvement in delinquency.

By the early 1980s gang problems had once again emerged in the public consciousness. Police departments in major cities had continued to develop their gang intelligence programs. A few gangs were reported to be expanding into smaller cities spurred in part by the attraction of local drug markets.

In 1987 the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention established a research and development program to address the gang problem in policy and programmatic terms through a cooperative agreement with the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. The National Youth Gang Suppression and Intervention Program is conducting a four-stage process of assessment, model program development, technical assistance, and dissemination. Studies of youth gang problems have been conducted in 45 cities and manuals have been produced.

C. Ronald Huff, Director of the Criminal Justice Research Center and Professor of Public Policy and Management at Ohio State University, describes the state of gang research in the 1990s in the following way: "In my own judgment, we have not yet arrived at a point where we can embrace a general theory of gangs or recommend by consensus the policies that ought to be pursued to prevent and control gangs." He stresses the need for more research on gangs, especially in the context of their social and economic environment addressing the issue of why youth in the same environment do not affiliate with gangs. Huff also believes that gangs need to be viewed as a manifestation of other problems in our socioeconomic structure and in certain ecological areas of our cities.

Longitudinal studies funded by OJJDP are currently being conducted in Denver, Pittsburgh, and Rochester to determine the relationship of gang membership to juvenile delinquency. Findings reported thus far by Terrence P. Thornberry, Professor in the School of Criminal Justice at the State University of New York at Albany, and Dr. David Huizinga, a research associate for the Institute of Behavioral Science at the University of Colorado, indicate that gang affiliation has a direct correlation to higher rates of crime and that it stimulates street crime. Drug usage and sales as well as possession of illegal weapons are more prevalent among gang members than non-gang members.

Ronald Chance, project director of the National Youth Gang Suppression and Intervention Program, reports that the rate of violent offenses for gang members is three times as high as for non-gang members. Gang membership also appears to prolong the extent and seriousness of criminal careers.

Because of the lack of research and consensus on what a gang or gang incident is, the scope and seriousness of the problem nationally is not clearly or reliably known. Gangs are known to exist in all fifty states and there is reasonably good evidence to verify an increase in gang-related violent crime. Several factors are attributed to the growth of gangs and their related crime: drug use and drug trafficking, poverty, dysfunctional families, poor education, and lack of job opportunities.

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

Gangs present a series of paradoxes. Gangs minister poorly to such adolescent needs as preparation for marriage, jobs, and getting along with others. Boys who join for protection are often exposed to dangers that nongang boys can more easily avoid. Girls may join because they are attracted to male members who then exploit them sexually often resulting in teenage parenthood and female-based households. Gang members are more likely to become involved in crime and to be victims of crime than are nongang members.

Economic changes have created a permanent underclass. These unskilled, under-educated youth may become attracted to the underground economy of crime and drugs, while others have become so demoralized that they are ready candidates for alcohol and drug addiction. Crimes associated with the underclass victimize all races and ethnic groups. Gangs are a social problem, not an ethnic problem.

Joblessness and the lack of stable jobs with prospects for advancement have resulted in a shortage of desirable male marriage partners for young women. Sexual exploitation is found in every society but its consequences are more evident when social and economic resources are lacking and sexual conquest is one of the few available avenues for status achievement. Studies of gang members 30 years ago said that accepting the responsibilities of marriage and fatherhood was important but a profound change in this attitude is apparent in newer studies.

James Coleman, co-author of *Public and Private High Schools: The Impact on Communities*, distinguishes the differences and importance of financial capital, human capital, and social capital for young people. Financial capital refers to wealth or income. Human capital is approximated by parents' education as an indication of the potential for the child's cognitive development. Necessary to the development of that potential is social capital, the quality of inter-generational relationships or networking with the

adult community. A deficit affects the ability to combat pressures on the street toward sexual exploitation, drug abuse, and crime. The amount of social capital depends on whether both parents are in the home, the amount of time they spend with their children, and the quality of the relationships. Extended families - aunts, uncles, grandparents, nieces, nephews, cousins can form a durable supportive unit for youth.

If youth do not receive enough social capital at home, they look to other sources. Because of fewer jobs, fewer men "grow out" of gangs. Crime provides some youths not only with money and goods but also with a social and occupational identity that has meaning beyond its monetary benefits. The gang is dependent on the community for protection against undue police interference with both legal and illegal activities and for recruitment of new members.

COSTS TO SOCIETY

Attorney General Dan Morales made the following statement at the Gang Task Force Conference on August 16, 1991: "We are in effect not willing to spend money now on prevention programs, but we tell the kids that we are reserving a room for them in ten years at a cost of \$50,000". In short, "pay now or pay later". Prevention is cheaper and much more cost effective than building and maintaining prisons in terms of money as well as humanity.

The Committee on Economic Development of the State of Texas stated in 1988, "Many prevention programs are expensive, but for every \$1.00 spent today to prevent failure, we can save \$4.75 in the cost of remedial education, welfare, and crime further down the road. The price of corrective action may be high, but the cost of incarceration is far higher."

In Texas in 1988, it cost \$93 per day to institutionalize a youth offender in a Texas Youth Commission residential facility. This is a cost of \$33,945/year. Cost of juvenile probation services can be as low as \$3.19 per day per client for supervision.

According to the July 7, 1991 edition of the *Dallas Morning News*, many trauma units in hospitals across the nation are being swamped by gunshot victims with multiple wounds often from drug or gang-related violence and usually inflicted by sophisticated automatic weapons. Their hospital stay will probably be 50% longer than average and cost the hospital \$10,000 more per patient.

Nationwide, hospitals lose \$170 billion a year providing trauma care and Texas hospitals sustained \$157 million in losses from unpaid trauma care in 1989. As violence, much of it associated with gangs and drugs, has increased in the inner city, more victims, many of whom have no insurance, are delivered daily to emergency rooms. Across the nation, cities are losing their trauma units due to high costs of treatment, law suits, and loss of medical staff.

BARRIERS

1. Lack of information for youth and their families about available resources
2. Lack of accessibility of services
3. Lack of money for services
4. Lack of a county-wide, coordinated effort
5. Lack of positive male role models, especially in minority homes
6. Fear for personal safety
7. Tendency of the community to solve problems vertically instead of horizontally, cutting across bureaucratic and territorial barriers
8. Reluctance to admit the problem from fear of validating or glorifying gangs
9. Lack of commitment to the longevity of successful programs
10. Tendency to be *reactive* instead of *proactive*
11. Lack of transportation
12. Lack of appropriate services
13. Lack of respect for ethnic diversity and cultural differences
14. Lack of parental interest or cooperation
15. Cost of liability insurance and its adverse effect on the availability of some services and their cost

16. Lack of services in some parts of the county
17. Increased violence make some hesitate to participate in some programs during certain hours
18. Lack of coordination among some related services
19. Hesitancy of some to admit to problems and to seek help
20. Complexity of application process
21. Bureaucracy
22. Naivete, indifference
23. Cultural, religious, ethnic differences affect attitudes toward services
24. Lack of indigenous staff working with individual populations
25. Feeling of hopelessness
26. Lack of positive role models for youth
27. Reluctance to leave neighborhood to seek services
28. Turfism among service and resource providers
29. Lack of funding for programming
30. Programs not offered at times/locations most needed by community/clients
31. Lack of prevention programs
32. Society as a whole does not value prevention because it cannot be immediately or readily evaluated
33. Lack of scientific research (field studies) which adequately substantiate the problem
34. Lack of initiative of policy-makers to react to serious situations prior to their being personally affected
35. Lack of sanctions within the juvenile justice system to hold youth accountable for their actions
36. Lack of communication among divisions within the criminal justice system

PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

THE NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE: REASONS FOR FAILURE

Failure to solve the youth gang problem is a consequence of major procedural and policy deficiencies nationally, statewide, and locally. Reasons cited by Walter B. Miller, retired from the Center for Criminal Justice of the Harvard Law School, from a national perspective, are:

1. The nation has failed to develop a comprehensive gang control strategy.
2. The problem is viewed in local and parochial terms instead of from a national perspective.
3. Programs are implemented in the absence of demonstrably valid theoretical rationales.
4. Efforts to systematically evaluate program effectiveness have been virtually abandoned.
5. Resources allocated to the gang problem are incommensurate with the severity of the problem.
6. There is no organizational center of responsibility for gang problems anywhere in the United States.
7. There is a deep-rooted reluctance to face up to the implications of the social context of gang life.

WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN A NATIONAL GANG POLICY?

Miller suggests the following elements must be included in a successful national youth gang policy:

1. A comprehensive national gang control strategy must be developed.
2. Efforts in local communities should be informed by policies based on a national-level perspective.
3. Gang control operations should be supported by sound theoretical rationales.
4. The determination of which methods are most effective must be based on carefully conducted evaluation research.
5. Serious efforts must be made to convince those who control resources that gang control should be granted a much higher priority.
6. A federal office of youth gang control should be established.
7. Accurate information on the social class and ethnic characteristics of gang communities should be used as a major element in the development of more effective gang control strategies.

WHAT IS BEING DONE NATIONALLY?

(1) A National Center for Gang Policy was established recently in Washington, D.C. for the purpose "to develop policies, strategies, and programs to prevent gang violence and crime; to offer constructive opportunity to gang members and young people at risk of becoming gang members; to promote safe streets for families and communities." The stated agenda of the NCGP includes public education about gangs, seminars, conferences, briefings, sponsorship of research, evaluation of policies and programs, counsel and technical assistance to government, private foundations, and community organizations, maintenance of a database of policies, strategies and programs related to gangs, tracking national and state legislation, and managing a speakers bureau.

(2) The Youth Services Bureau of the Department of Housing and Human Services has awarded one of six research grants to the Fort Worth Police Department for the purpose of determining identifiable characteristics of why some youth join gangs while others in the same environment do not. Lt. Craig Slayton of the Fort Worth Police Department is managing the research which is in the first of three years funding.

(3) The Office of Justice Programs has begun an initiative to define gang and gang related crime and coordinate data provided by other agencies in an effort to create a support system for more effective investigation, evidence gathering, and prosecution of gang-related crimes. It will provide a clearinghouse for new ideas and innovative programs.

(4) The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has responded to the increase in gang activity across the nation by developing a national training initiative, Gang and Drug Police Operations Leading to Improved Children and Youth Services (POLICY). A series of seminars are being held throughout the nation to help jurisdictions develop an interagency plan to combat gangs and drugs. The seminars include guidelines, program examples, and planning materials. Five Texas cities have been selected to participate in the POLICY seminar.

(5) OJJDP and the National School Safety Center, funded by OFFDP, have developed workshops for community development of a SAFE POLICY, School Administrators for Effective Police, Prosecution, Probation Operations Leading to Improved Children and Youth Services. Focus is on how chief executives of schools and the criminal justice system can coordinate their efforts and share information to improve school safety, supervision, control, and delinquency prevention efforts. Fort Worth has been selected to participate in the SAFE POLICY workshop in December, 1991 in Austin, Texas.

(6) The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is developing an analysis of emerging theory and practice on gangs which will include descriptions of anti-gang programs and a synthesis of opinion on which approaches work best with which gang types and age groups. NIJ's 1991 Research Plan examines the issues of gangs, drugs, crime, violence, the link between gangs and organized crime, and the criminal career of gang members. Particular attention is being given to the phenomenon of gang migration, its extent, the gangs involved, factors contributing to its development, and effective strategies for combating it.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM ON THE STATE LEVEL?

The Attorney General's Report of 1991 cites the need for a comprehensive gang policy and gang law which should include the following features:

- Guidelines or mandates for establishing and maintaining a statewide gang database, based on uniform criteria for what determines a gang, gang members, gang activity, and gang-related activities
- Suppressive measures, in the form of enhanced penalties and vertical prosecution strategy for gang-related offenses
- Provisions for gang prevention programs with an emphasis on community involvement with provisions for supervised recreation and economic opportunity

The Attorney General's office is coordinating participation of Texas cities in the OJJDP national training seminars for development of POLICY and SAFE POLICY.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM IN TARRANT COUNTY?

The issues which are of concern at both a national and state level are concerns for Tarrant County as well. To address these issues, the Gang Task Force has accomplished the following:

- Development of a legislative package, under the leadership of Bob Gill of the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office, which includes changes to the Texas Penal Code, the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Texas Family Code which will provide more sanctions for juvenile gang offenders. (See attachments for complete package of suggested legislative changes.) The proposed legislative changes have been presented to the Texas Attorney General's Office and will be presented to the Texas Legislature at its next regular session.
- Proposal and implementation of Automated Gang Information Network (AGIN) which will provide a method of information sharing among law enforcement agencies throughout Tarrant County. The Tarrant County District Attorney's Office provided \$60,000 from drug seizure monies to purchase the necessary hardware needed by each agency. The county data processing department has written the program which will be available by October, 1991 to agencies agreeing to pay the \$50 -150 monthly line charge.
- Publication and distribution of a directory of all gang intelligence personnel and police chiefs in Tarrant County to all agencies to facilitate communication between municipalities.
- Convening of a series of community meetings throughout the county, including a conference in North Fort Worth, in an effort to provide a forum for citizens to voice concerns, to provide resources and information, and to facilitate community mobilization to address the issues of specific neighborhoods.
- Development of strategies for schools, businesses, community-based organizations, media, youth-serving agencies, government on all levels, neighborhoods, religious institutions, and criminal justice to address the problem of gangs in Tarrant County. The Citizens Crime Commission is committed to provide leadership in the implementation of the plan.
- Ongoing communication of law enforcement agencies concerning gang activities.

STREET GANGS

Opinions on the origin, development, and structure of street gangs are as vast and varied as the terminology used to describe them. Traditional street gangs usually develop around a particular geographic location and are usually ethnically oriented. Because development is slow, notice is not often taken until behavior of the gang becomes violent. Transition from social club to criminal activity can be due to the pressures of adolescent development, poverty, discrimination, ethnicity, and materialistic values.

The National College of District Attorneys' paper on "Prosecution of Street Gangs" says "Let's face it, like it or not, there is little more exciting to adolescent and young adult males than extreme physical action. The exhilaration of ...engaging the police in a high speed chase, shootouts with rival gang members, escaping death or serious injury by a fraction of a second, cannot easily be replaced by scholastic endeavors, trips to the local aquarium, or even girls!"

THEORIES ON THE STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

According to a concept paper on "Gang Intervention, Diversion, and Prevention Strategies," prepared for the Youth Diversion Project of Milwaukee by the Human Development Systems, there seem to be three stages of development associated with the evolution and transformation of peer groups into gangs: envious comparison, ethnocentrism, and illegal market-place identity. Although the first two are universal to adolescence in this society, the third is a direct result of poverty and discrimination.

Envious Comparison (ages 8-15) is the time most youth begin to separate from their families in an attempt to develop an independent sense of identity. Middle-class youth use the status and material possessions of their parents to create a standard for themselves in society. Youth who do not have even the basic necessities often turn to crime to attain status. Ethnocentrism (ages 14-17) is the time around puberty when youth gravitate to the group for identity.

The Illegal Market Place Identity Stage (ages 17-early 20s) is usually only reached by low-income youth groups because middle-income youths have more alternatives. During this stage of gang development, the gang is trying to build a stable economy to support individual gang members and gang activities. At this stage they become a stable intergenerational group which can assume a variety of structures.

THEORIES ON THE STRUCTURES OF STREET GANGS

According to the concept paper on "Gang Intervention, Diversion, and Prevention Strategies," prepared for the Youth Diversion Project of Milwaukee by the Human Development Systems, there are four structures of street gangs.

I. VERTICAL GANG STRUCTURE:

A gang with "vertical structure" is made up of youth of about the same age living in the same immediate neighborhood. This type can have a long history with its motto, name, morale, and fighting tradition being handed down from one generation to the next. There are three age levels in the Vertical gang:

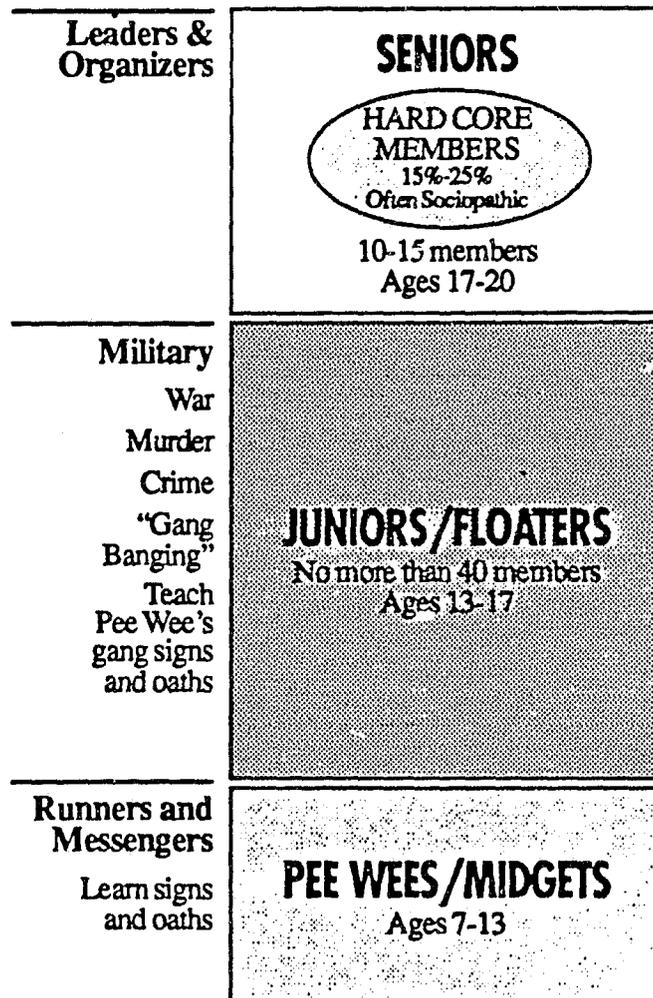
- (1) "Pee Wees," "Midgets," or "Tots," ages 7 to 13. Their main function is to socialize and to act as runners, messengers, and lookouts.
- (2) "Juniors," ages 13 to 17, teach the Pee Wees the gang signs, oath, and mottos and serve as the workers and the military for the gang because, if caught, they are treated as juveniles in the criminal justice system. They sell the drugs and commit street crimes. "Gang banging" is often a rite of passage for young gang members.

- (3) "Seniors," ages 17 to 20 and over, are the leaders and organizers of the gang and function as the liaisons between the gang and other affiliated gangs. Seniors make the drug deals, work with the "fences" to sell stolen property, and direct gang wars. The socialization, discipline, and reward of the younger gang members is also handled by the seniors. They function like a family in providing basic needs of food and clothing to the younger members. Seniors use the desire to belong, fear of being unprotected, money, and drugs to forge gang loyalty and obedience.

The membership of the vertical gang is not fixed and is never as large as it seems because many members are marginally connected. Marginal members wear the colors and claim allegiance to the gang out of necessity but do not get involved in criminal activity except for fighting. Youth who live in the territory of the gang must declare affiliation in order to move freely and safely within the territory.

Vertical gangs usually have three types of members. Hard core members gives full allegiance to the gang treating it like a family for whom he would die. The gang is their primary means of belonging and making a living. Usually the core has no more than 10 to 15 members. Floaters are usually close friends with individual members of the core and can be counted on to participate in gang wars and number no more than 40. Peripherals basically belong to the gang out of necessity so their commitment is not strong but the large numbers of peripherals often give the illusion that the gang is much larger than it really is.

VERTICAL GANG STRUCTURE

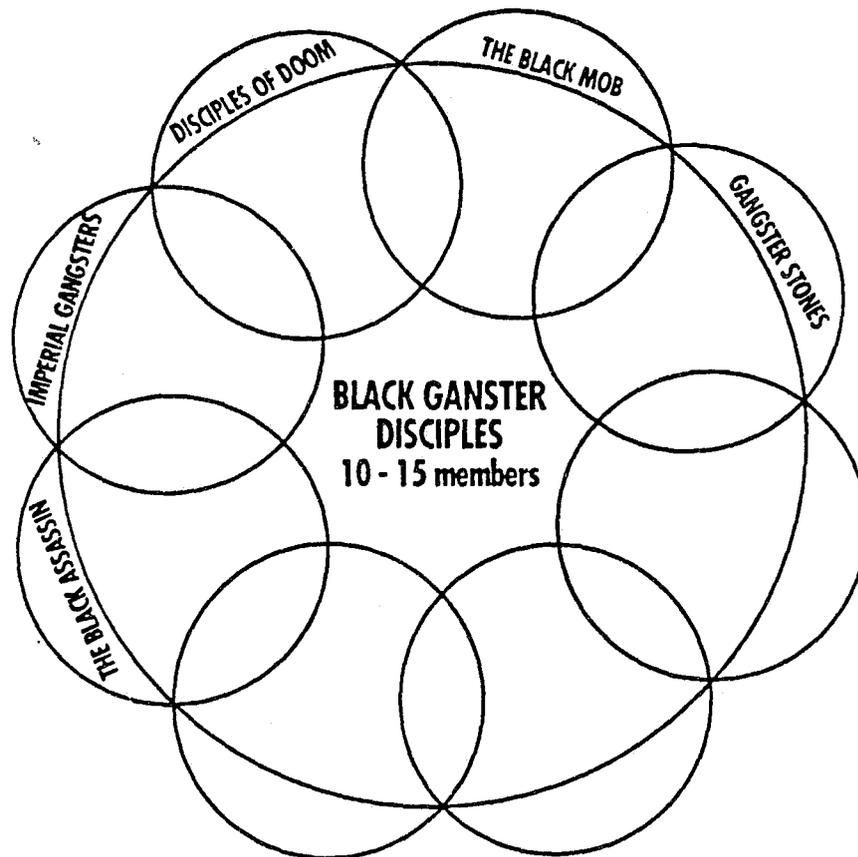


II. HORIZONTAL GANG STRUCTURE

Horizontal gangs are a loosely knit union of autonomous groups which are allied for a specific purpose. They are usually developed from a Vertical or Self-Contained Gang who move to another neighborhood and organize an affiliated gang. These groups usually lack experienced and powerful leadership. Although there are usually 10 to 15 core members with at most 20 floater members, it is through this structure that gangs can boast hundreds of members.

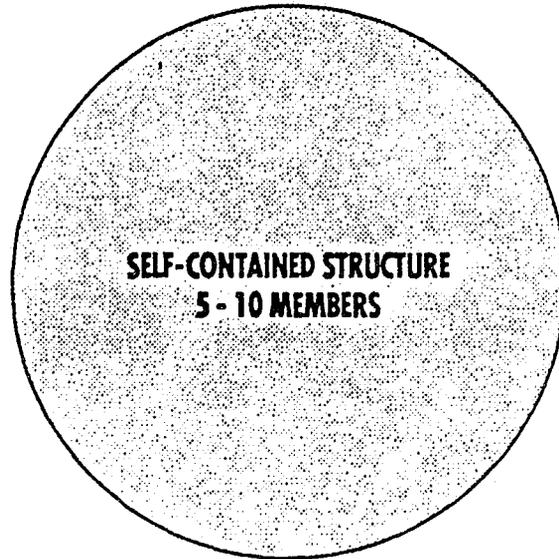
+ HORIZONTAL GANG STRUCTURE +

- Loosely knit
- Allied for specific purpose
- Lack experience/powerful leadership



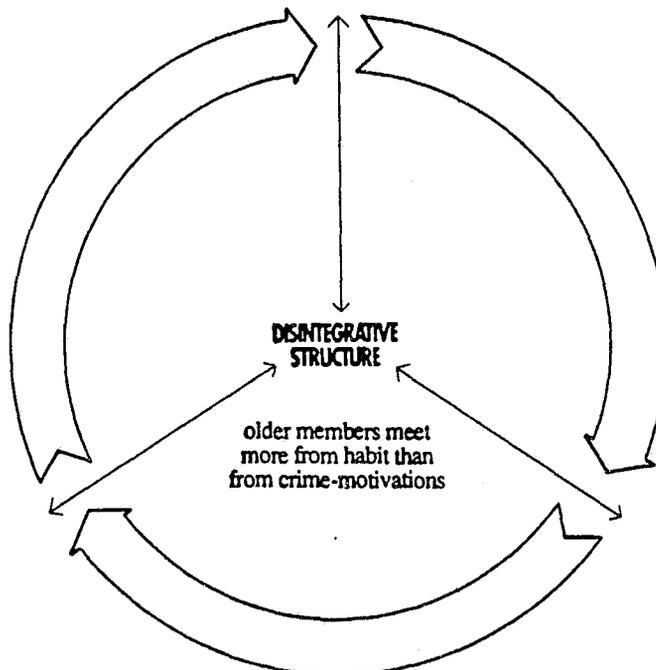
III. SELF-CONTAINED STRUCTURE

The Self-Contained gang is a small, tightly knit group of no more than 5 to 10 members which may grow out of a horizontal or vertical structure because they could not get along with their age group in the other structures. Some self-contained gangs are sociopathic youth who are involved primarily in violent crime. Although this type is rare, it is very dangerous.



IV. DISINTEGRATIVE STRUCTURE

The disintegrative gang is the last stage in the evolutionary decline in the other three types due to the advancing age of their membership, the decrease in membership due to imprisonment, death, or changing values, and the loss of viable leadership. This type of gang is usually composed of older teens who meet occasionally for social reasons and out of habit. Even though they still view themselves as a gang, they are usually not involved in crime and are not threatening the community.



The National College of District Attorneys (NCDA) says that depending on the particular area and type of gang, structures vary significantly and are rarely very sophisticated. Street gangs are mostly male with females functioning in an auxiliary role although a few independent female gangs exist. NCDA describes three basic structures as follows:

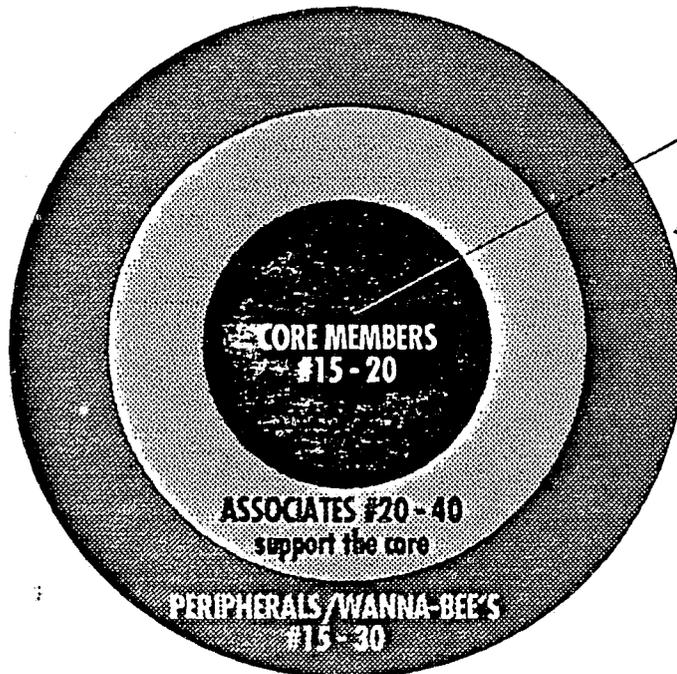
I. BULL'S EYE

The concentric circle or bull's eye style is one of loosely organized leadership with the average age range of members being 14 to 24. The innermost and smallest circle comprises the hard core gang members who are firmly committed to the gang lifestyle. These are usually the most violent and most intelligent members who would likely be involved in criminal activity with or without the gang. This member is usually older unless he started out very young in the gang having been exposed to gang lifestyle through family members.

The second ring represents the associates, usually the greatest number of members, who support the core and frequently participate in the criminal activities of the gang. The outer circle consists of the "wannabes" but have yet to develop a full commitment to the gang. Often a parent, teacher, coach, or other significant person can persuade these members away from the gang.

Members may flow back and forth between the circles but there will be a trend toward the inner circle if some type of intervention does not take place. The gang's activities are controlled or directed by emulation of the leaders. Violence can occur when a member tries to "make his bones" (prove his worth). The bull's eye style has been most commonly found in the traditional black and Hispanic gangs of the west coast.

BULL'S EYE



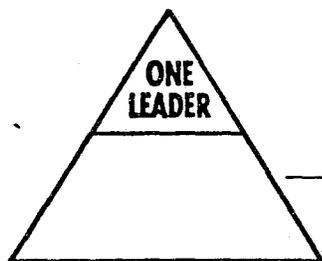
OLDEST MEMBERS

Committed to gang lifestyle and its ideals

Average age of members
14 - 24

II. PYRAMID STYLE

In this simple style, one individual heads the gang and directs all of its non-spontaneous actions with all others carrying out his orders. Pyramid gangs are usually smaller than others. Asian gangs are often structured in this way. No particular age limitations seem to exist.



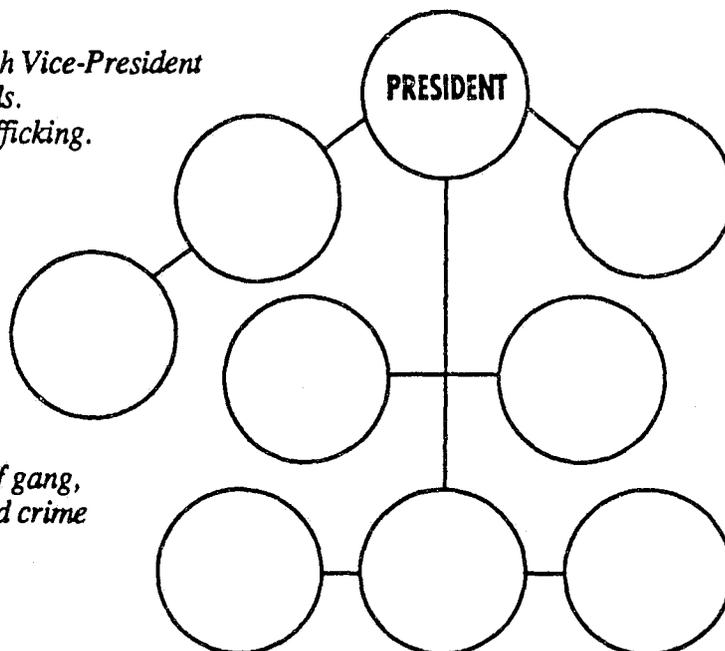
*Most often form of Asian gang organization
No age limits
Smaller in # than other groups*

III. BUSINESS STYLE

The business structure is the most organized and is a forerunner of truly organized crime, indicating some sophistication of leadership. This style is becoming more prevalent as gang members are getting more entrenched in narcotics, especially crack and cocaine. In fact, in some areas street gangs appear to not exist any longer because of decreased visibility of gang clothing, tattoos, and jargon by gangs not wanting to draw attention to themselves. This has led some jurisdictions to claim that gangs no longer exist, that everything is drug related. Sometimes denial of gang activity is political.

The business gang operates on a tiered system with youngest members maintaining the "turf" leaving older members to merge into more organized criminal endeavors. The implication is that a 17 year old criminal may have a ten year history of crime if he affiliated with the gang at age 7.

*Run like a business with Vice-President
or "Department" heads.
Prevalent in Drug Trafficking.*



*Most organized form of gang,
forerunner of organized crime*

In conclusion, street gangs cover almost all racial and ethnic segments of society although the great majority of gang members are those from the lower socioeconomic groups. Characteristics of specific ethnic groups' gangs tend to vary with the geographic region. Gangs in older urban areas of the country seem to have the most similarities among differing ethnic groups, with the greatest differences existing on the west coast.

LEVEL I FANTASY

1. Learned about gangs primarily from the media, e.g., newspapers, television and the movies.
2. Includes taggers and some housers.
3. May like, respect or admire a gang, a gang member or the gang lifestyle. May know gang members but does not regularly associate.
4. Views gang modes, dress and behavior as "trendy" or "anti-social cool."
5. Sees gang members as "living out a fantasy".



LEVEL II AT RISK

1. Lives in or near gang areas (turfs), or has gang members in family.
2. Casually associates with gang members.
3. Exhibits gang demeanor, e.g., dress modes, language, etc.
4. High rate of absences, truancy and anti-social behavior in school.
5. Negative view of past, present and future - sees no viable alternatives.
6. Low level of self-esteem. High level of self-contempt.



LEVEL III WANNA-BE, ASSOCIATE

1. Has law enforcement contact and/or record.
2. Personally knows and admires gang members and their lifestyles.
3. Regularly associates with gang members.
4. Considers gangs and related activity as normal, acceptable or admirable.
5. Finds many things in common with gang members.
6. Is mentally prepared to join a gang.
7. Sees gangs as source of power, money, prestige.



LEVEL IV GANG MEMBER (In Training)

1. Is officially a gang member, has been formally initiated into the gang.
2. Owns and will use firearms and other weapons upon consent of the gang.
3. Associates almost exclusively with gang members to the exclusion of family and former friends.
4. Participates in gang crimes and other related activities, e.g. gang funerals.
5. Has substantially rejected the authority or value system of family and society.
6. Is not yet considered hard core by fellow gang members or authorities.
7. Uses intimidation as source of pride, power and ego enhancement.



LEVEL V HARD CORE GANG MEMBER

1. Is totally committed to the gang and gang lifestyle.
2. Future O.G. (Original Gangster) or Veterano - shot caller and respected member.
3. Totally rejects anyone or any value system, other than the gang.
4. Is considered hard core by self, other gang members and authorities. Usually a convicted felon.
5. Will commit any act with the approval or demand from the gang.
6. Does not accept any authority other than the gang.
7. Has fully submerged personal goals for the collective goals of the gang.



LEVELS OF INDIVIDUAL GANG INVOLVEMENT



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WHITE GANGS

According to the National College of District Attorneys, white gangs fall into three types: neighborhood, biker/burglar, and stoner gangs. Neighborhood gangs are usually ethnic east and mid-west coast turf oriented groups that follow the basic tenet of the eastern Hispanic gang. This type of gang sometimes develops from legitimate groups such as car clubs.

Biker/burglar gangs are found nationwide and are loosely organized groups of youth who view themselves as outlaws and tend to like "Hell's Angel" type imagery. They usually engage in drug abuse and theft related activities to support their drug usage. Many of these individuals lean toward supremacist philosophies. As the individuals grow older some join a motorcycle club or prison gang. Many of them continue a life of crime after gang affiliation is terminated.

The stoner gang is the most recent development in white gangs. The term comes from the late 1960s relating to those who got "stoned" on drugs or highly intoxicated on alcohol. With the advent of punk rock music and the vicious behavior it portrays, groups focused on wild behavior centered around "heavy metal" music. The majority of pure stoner gangs are primarily involved in disruptive behavior at concerts, nightclubs, and private parties that can involve extreme violence and repulsive acts. They are loosely organized and generally follow the pyramid structure. The newest development in stoner gangs is a fascination with satanism. The number of juvenile and young adult deaths from suicide and bizarre rituals performed by satanist groups as well as animal deaths from sacrificial rites, has increased at an alarming rate throughout the United States. This type of gang is far from traditional gang behavior.

White gang members seem to use gang names (monikers) less than blacks but more than Asians. The style of moniker apparently has no particular guidelines. They tend to wear the traditional gang colors on their jackets, coats, and shirts with gang logos emblazoned on the back.

Graffiti of white gangs tends to support concepts or lifestyles apparently designed to convey messages to the general public more so than for rival gangs, except in cases of the neighborhood style gang. The stoner gangs tend to write symbolic graffiti or logos of rock groups and satanic cults.

Most information about gangs comes from law enforcement. Because white supremacist and hate crimes are not classified as gang-related in most jurisdictions, little information is available. Source of the following data is the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The latest report of the ADL, *Hate Groups in America, A Record of Bigotry and Violence*, published in 1988 states that at least 67 hate organizations are active in the United States today, many with a history of violence. They include the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi groups, "Identity" groups, and youthful racist "skinheads." Over 50 periodicals of hate groups are published today. A recognized by-product of organized hate activity that has increased disturbingly in recent years is imitative behavior on the part of other non-affiliated persons. Instances of cross burnings in front of homes and places of worship, the painting of swastikas and hate slogans on public and private property, and even arson and fire-bombing against minority groups are examples of activities of hate gangs or their emulators.

KU KLUX KLAN

For over a century, a succession of organizations calling themselves the Ku Klux Klan have existed. The common goal of all Klan groups since the Civil War has been maintaining the supremacy of the white race against black Americans. Klan activity has also targeted Jews, Roman Catholics, and immigrants. The basic purpose of the KKK has been the promotion of bigotry based on race, religion, and national origin. Their methods have been violence and terrorism. Their traditional uniform has been the hood, the mask, and the robe.

Since the end of the Civil War, America has experienced three distinct periods of Ku Klux Klan activity. The first Klan was founded on Christmas Eve, 1865 when six Confederate soldiers met in their hometown of Pulaski, Tennessee, to form a secret fraternal order who pledged to oppose "social and political equality for Negroes and Congressional advocates of harsh Reconstruction measures." By 1868 the Klan membership had grown to 550,000. The organization claimed to have disbanded in 1869 after committing many killings and floggings of both blacks and whites, the burning of schools and churches, and the hounding of citizens from their towns.

After lying dormant for more than four decades, the Klan rose again in the autumn of 1915 when the Secretary of State of Georgia signed a charter for a benevolent and charitable operation. The second Klan became as anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreigner as it was anti-Black. The rapid growth of Klan membership and wealth led to a struggle for power within the leadership. In 1923 Hiram Wesley Evans, a Texas dentist, became Imperial Wizard. Under Evans' leadership, the Klan reached the zenith of its power in the United States during 1924 and 1925. It had become a national power with a membership approaching five million. The common form of violence attributed to the second Klan was tar and feathering. Klansmen were gaining strength in political arenas as sheriffs, members of police departments, judges, legislators, and even governors. The decline of the second Klan, known as the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., came in 1944 and is attributed to a growing public revulsion of the violence used, internal feuding among Klan members, and adverse publicity.

"Klandom" was quiet during World War II and had only localized activity during the period following the war. The Supreme Court's decision on school desegregation on May 17, 1954 triggered a wave of resistance throughout the South headed by "White Citizens Councils." Their main resistance was directed against local individuals and organizations perceived as supporters of desegregation. They generated many publications and affiliated organizations well into the 1960s. The Klans of the 1960's functioned as a resistance movement to a national trend to equality for all Americans. Like their predecessors, they used terrorism and guerrilla warfare to carry out their purposes.

In February of 1960 many of the splinter groups which had been vying for power met in Greensboro, North Carolina and formed a "National Klan Committee" to coordinate their activities. In November of 1960 a new Klan organization was chartered by the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia under the name of "Invisible Empire, United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc." This new group which was a consolidation of several previously feuding clans became known as the United Klans of America, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. Membership was estimated at 26,000 to 33,000. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 brought a steady growth of Klan affiliation and related violent racially oriented acts. By mid-1965 Klan membership had grown to 51,000. The third Klan suffered a blow with the Congressional investigation and ultimate conviction of several of its key leaders in addition to its published report of financial irregularities and acts of terrorism.

The late 1970s brought a Klan resurgence because of America's frustration with the Vietnam War, rising inflation rates, and a costly dependence on foreign countries for crucial supplies of oil. A 1979 ADL report estimated Klan membership at 10,000 with the number of non-member sympathizers (i.e., those who might attend rallies, subscribe to Klan literature, purchase Klan paraphernalia, etc.) at approximately 75,000-100,000.

The most insidious Klan activity today is the establishment of programs and facilities for teaching bigotry in teenagers and children. David Duke, now the Don Black of the KKK faction organized the "Klan Youth Corps." *The White Student* is one publication directed at youth. There was a special camp for children in Alabama which combined racist indoctrination and weapons training with sports and recreation.

In an October, 1985 issue of the *Klansman*, a five-point program of the Klan Youth Corps advised white students to:

1. Organize White Youth in every school along racial lines.
2. Adopt a "Get Tough" policy with arrogant non-whites.
3. Force school administrators to drop their appeasement policy to minorities by threatening public exposure followed by possible boycotts.
4. Demand equal rights for white students. (If minorities have a minority / culture class, demand a white cultural class.)
5. Segregation of classes followed by eventual segregation of schools.

In addition the *Klansman* stated, "The Klan Youth Corps recognizes that there are fundamental and biological differences between the white race and other races. It also recognizes that integration has been responsible for much of the racial strife in America, and most of the strife in our schools. Furthermore, the Klan Youth Corps is aware that integration is a prelude to miscegenation (race-mixing) which will lead to the down breeding of the white race."

A steady downward trend of Klan activity has been documented since 1981. The ADL credits strict law enforcement and public exposure of violent extremist activities as important in deflating the impact and effectiveness of the Ku Klux Klan on the American political and social scene. However, with the onset of new social and economic problems as the U. S. enters the 1990s, larger crowds are attending Klan rallies according to the Anti-Defamation League Special Report, "*The KKK Today: A 1991 Status Report.*"

Today Texas is home to three separate KKK organizations. Dallas-Fort Worth is home to the Invisible Empire (I.E.), Knights of the KKK, whose cover name is Texas Rescue Service. Its activity has consisted largely of distributing literature in the suburbs and picketing abortion clinics in Dallas. In February, 1990 three I.E. members were discovered working in the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. Two of the three were fired. At about the same time five I. E. members were found to be security policemen at Carswell Air Force Base. All were discharged by the Air Force.

Although the KKK has limited presence today, it is still the oldest and largest hate organization in the country. As long as it exists, the dangers of violence and terrorism exist.

NEO-NAZIS

The post World War II neo-Nazi movement in the United States was launched in the United States in 1958 by the late George Lincoln Rockwell when he founded the American Nazi Party (ANP), later renamed the National Socialist White People's Party (NSWPP) with a membership today of no more than 400-450.

Today, neo-Nazi groups consist of a small number of very small, isolated sects. The NSWPP is now called the New Order, which has expanded its emphasis to include white racism as much as anti-Semitism. The philosophy of the organization is promoted through the sale of pro-Hitler and pro-Nazi books, swastika emblazoned flags, arm bands, stickpins and decals, cassettes of Nazi war songs, and videos of Nazi films. Other materials include anti-Semitic books and stickers and publications denying the reality of the Holocaust. Liberty Bell Publications is the largest publisher and distributor of pro-Nazi publications in the United States.

NEO-NAZI SKINHEADS

The most significant neo-Nazi groups in relation to this report are the youth participants: the neo-Nazi Skinheads. The Anti-Defamation League first learned of the existence of neo-Nazi Skinheads in the United States when a small group of young people from Chicago calling themselves "Romantic Violence" made an appearance at a 1985 gathering of hate group activists in Michigan. They came decorated in the standard Skinhead fashion (shaved or closely cropped hair, jeans, suspenders, "Doc Marten" boots, and body tattoos) mouthing crude bigotries for which they have become known. They touted their "white power" music (sometimes called "oi" music from the Cockney word for "hey") which is an important part of their persona.

The ADL Special Report, *Neo-Nazi Skinheads: A 1990 Status Report*, indicates that about 3,000 racist Skinheads are active in 34 states, a slight reduction from previous surveys. The decline is attributed to the prosecution of five members of the Confederate Hammer Skins in Dallas last year who were found guilty of civil rights violations. Another deterrent may be the civil lawsuit against Tom and John Metzger, racist Skinhead mentors.

These gangs are loosely structured, depend heavily on their leadership, and tend to lose strength when leaders move or are jailed. Individual Skinheads tend to be very mobile, drifting from one city to another and attaching themselves to new gangs. Trends cited by ADL are:

1. Youth as young as 13 years of age are being recruited around and in schools.
2. It is not unusual for Skinheads to switch allegiances moving from racist to non-racist gangs.
3. In a number of areas Skinheads are letting their hair grow to avoid police attention and hostility from the general public.

According to the 1990 ADL report, the most active neo-Nazi Skinhead organization in the Dallas-Fort Worth area is the Confederate Hammer Skins with 35 to 50 members. They have assaulted Hispanics and Blacks in Dallas parks and vandalized Temple Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Dallas. In February, 1990 a flyer threatened the ADL director with death. The flyer, emblazoned with a swastika, also read: "The death of a few niggers will relieve me of my anger. The extinction of my people's enemies [sic] will set me free! Down with the ADL!" They have also been associated with cross burnings.

A new Skinhead group, Confederate White Vikings, was established in Dallas around November, 1989 and has 35 members. The Bowery Boys are a Skinhead group operating in the mid-cities area between Dallas and Fort Worth, centered in Arlington. The group, which hangs out at shopping malls, is sometimes called the Mall Skins and has 12 to 18 members.

The Skinhead phenomenon is significant in that it is a total way of life that embraces appearance, beliefs, attitude toward self and others, feelings about family and society, and cultural tastes. Intrinsic to that way of life is violence. One important fact to consider which sets Skinheads apart from many other gangs is that conditions which have created Skinhead gangs do not consist of economic causes of poverty, joblessness, and deprivation. Evidence indicates that Skinheads come from all classes of society, with the majority from the middle class, some even from affluent backgrounds.

ADL interviews with about twenty mothers of Skinheads indicate that most Skinheads:

- are school dropouts
- come from broken homes
- have found in the Skinheads both a sense of family and racist philosophy that boosts their self-esteem
- have no father in the home due to death or divorce
- did not get along with stepfather
- feel they do not have power or control over their lives or futures
- have a low level of self-esteem
- were initially exposed to Hitler by a friend
- reflect their anger through violence

Tom Metzger, former Grand Dragon of the California Ku Klux Klan, has become a leading figure in the U. S. hate movement. He is a promoter of youthful neo-Nazi Skinhead groups which has expanded his influence beyond White Aryan Resistance (WAR) which he founded. Metzger's cable TV show, "Race and Reason" is broadcast in over 20 cable markets. He has been on several national TV talk shows joined by Skinheads.

Metzger calls the Skinheads his "frontline warriors" through his Aryan Youth Movement. WAR Youth is operated by Metzger's son John. John Metzger has attempted to establish White Student Union: on high school and college campuses. He took his "white civil war" on national television in 1988 on the Geraldo show during which violence broke out on the air.

IDENTITY GROUPS

The Identity Church in the United States is a pseudo-theological hate movement that emerged in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Its doctrine holds that white Anglo-Saxons, not Jews, are the Biblical "chosen people," that Jews are children of Satan, and that the white race is inherently superior to others. Blacks and other non-white races are "mud people" on the same spiritual level as animals and, therefore, have no souls.

Some neo-Nazi factions are among the racist groups who have embraced Identity beliefs in recent years. These groups have established "churches" which provide a religious rationalization for their bigotry. A few examples and brief descriptions of such Identity groups are as follows:

1. **The Aryan Nations** is lead by Richard Girnt Butler whose affiliated Identity Church is the Church of Jesus Christ Christian. Louis Beam, a former Ku Klux Klan leader in Texas, is Ambassador-at-Large of the violence-prone, anti-Semitic hate group headquartered in Hayden Lake, Idaho.
2. **The Posse Comitatus** is an Identity organization composed of loosely affiliated bands of armed vigilantes and survivalists that came into existence in 1969. Many members have founded and belong to Identity churches of their own, some of which are called Life Science or Basic Bible Churches. The Posse churches are based on Identity beliefs, providing members with an alternative to conventional churches and a pseudo-theological basis for their racist views.
3. **The Christian-Patriots Defense League (CPDL)**, founded in 1977, evolved from the Christian Conservative Churches of America founded in 1959 by John R. Harrell. Its stated purpose is "to blend Christianity and Patriotism together to effectively oppose Zionism and Communism."
4. **The Christian Defense League (CDL)** is an extremist anti-Semitic group which has called itself "the voice of true Christianity in America." Its ultimate aim is "to organize the White Christian majority, and to forge them into a force or movement that can sweep the anti-Christ from our churches and those that support the anti-Christ Jews from any political positions they may hold

5. The Covenant, The Sword and the Arm of the Lord (CSA), founded in 1971, functions as a paramilitary survivalist group operating a "Christian" commune called Zarephath-Horeb on the Arkansas-Missouri border. Its inhabitants have numbered over one hundred who believed American society was approaching economic collapse, famine, rioting, and war. In preparation they have stockpiled arms, food, and wilderness survival gear and engage in weapons training.

The most distinctive aspect of the Identity movement strategy is the use of pseudo-religious themes as a rationale for the promotion of bigotry and justification for violence. A related aspect is the tactic of using "churches" as a device for achieving tax exemptions.

In 1990 President George Bush signed the Federal Hate Crime Statistics Act (HSCA). The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Section has designed data collection guidelines and drafted a training manual for distribution to the 16,000 state and local agencies which report crime statistics to the FBI. The FBI has stressed that this data collection is an important tool to confront violent bigotry against individuals on the basis of their race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. Data will be used to help departments allocate resources to deter hate and violence and to provide a basis for designing preventative strategies. In addition, the Act should advance police-community relations to making hate crimes a priority.

White Gangs in San Diego

The following is a list of known white gangs claiming areas in San Diego

Gang	Ethnic Origin	Jurisdiction
4 Corners of the World	(mixed)	SDPD
Death Wish Kids	(White)	SDPD, SDCSO
Linda Vista Crips	(mixed)	SDSO
Suicidals	(mixed)	SDSO

White Gangs

White youth gangs in California are few in number, however, recent trends indicate some increase in white youth gang activity.

Although white youths throughout California congregate in groups, they are normally non-gang involved. The white youth gangs are spawned from various sub-groups, such as those involved in the abuse of drugs and alcohol. From these groups, the rougher individuals form into youth gangs.

These hard-core groups become involved in criminal offenses such as burglaries, vandalism, shoplifting, petty thefts, and confront either the juvenile justice system or the adult criminal justice system.

When such a group of whites enters a correctional institution, the members segregate themselves from the facility's population, forming into a quasi-gang with white supremacist beliefs. The hard-core white youths become experienced in quasi-gang activity. They are exposed to more sophisticated and violent criminal activity and know that when incarcerated in correctional institutions, they must form into a quasi-organized group to be able to survive when incarcerated. These gangs form irrespective of staff's actions to prevent an inmate power group.

The white group forms a loosely affiliated gang, under the identity of Supreme White Power, Supreme White People, or Supreme White Pride (SWP). This group now professes philosophies and espouses the beliefs of the National Socialist White People's Party (NSWPP), the National Socialist White Workers Party (NSWWP), the American Nazi Party (ANP), and the Ku Klux Klan (KKK). These youths will write to the groups obtaining membership application forms and will join these various organizations. As members they receive the racist literature published by these groups and introduce it into the Youth Authority institutions despite the efforts of CYA staff.

Another group of whites identify themselves with bikers and talk about the outlaw biker groups, i.e., Hell's Angels, Axeman, Vagos, Barhoppers, Vikings, Hangman, Nuts, Animal Tribe, etc. The older Youth Authority wards

are prospective outlaw biker club members between the ages of 20-25. If not actual members, they are at least "prospects" (potential members proving themselves). Some Youth Authority wards have relatives in outlaw biker groups, i.e., brothers, cousins, and, in some cases, their own father or an uncle, and are potential future members of outlaw biker clubs.

From this group of hard core white youths that identify as SWP, comes an ultra vicious group. They profess a neo-Nazi philosophy and call themselves Nazi's. This group, if undetected by staff in Youth Authority institutions, will control all illegal activity within that particular institution or camp.

The SWP groups have been in existence for a long period of time. White gangs are now forming in many communities throughout California under the banner of SWP. Their organization has been very loose so far, but member youths are now wearing T-shirts with the letters "SWP." They are committing gang-type crimes such as gang fights against other youth gangs as well as burglaries and armed robberies in concert with other members of their gang.

Graffiti can also be seen in many communities which states the white supremacist beliefs espoused by those subscribing to the SWP ideology. The graffiti is usually the letters SWP, swastikas, or lightning bolts. With the increase in activity by the Ku Klux Klan nationwide, the triple K can be seen taking a more visible stance throughout California, attracting the hard core youth gang members that profess white supremacist beliefs. This activity has been increasing in the last several years.

With the increasing numbers of Chicano and Black gangs growing throughout the state, the whites have been reacting to that phenomena by forming their own gangs. These neophyte gangs are very loosely organized, some being organized better than others. Their criminal acts continue to grow in severity and violence. They are no longer property oriented, but are directing their efforts at other gangs of whites or Chicanos, and, in some cases, against Black gangs.

Another white gang that has developed has been detected in the San Francisco Bay area and the Los Angeles area. They call themselves the "White Punks on Dope," and their graffiti is WPOD. This is a loose knit group of white youths heavily involved in the use of drugs who commit many property crimes to support their gang's drug use. This group is involved in sado-masochism, and, until recently, these acts were performed only within their own group. The WPOD groups have now started attacking strangers and turning their sado-masochistic acts upon them. A couple of incidents occurred in the S.F. bay area where the WPOD gang grabbed a victim, tied the victim's hands behind his back, broke a large number of bottles on a hard surface and forced the victim to crawl on his stomach through the broken glass. They call this making the victim do the "snake" or it is referred to as "snaking" someone.

These new white street gangs that have developed are continuing to grow and are no longer social groups of friends. The white youth gang members are committing

crimes in concert with one another, and the gang is benefiting directly or indirectly. As these white youth gangs continue to exist with the same names and become self-perpetuating regardless of their membership, they will continue to become harder to control.

The second level of youth gang development, is when individuals write "WP" for White Power, or White Punks. At this stage of development, these individuals are now formed into a quasi-gang group. They identify as a gang and at times will be involved in gang incidents, as a reaction to other gang groups. At times this group will be committing minor crimes as part of their gang identity.



WP

The third level of development and formalization of a youth gang is when the group writes SWP, meaning Supreme White Power, Supreme White Pride, Supreme White People, or other name(s) for their gang. This group now meets all the criteria of a gang. Often time the gang name will be KKK or Nazi's. These youth gangs expose all the extremist philosophy of those organizations and are not connected with them in any way.

KKK

SWP

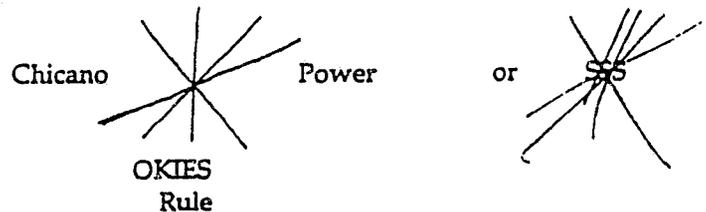
NAZIS

Whenever white youth graffiti is seen crossing out other graffiti, i.e., Chicano Power or SSS in a community, there exists a gang problem. The asterisk * referred to as a puto mark by the Chicanos is used by white youth gangs, to cross out a gang or individual's identity. It is an open challenge to the one that was crossed out. It is like calling the person or gang by the lowest put-down possible. It is reason enough to kill a person over by a gang-involved individual.

White youth gangs use the graffiti to identify themselves, make their existence known, mark their boundaries with it, identify members with it, making lists of their members with it, advertise their exploits with it, challenge other gangs with it and at times announce future acts or actions to the gang scene. Graffiti is like the newspaper of the street, for the gangs.

Normally, white youth groups that are non-gang involved begin their trend toward anti-social gang type activity by forming a quasi-gang group, start calling themselves by a group name (such as stoners etc.) and become involved in gang fights and minor criminal activity. They start using gang type graffiti such as:

WHITE POWER



At the formalization of the youth gang, the group will also draw "The Lightning Bolts," identifying with the Nazi SS or as a neo-Nazi.

HONKIES	SURFERS	OKIES
Rule	Rule	Rule
ARKIES	AC  DC	HIGH RIDERS
Rule	Rules	Rule



Besides the lightning bolts, the youth gang involved individuals will draw the swastika on their letters, graffiti, and even tattoo themselves with these drawings.



The first level of white youth gang type graffiti, is when a quasi-group starts advertising its existence. This group, is not normally involved in gang activity. It is highly susceptible to be drawn into gang incidents

The ultimate level of development by white youth gang individuals is when they start identifying with the white prison gang known as the Aryan Brotherhood (AB). They will draw the AB symbols (a clover shape, three sixes) on their papers or at times tattoo themselves.



666

Rev. 13:18
Sign of the Beast

Other heavily used graffiti by the white youth gang individuals is drug oriented. It can be found through the three stages of gang development.

FREAKED OUT

DUSTED

STONERS

-13-

PUNKS

MARIJUANA



Other white supremacist graffiti that white youth gangs use is Ku Klux Klan or drawings. These individuals are openly professing the extremist beliefs of this right-wing organization. The propensity toward violence of these individuals is very high. Sometimes these individuals will join the various Klan organizations.

KKK



White supremacist graffiti used is ANP, identifying with the American Nazi Party, NSWPP, National Socialist White Peoples Party, and NSWWP, National Socialist White Workers Party.

ANP

NSWPP

NSWWP

Other white supremacist graffiti is associated with outlaw biker clubs, i.e., Hells Angels, Vikings, Mongols, Missfits, Vagos, Bandidos or Outlaws.

Vagos (Hell's Angels) Vikings
Missfits
Bandidos Mongol's Outlaws

Heavy Metalers

Although heavy metal evolved from the hard rock bands of the 60s and 70s, the music has since become louder, faster and more aggressive. The main focus and theme of heavy metal is drugs, sex and rock-and-roll, defiance of authority and a "live for today" attitude.

Pettinicchio notes that the American music industry markets heavy metal toward adolescent boys. "It promotes a chauvinistic attitude toward women that gives adolescent males a feeling of power and control," she says. Heavy metalers may also be identified as metal heads, head bangers, rebel riders, rivet heads, stoners, longhairs, hippies or rockers.

Dozens, if not hundreds, of new heavy metal bands are constantly vying for young people's attention. Many heavy metalers involved in the occult say that the bands AC/DC, WASP and KISS stand for Anti-Christ/Devil Children, We Are Satan's People and Knights in Satan's Service, respectively. The bands deny this. Other metal bands include Judas Priest, Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden, Motley Crue, Ozzy Osbourne, Def Leppard and Twisted Sister.

Album covers and lyrics of many heavy metal or black metal (satanic) rock groups encourage and pander to Satanism. Such songs as "Shout at the Devil" by Motley Crue, "The Number of the Beast (666)" by Iron Maiden, "Sabbath, Bloody Sabbath" by Black Sabbath and "The Hotel California" by the Eagles all fall in this category. ("The Hotel California" is a nickname for the first church of Satan, located on California Street in San Francisco.) Album covers and posters of these rock groups graphically depict satanic symbols, such as upside-down crosses, 666, pentagrams, graveyards, demons, skeletons and references to hell and death.

Heavy metalers dress to reinforce group identity and like to copy the particular style of their favorite bands. Most boys simply wear Levis and T-shirts advertising a particular brand of alcohol (especially Jack Daniels) or drugs. Adolescent girls involved in heavy metal tend to wear short tight denim or leather skirts and heavy eye makeup.

Although this kind of music includes disturbing references to satanism, juveniles who listen to it and wear the prevailing metal fashions are not necessarily involved with Satanism or the occult. It is nearly impossible to say at what point a preoccupation with death and the occult or use of satanic symbols actually signals serious involvement with these bizarre doctrines. However, evidence of crimes with satanic overtones, graffiti and other blatant signs should raise a red flag that youths are involved in the occult or satanic activities.

White Racial Hate Groups

Skinheads and white groups referred to as "punk rockers" often wear specific group-related dress such as combat boots, camouflage pants, khaki shirts, leather jackets with metal studs, dog chains and various other paraphernalia. This clothing is also worn by youngsters claiming no group affiliation. Swastikas, iron crosses and other symbols relating to neo-Nazi identification are specific to radical hate groups and should be regulated.

Non-Specific Gang Related Dress

These items of clothing are general in nature and may be worn by gang members. Obviously, these items alone do not mean a student is a gang associate. These items are included to give as complete a picture as possible, but cannot and should not be enforced as part of a school's dress code to prevent gang activity on campus.

PENDLETONS—When worn with the top collar buttons and cuffs buttoned, open the rest of the way down.

TRENCH COATS—Allows easy concealment of weapons.

SHOES—British Knights and Columbia Knights are preferred by some gang members.

PANTS—Excessively baggy.

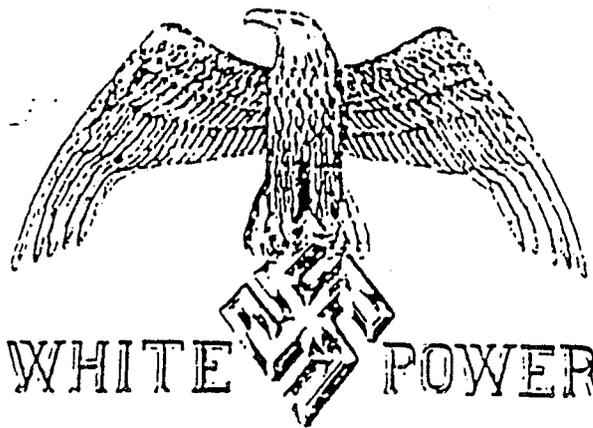
JACKETS—Team sports jacket.

JEWELRY—Rings across all fingers creating a brass knuckle effect or rope chains worn as necklaces which could be used as striking instruments.

Other Gang-Related Indicators

Writing graffiti, possessing items containing graffiti, or the display of hand signs is an indication of gang involvement and should be used as "other indicators" when necessary to justify disciplinary action proposed by individual site administrators.

GRAFFITI—To the street gang member or associate, graffiti is a way to express himself and allows him to direct challenges toward other gangs. It is a clear marking of territorial boundaries, identifies the local "homeboys," and serves as a warning to other gangs. It is a method used to communicate to other gangs, not the general public. Graffiti written on school walls, desks, books or student personal clothing is a claim of affiliation, and could result in a violent confrontation. Graffiti is often placed on clothing or book covers using ink or marker pen. Letters or numbers also may be sewn or painted on clothing. It is found written on the hands and on all items of clothing, specifically shoes, caps, and girls' pants.



WHITE ARYAN RESISTANCE

PAGERS—Pagers are indicative of involvement in drug sales.

FELT MARKERS—Students should not be allowed to carry felt markers on campus. Graffiti is most often written with felt marker pens. These should be restricted to in-class use, and will be provided by the school.

HAND SIGNS—Gang members employ several means of non-verbal communication to advertise their gang or to challenge rival gangs. One of these forms is hand signals or "throwing signs." These signals or "signs" are made by forming letters or numbers with the hands and fingers. These "signs" depict the gang symbol or initials.

By using these signals, the gang members can show which gang he belongs to and can issue challenges to other gangs in the vicinity.

MAD-DOGGING—A common method of intimidation used by gang members is "mad dogging," which is staring or glaring at another with the intent to intimidate. Mad-Dogging is used to instill fear and frequently results in violent confrontation.

Other Racial/Ethnic Groups

A multi-racial gang now exists in the Linda Vista area with members who are White, Hispanic and Black. This unique group is a documented gang claiming Crip affiliation.

While not recognized nor operational as gangs in San Diego, other racial groups do exist and are monitored by the police. These include various Indochinese groups and Pacific Islander groups such as Samoan and Guamanian. They do not assume the same dress or color identification as other documented gangs.



Skinheads

By Jeff O'Brien

San Diego Sheriff's Deputy, JUDGE Unit

Skinhead Overview

The Skinhead movement is a difficult one to categorize or to explain fully. Skinheads range from hard-core Neo-Nazi fanatics to kids who are just trying to make a fashion statement; with everything in between.

There is much disagreement between Skinheads as to how the movement started, and as to who is a "real" Skinhead. The following information is intended as an overview of the movement.

It is hoped that the information provided herein will assist in understanding the different types of "Skins."

If you have any questions or information about Skinheads, please contact Detective O'Brien at (619) 694-4477.

Origin Of Skinhead Movement

The Skinhead movement started in England in the early 60's. A group of working class whites banded together in opposition of the influx of minorities that were competing for their jobs.

The Skinhead movement coincided with the Mod movement. The Mods revolted against trendy styles and values. They developed their own style of dress and musical tastes.

Depending on who you believe, the Skins evolved from Mods, or vice versa.

At any rate, there was a split between the two groups

in the mid 60's. The Skinhead movement remained white working class kids who were proud to be white. The Mod copied the Skin's style of dress and appearance but were multi-racial and not interested in white pride. This group was also known as "Ska Heads."

In about 1978, Ian Stuart of a band called "Skrewdriver," more or less started the Neo-Nazi racist faction of Skinheads through his music. He also popularized the wearing of flight jackets by Skins.

Origin Of The Skinhead Movement In The U.S.

In about 1978 the "punk" scene came to the U.S. from England. Some of the original punk bands had Neo-Nazi tendencies. Some "punks" tired of the "punk scene" and evolved into Skinheads. Both racist and non-racist factions of Skins started. The first groups of racist Skins started in Los Angeles and New York. Ian Stuart toured the U.S. in 1983 and played at Klan rallies and underground clubs. He popularized the Skinhead movement, and accelerated the growth of Neo-Nazi Skins.

Types Of Skinheads

The term "Skinhead" encompasses many different groups who may generally look the same, but are vastly different in their beliefs. These groups range from the Neo-Nazi Skins to non-racist Skins (called "fashion Skins" or "Baldies" by the Neo-Nazis). Some Skin groups are multi-racial and are more closely aligned with the "Mods."

There are several other groups of Skins such as: White Power Skins, White Pride Skins, Scooter Boys and Rude Boys. Each of these groups consider themselves to be the "true Skinheads", and disdain the other groups. Racist and non-racist Skinheads (or "Skins" as they prefer to be called) will fight each other.

Typical Skinhead Dress

1. Shaved head or very short hair.
2. Generally no facial hair - only sideburns if any facial hair.
3. Air Force flight jacket, usually green or black. (Neo-Nazi Skins prefer a black flight jacket.)
4. Dark colored "Dickies", pants or blue jeans. (Pants will often be rolled above the boot.)
5. "Fred Perry" knit tennis shirts are preferred. Other shirts may be worn.
6. Thin one quarter inch wide suspenders, called "braces."
7. Doctor Marten Boots (called Doc Martens).
 - A) Steel toed boots are preferred.
 - B) May be black, brown or oxblood.
 - C) These boots are often used as weapons.

Tattoos and Emblems.

- A. This may be the one area that Neo-Nazi Skins can best be separated from non-racist Skins. (Neo-Nazi Skins will probably wear swastikas iron crosses, double lightning bolts, and other Nazi paraphernalia. They may also have Nazi tattoos.
- B. Non-racist or "fashion" Skins will never wear any Nazi paraphernalia.

Female Skins will often dress much the same as the males. They sometimes will shave their hair short, leaving a longer "fringe" around the edges. Female Skins generally seem to be in the movement to associate with the males.

Skin Groups Active In San Diego

Skin groups who have been active in San Diego County include: War Skins, The Boot Boys, The Bomber Boys, The American Front (an offshoot from "WAR" due to philosophical differences), The North County Firm, The South County Skins and The U.S. Skins. These groups are ever changing. New groups of Skins can appear at anytime.

A Skinhead may not want you to know that he is in fact a Skin. He (or she) may claim to be a "punk." Many Skinheads started in the punk movement, and evolved into skins. You will have to weigh the totality of the circumstances to determine if you are dealing with a Skin.

Offenses Committed By Skins

Battery.

Assault with a deadly weapon.

- A) Skinheads are very aggressive and love to fight.
- B) A Skinhead will fight no matter what the odds if challenged.

Strong Armed robbery.

Possession of weapons.

Drunk in public.

Possession, sales and/or under the influence of drugs.

- A) Drugs of choice are crystal and marijuana.
- B) Not all Skin groups will use drugs.

Graffiti.

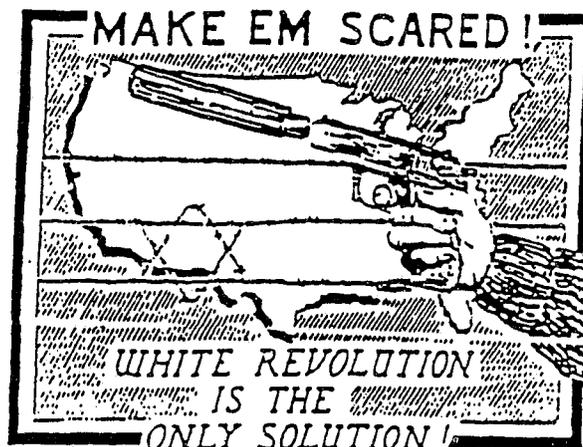
California Incidents

According to state law enforcement sources, skinheads this year have heckled civil rights marchers in Fontana, attached a police officer in West Covina and been arrested for carrying a concealed gun and billy club in Palm Springs.

In Northern California, skin-head related incidents have recently been reported in Santa Cruz, Concord, Fremont, San Jose, Hollister, Gilroy, Redwood City, Palo Alto, San Francisco, Salinas, Sacramento and San Rafael.

"We've got everything from vandalism to murder going on," said a state criminal intelligence analyst who asked not to be quoted by name.

"One concern I have is, where are these people going to be five years from now? Are they going to be members of The Order?" he asked, referring to a neo-Nazi paramilitary group whose members have robbed armored cars and committed several murders. "Are they going to be out there robbing banks?"



ACT NOW!

Police Action

Many police departments have begun taking steps to deal with the threat of racial violence by skinheads.

San Francisco police, for example, have begun an innovative training program aimed at making officers more aware of bias-related crimes such as cross-burnings, gay-bashings and threats against homosexuals and members of minority groups. The department has revised its report forms to allow officers to note whether a crime appears to have been motivated by prejudice.

"What we are doing is tracking them," said officer David Ambrose, a spokesman for the department. "We believe we are the first group in the country to come out with a training program that is aimed at these specific kinds of crimes."

History Of Skinhead Racists

Not all youths who favor skinhead regalia are white supremacists. Skinhead racists are shaven-headed individuals between the ages of 13 and 25 who wear Nazi insignia and preach violence against blacks, Hispanics, Jews, Asians and homosexuals, according to a 30-page report released by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The racist wing of the skinhead movement began in the British Isles during the 1970s and is closely associated with the English band "Skrewdriver," headed by Ian Stuart.

The movement's racism first came to public notice in the United States in October 1985 when a small group of self-styled skinhead youths attended a three-day gathering of white racist organizations at the farm of former Ku Klux Klan leader Robert Miles in Cohoctah, Michigan.



Since then, skinheads have become a fixture at white supremacist and neo-Nazi conclaves in the United States.

Last June, a number of skinhead leaders attended a Ku Klux Klan rally in Modesto. In July, more than a dozen representatives of skinhead groups traveled to Hayden Lake, Idaho, for the annual conference of the Aryan Nations Church, a neo-Nazi organization likened to The Order.

"We see them as a farm team for white supremacist groups like the Klan, Aryan Nations and White Aryan Resistance," said Sergeant Glen McCourtie of the San Jose Police Department.

Special Concern

In September, the California Bureau of Organized Crime and Criminal Intelligence dedicated two pages to skinhead activities in "Organized Crime in California," its annual study.

"Although their numbers are small, skinhead street gangs are of special concern because some have publicly embraced a white supremacist philosophy and, in turn, have been actively recruited by white supremacists and separatist organizations," the report said.

The movement's growth rate appears to be phenomenal. When the Anti-Defamation League surveyed its 31 regional offices in February 1988, it estimated that the skinhead movement had 1,000 to 1,500 members in 12 states. A similar survey eight months later showed that the number of skinheads in the United States had nearly doubled. There are now nearly 2,000 and they are active in 21 states, according to the group.

There are 250 to 3,200 skinhead racists in California, according to the state Department of Justice. Law enforcement sources say there are about 50 to 70 in the Bay Area, about half of them in San Francisco and the rest scattered around the South Bay.

Murder In Portland

Concern about skinhead racial violence intensified after the murder of an Ethiopian man in Portland, Oregon, November, 1988.

On November 12, three young men with shaved heads attached Mulugeta Seraw in front of his apartment, clubbing him to death with baseball bats. Portland police ar-

rested three skinheads from the group called East Side White Pride.

Two have been charged with killing Seraw, and the third accused of assault.

Two other skinheads who were wanted on criminal charges in California were arrested with the three Portland suspects. One of them is awaiting extradition to California to face charges of vandalizing a Redwood city synagogue the other is wanted on battery charges in Salinas.

"This is the third murder in the last two years associated with members of white racist skinhead groups around the country," said Marvin Ster, the director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in Seattle. "There has been one in Florida, one in California and now one in Oregon."

Hate Groups

According to an Anti-Defamation League report released in October, the skinhead movement is becoming an important threat.

"Growing numbers of young neo-Nazi skinheads are linking up with the old-line hate groups in the United States," the report said "contingents of the shaven-headed racist youths have taken part in virtually every important hate movement rally, march and conference over the past six months.

"The effect has been to boost the moral and level of activity of a number of neo-Nazi, Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist organizations, especially the Southern California-based outfit known as White Aryan Resistance, headed by Tom Metzger."

The report describes 39 incidents of assault, battery and vandalism linked to skinheads in 12 states.

It concludes: "The rise in the number of skinheads has been paralleled by an increase in the number of violent crimes they have committed, including homicides and numerous shootings, beatings and stabbings directed against members of minority groups."

When he showed up at a party in Campbell last February, Michael Elrod, a stranger made the other guests uncomfortable. Elrod, 19, is a skinhead - a shaven-headed youth with a calculatedly menacing appearance. He soon got into an argument with a black man and began shouting racial epithets, witnesses said. A shoving match broke out, and Elrod pulled a knife. When another man attempted to intervene, Elrod stabbed him in the heart. In October, under a plea bargain with the Santa Clara County district attorney's office, Elrod pleaded guilty to a charge of involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 11 years in the California Youth Authority. The Campbell stabbing is part of a pattern of increasing skinhead violence that has emerged in the past two years.

On May 1, approximately 50 skinheads marched through the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood in San Francisco to commemorate "White Workers Day." They chanted racist slogans and taunted minority group members along the route.

In July, neo-Nazi skinheads in the South Bay circulated leaflets in Gilroy claiming that the AIDS virus had been developed by white scientists to help "implement the non-race" by killing off homosexuals and minority group members.

Excerpts From A Skinhead Handbook

A pamphlet circulated recently in Hollister and Gilroy by members of a skinhead organization called WAR Skins gives an intriguing glimpse into the group's ideology.

The flier, written by Mike Gagnon and David Mazzella, the head of WAR Skins and vice president of the Aryan Youth Movement, is emblazoned with Nazi swastikas and bears the logos "Young Nazis" and "Skinheads." All spelling errors and grammatical mistakes are as they appear in the leaflet.

"The attitude of a skinhead is generally ready to fight and on guard all the time," the pamphlet says. "Skins do not usually go around and start trouble. Its only when people start to make the jump on skins. When that happens, the skins end up winning! Skinheads are mad and tired of the system screwing them over."

"Skinheads are the All American white youth. They love mom and love their flag."

The pamphlet recommends a skinhead uniform consisting of "Doc Martin" boots, suspenders, poloshirts, flight jackets or Levi jackets. Skinhead women are advised to wear a similar outfit but are allowed to wear miniskirts and fishnet stockings, wool kilts and a fringed skinhead hair style.

"The dress of the skin is rough, smart and clean," the pamphlet says. "All in all, the skinhead uniform is working class, ready to fight because our heads are shaved for battle."

The pamphlet says skinheads should be pro-American, pro-family and pro-work but should "violently oppose" communism and homosexuals.

"Skinheads are against nonwhite immigration because, these people take our jobs and land and give nothing in return. Skinheads are Anti-Semitic, because we know the Jews have extorted us for their personnel means. Skinheads are anti-abortion, we all know that abortion is another form of genocide, the non-white races and the jews sit and laugh at our self-annihilation."

Information excerpted from The San Francisco Chronicle, December 3, 1988. Written by Bill Wallace.

BLACK GANGS

Black gangs have existed in California since the 1920s; however, the number of black gangs and membership was low. Black gangs were not given much attention prior to the early 1970s because of the relatively small incidence of black gang related crime and the fact that crimes committed by black gang members were almost exclusively perpetrated within the lower socioeconomic class black neighborhoods. The general public had little or no knowledge of such activity.

Some of the first research of two predominantly black gangs, the Vice Lords and the Nobles, was done in Chicago in the 1960s by James F. Short, professor of Sociology at Washington State University. Gangs such as these and other supergangs like the Black P. Stone Nation appeared in communities characterized by recent and rapid racial transition. In the 1960s, supergangs emerged in federal projects were developed to combat them. Unfortunately, service providers did not possess the skills to work with gangs and there was little involvement of other community residents and institutions in the supergang projects. There was also considerable fraud in the administration of large grant funds. Projects were poorly monitored and little technical assistance was provided. Official opposition, especially by police, undermined the projects.

Disillusioned gang members turned toward more lucrative avenues to economic gain. Drug abuse and trafficking and the availability of more guns contributed to the devastation of the community and increase in gang-related crime.

In the 1970s in south central Los Angeles, a black gang formed called the Crips. They are said to be named after the "Tales of the Crypt" movie or a comic book of the same name. Their gang color, blue, was derived from Washington High School in Los Angeles. Crips generally wear a blue bandanna or handkerchief or some article of blue clothing (shirt, shoelace, jacket, hat, belt, hair roller). They often refer to each other as "Cuz". They use the letter "C" to replace the letter "B" in conversations and writing because of their rival, the Bloods. They use blue graffiti to mark boundaries and sign their messages, 'CRIPS,' "CUZ," "B/K (Blood Killer), or "P/K" (Piru Killer).

Although there are many versions of how the gang actually formed, the significant aspect is that Crips became notorious within Southern California for their bravado and violence and the geographic range of their criminal activity. The Crips were apparently the first black gang to focus their criminal activity on the general public and were more profit oriented than their predecessors. It has been suggested that some of the Crips' behavior evolved out of the black militant revolutionary atmosphere of the late 1960s and 1970s. Black gangs soon began to appear throughout the Los Angeles area. All had some relationship to the Crips: Compton Crips, Center City Crips, 118th Street Crips, etc.

In time gang members who began to disagree with the Crips split off and adopted the name Piru, which was derived from a street in the Los Angeles area. Piru is better known as Bloods. Their main purpose was to protect themselves from the Crips. Bloods wear red "rags" or red articles of clothing. They refer to each other as "BLOOD," "PIRU," "C/K" (Crip Killer). They are the most ruthless of Los Angeles street gangs next to the Crips.

Both Crips and Bloods are black males, ages 12 to 24, with the most violent age group being 14 to 18. The "shot callers" (leaders) are late 20s to early 30s. They rarely carry identification and use alias names or nicknames. Hairstyles are close cropped or jeri curls. They both wear fad items that change regularly and jackets and caps of national baseball and football teams adhering to gang color themes. Pants are usually worn low on hips, called "sagging."

They communicate non-verbally using graffiti to communicate hostility, territory boundaries, and respect for dead members. These writings on walls are often the first sign of gang infiltration into a neighborhood. Special hand gestures are used to signal gang affiliation.

Both Crips and Bloods are extremely violent and have no remorse when killing innocent by-standers. Gang philosophy has changed from controlling neighborhoods to profit making, using standard business practices, beepers, cellular phones, and computers. The two gangs have even been known to cooperate with each other in drug trafficking to promote drug sales and to set up funds for bail and attorneys. Older members are purchasing legitimate businesses such as car washes, auto painting/body shops, auto dealerships, liquor stores, and others to launder money.

These two gangs have actually evolved into confederations today composed of many subgroups or sets. Sets are formed along neighborhood lines and only a few have more than 100 members (bangers). Average membership of a set is 20 to 30. Conflict is rarely over turf and flying colors is lessening to detract attention away from the drug trafficking.

The May 14, 1990 issue of *Sports Illustrated* published an interview with Michael B. Green, age 22, a former member of the Crips who was convicted of drug trafficking, in which he described life as a Crip. He suggests that boredom, lack of family support, and desire for expensive items are factors contributing to his gang affiliation. He said, "A lot of people say education is the only thing to stop drug dealing. I don't believe that. I went almost all the way through school, got good grades, played drums in the band but I never got the attention I wanted. I played football in high school. It upset me when I could look in the stands and see no parents there. So I joined a gang and got a little attention - from other gang members. I felt they loved me and were a family. I'd die for them, I'd kill for them, I'd go to jail for them." He talked about the senseless killing of people just because they were wearing the wrong colors. He revealed, "One of my best friends in prison is a Blood. I knew him on the street. Five years ago I would have killed him. It was like brainwashing. It's programmed into your brain that the Bloods are the enemy. Every time you see a red rag, you shoot. After a while, it's automatic."

Short further suggests that the economic downturn of the 1970s resulted in the emergence of a ghetto underclass. Black unemployment rates more than doubled between the end of World War II and the 1970s. Continuing patterns of prejudice and discrimination against Blacks exacerbated the problems of other minorities. Black families headed by a woman increased by 108% between 1970 and 1984. Out-of-wedlock births to Black teenage mothers increased, rising by 89% in 1983. The result was that nearly half of all Black children under 18 years of age were in families with less than poverty-level income in 1983 and three-fourths of the families were headed by females.

These changes created a ghetto underclass, mired in poverty and ill equipped to take advantage of opportunities provided by civil rights advances or affirmative action programs. Those who could moved out of the ghetto thus removing from these communities their most economically successful and politically capable residents. The effects on minority communities have been devastating, creating what has been termed a "permanent underclass."

The advent of rock cocaine initiated the exportation of not only the product but the black gang members, who number in the thousands, to other cities. According to a report published by the Drug Enforcement Administration, cocaine arrests comprised nearly 65% of the DEA's total arrests in 1988. Crack is an inexpensive, highly addictive, physically and emotionally destructive cocaine derivative that is being abused in near epidemic proportions in some communities. The availability of crack was first reported in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Houston in 1981.

The majority of crack available in the United States today is through small cottage industry groups, inner-city street gangs, and large-scale Jamaican organizations. Crack cocaine is considered to be the fast food of drugs, a ready material that can be purchased and used quickly for small amounts of money.

Jamaican gangs called Posses originated in Kingston between 1974 and 1976. The Raetown Boys and the Dunkirk Boys, well-organized Jamaican gangs, arrived in New York City in 1976. They have turned from extortion to trafficking crack cocaine. When they infiltrate an area, they will seek out single

black females, with dependents who are generally on welfare to secure rental cars, leasing apartments, and stores to distribute the crack. They use letters to code telephone numbers and utilize rental cars, Federal Express, and public transportation to transport drugs.

Posses are very clanish and do not admit outsiders in their gangs. They protect political zones from opposition, raise funds for affiliated political party through crime, and provide physical protection for drug traffickers. Money and power, however, are becoming more important than political ties. With increased profits come increased violence and diversification. Some posses including Shower and Spangler are involved in gunrunning, according to the January 18, 1988 issue of *U. S. News and World Report*. The bureau for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) has established a special information clearinghouse in Washington for known and suspected Jamaican gang members.

Posses will, on occasion, work together in the U. S. but not in Jamaica. Money from the posses is pouring into Jamaica creating a false and unstable economic base and corrupting a generation of youth. They are black males of Jamaican descent ages 17 to 35. They are extremely violent and use high powered weapons indiscriminately. The trend toward cooperation between gangs of other ethnicity makes surveillance and enforcement difficult.

The Drug Enforcement Administration of the U. S. Department of Justice reports that the Shower Posse (JLP) and Spangler Posse are operating in Dallas. The DEA Dallas office covers an area encompassing the northern half of Texas extending westward to El Paso, eastward to Texarkana, and northward to include the Panhandle and entire State of Oklahoma. Crack cocaine trafficking in this field division is centered primarily around the lower income, urban Black and Hispanic population. Notable trafficking is concentrated in counties comprising the northeast corner of Texas. It is also available in Lubbock, Amarillo, Tulsa, and Oklahoma City. The increase in numbers of crack houses in Oklahoma is attributed to Bloods and Crips from Los Angeles. Approximately 70% of the shooting incidents in Texarkana involving Blacks are attributed to confrontations between crack users and/or dealers.

Tyler has numerous crack houses supplied by Bloods and Crips from California, but is also experiencing an influx of Cubans who offer higher quality cocaine at cheaper prices. Estimates are that 87% of the crime in Tyler is crack related. Houston has identified crack cocaine as its number one problem.

James Coleman and Thomas Hoffer's book, *Public and Private High Schools*, details research on performance of students in public, Catholic, and other private high schools, comparing academic success, school dropout rates, continuation in college, and other matters. Disadvantaged students (minorities and the poor) in Catholic schools did particularly well compared to their counterparts in public and other private schools. Coleman and Hoffer explain these findings in terms of functional community institutions where a consistent pattern of norms and sanctions, reinforcing one another, exist. Intergenerational relationships are important in augmenting relationships with school authorities, in child supervision, and in monitoring their child's associates. Such relationships are lacking in most contemporary urban communities as a result of structural changes in the family and media influences.

The truly disadvantaged lack education, organizational skills, self-confidence, and social capital, the intangible qualities consisting of "relations between persons." Poverty is the seed from which all these gangs have evolved. Most originate in minority communities and most are attractive to youth.

Black Gangs in San Diego

The following is a list of known black gangs claiming areas of San Diego.

	Location	Jurisdiction	Gang	Location	Jurisdiction
118th St East Block (LA)	(San Diego)	SDPD	Main St. Mafia (LA)	(San Diego)	SDPD
4 Corners of World	(San Diego)	SDPD	Neighborhood Crips	(San Diego)	SDPD
5/9 Brims	(San Diego)	SDPD	No Joke Posse (Pirus)	(El Cajon)	ECPD
CC Riders (Compton)	(National City)	NCPD	Palm and Oak Crips (LA)	(National City)	NCPD
Deep Valley Posse	(Oceanside)	Oceanside PD	Palmer Block Crips (Riverside)	(National City)	NCPD
Eastside Piru (Skyline Piru)	(San Diego)	SDPD	Playboy Gangster (LA)	(San Diego)	SDPD
East Dago Mob	(San Diego)	SDPD	Rolling 60s (LA) Crips	(San Diego)	SDPD
Ghostown Crips	(San Diego)	SDPD	Syndo Mob (Lincoln Pk Piru)	(San Diego)	SDPD
Grape St. Watts (LA) Crips	(San Diego)	SDPD	Upside Sick (Uptown Sick/ Piru)	(San Diego)	SDPD
Linda Vista Crips	(San Diego)	SDPD	West Coast Crips	(San Diego)	SDPD
Little Africa Piru	(San Diego)	SDPD	West Side Crips	(Oceanside)	Oceanside PD

Black Gangs

By Ron Johnson

SDSO Gang Investigation Unit

Sometime in the early 70's, we started to see the beginnings of the black gangs that we have today. Basically, black gangs are divided into two separate and major gangs. These two different gangs are known as "Crips" and "Pirus" or "Bloods." Each of these gangs, Crips, and Pirus, are divided further into different sets that identify themselves by the local streets or landmarks, such as parks or neighborhoods. Crips often have altercations between different sets or factions. However, Pirus do not seem to be so inclined.

There are several stories about the origins of the Crips, but the most commonly accepted version is that they started in the West Los Angeles area. The general consensus is that Raymond Washington started the Crip gang. Crips began to prey upon others who were not gang members. Due to a variety of reasons, the Crip gang built up a strong reputation for being the strongest force in black gangs. Soon other gangs started renaming themselves, incorporating the word Crip into the new names. Gangs such as Main Street became the Main Street Crips. Many others followed suit, and soon such gangs as the Kitchen Crips, 5 Deuce Crips and Rollin 20 Crips appeared. Although these gangs adopted the Crip name they maintained the same leaders and membership, were independent and shared only a common name.

The Pirus (Bloods) developed after the Crips, and today are the traditional rivals of the Crips. The development of the Pirus is similar of that of the Crips. In the early 70's Sylvester Scott and Vincent Owens formed the Compton Pirus. This gang originated on west Piru Street in the city of Compton. Compton Pirus developed quickly and became extremely strong. The recognition given to the

Compton Pirus spread throughout the county and other Piru gangs were formed. Numerically the Pirus are outnumbered by the Crips. But what they lack in numbers they make up for in violence.

Crip gang members identify with the color blue, and will usually have a blue rag in their possession, or will wear some article of clothing that is blue (ie: blue shoelaces, blue shirts and jackets, blue hat, blue hair rollers or blue canvas belts). Crips refer to one another as "Cuzz" and use the letter "C" to replace the letter "B" in their conversations and writings. Crip gangs will generally write their graffiti in blue. They write their gang name on walls in the neighborhood to mark their particular territorial boundaries, and to identify their enemies or rivals. They use terms like "Crip," "Cuzz," and "B/K" or "P/K" (which means Blood Killer or Piru Killer).

Pirus and Bloods identify with the color red and refer to one another as "Blood." Pirus will also usually carry a red rag and wear articles of clothing that are red. Piru gangs write their graffiti in red and use the terms "Blood," "Piru," and "C/K" (which means Crip Killer).

Structure

In the black street gang, there is no one member in charge of everyone or formal rank or structure. There are members with more influence than others, but the term leader is seldom used. A person's age, physical stature, arrest record, and behavioral background are the main factors involved in weighing an individual's influence upon a gang. Gang members demonstrate their nerve in order to gain respect, influence and power within a particular gang.

The Hard Core Element. Those few who need and thrive on the totality of the gang activity. The gang's level of violence is determined by the hard core members and their ability to orchestrate the gang as a vehicle to manifest their own violence. The hard core members are generally the leaders, the most violent, street-wise, and knowledgeable in legal matters. They may participate in the violent act or

encourage others to commit the violence. They are usually liked and respected by outsiders, as well as gang members.

The Affiliates/Associates. Those who associate with the gang for status and recognition.

The Peripheral. Those who move "in and out" on the basis of interest in the activity or activities of the gang.

The majority of street gang members are often from broken homes or homes without a strong male authority figure. They also come from homes where both parents work, and the gang member has little or no supervision. More often than not, they are underachievers with a poor self-image and low self-esteem. The primary age group of street gang members is from 14 to 20. The average is generally around 18, but we have seen active gang members as young as 8 and as old as 28.

The reasons for joining a gang are varied and many times are not understood by the gang member himself. Gang members often belong to a gang because they obtain a level or status they feel impossible to attain outside the gang culture. Black gang members think of themselves as gangsters. Many members join because they live in the gang area and are subject to violence by rival gangs. Joining a gang guarantees support in case of attack and retaliation. Some gang members are forced into joining by their peer group. Intimidation to join a gang ranges from extortion (money) to beatings.

In addition to all of the above, monetary gain is also a major factor today in why young men join gangs. The majority of black gang members come from the inner city of ghetto where unemployment is very high and the families live at a poverty level. It is extremely difficult to tell a 15-year-old gang member that he should not be in a gang, when he is earning \$200 to \$300 a day selling cocaine or other drugs on the street. This is in addition to his other money-making activities such as robbery and theft.

Black gangs have been considered transitional and Hispanic are considered traditional, partly because black gangs have not been around long enough to have developed traditions and because black gang members eventually drift away from the gangs. This does not hold true today because black gang members are staying with the gangs past the usual age which they disassociate themselves. Additionally, we are beginning to see second-generation black gang members, similar to Hispanic gangs.

Gang Communication

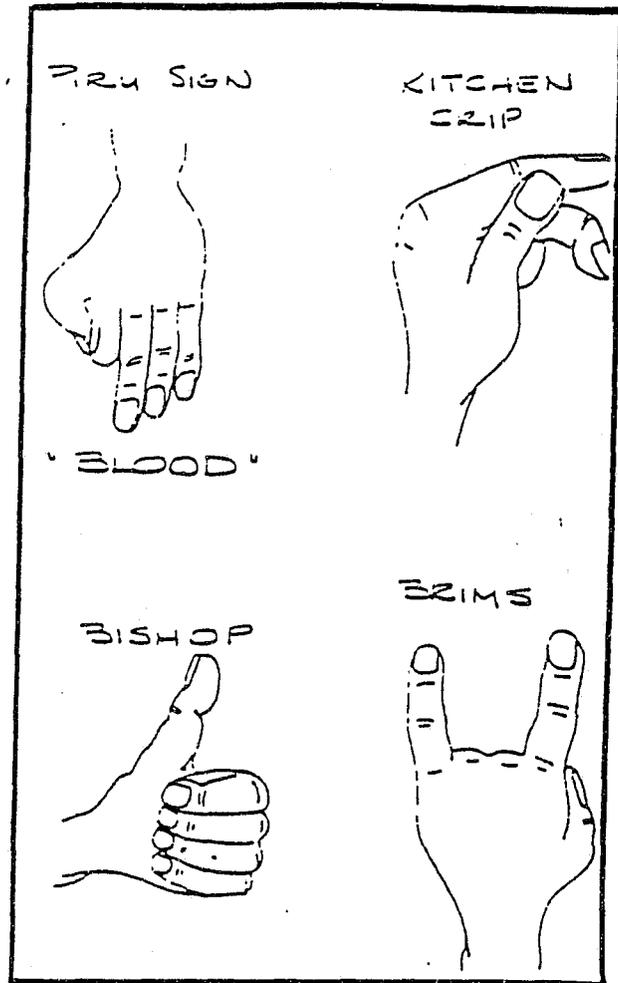
Black street gangs communicate primarily through their actions. Street gangs need and seek recognition. They want recognition not only from their community, but also from rival gangs. The gang's image and reputation depends on this recognition and is critical to its members because such visibility enhances the reputations of the gang members.

Verbal and non-verbal gang communication is ever present and takes a variety of different forms. The most observable is wall writings called graffiti. The graffiti styles differ, not so much in the basic mechanics or in the meaning, but in sophistication and intensity. The primary reason for this difference is that black gangs lack that traditional gang

philosophy common in most established Latin or Hispanic gangs. The black gang graffiti lacks the flair and attention to detail evidenced by the Hispanic gang graffiti. The writings are crude, but have been refined in recent years.

Signs

Another non-verbal method of gang communication is flashing hand signs. The purpose of the hand signs is to identify the user with a specific gang. Confrontations frequently begin with gang signs being flashed between rivals and soon escalates into verbal and physical violence.

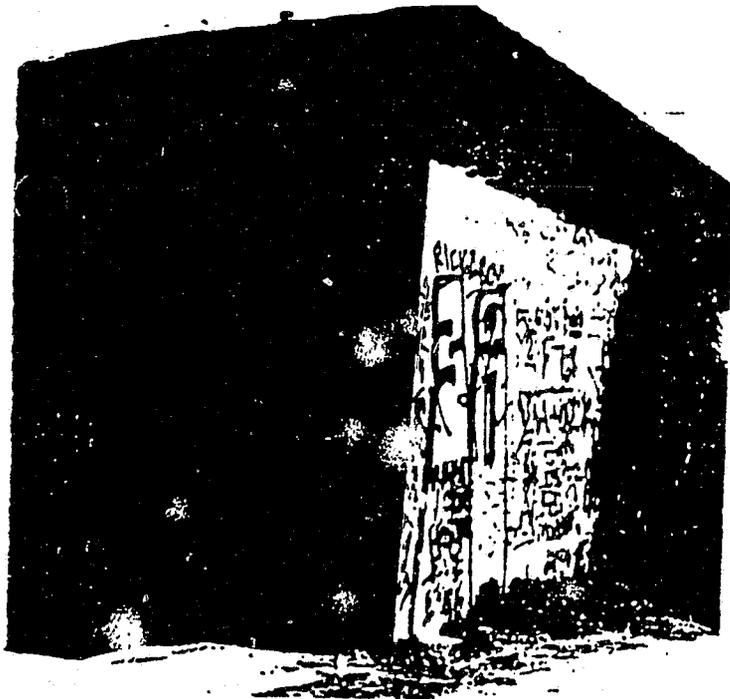


Dress

Most gang members are proud of their gang and openly display signs of their membership. One indication of this membership is the way the individual is dressed.

There are two basic types of gang clothing. First is the type that will lead the observer to the conclusion that the individual belongs to a gang without specifically identifying which gang. The clothing may indicate the type of gang, but not the particular gang.

The second type of gang clothing specifically identifies a gang. This is apparent in areas where street gang members wear shirts, sweatshirts or caps with their gang name or logo.



Tattoos

Black gang members once were not into tattoos, but that has changed and black gangs are tattooing themselves in the same manner as the traditional Hispanic gangs.

Future Trends

The membership in black gangs continues into our prison system. The prisons in California have had prison gangs for many years, but in the last few years the prisons in California have seen the formation of at least two new prison gangs. The two new prison gangs are identifying themselves as the Consolidated Crip Organization and the United Blood Nation. Both of these gangs get their membership from street gang members sent to the prisons by our courts. The gang members that belong to these prison gangs tend to only claim membership while they are in prison. Upon release, they return to their original street gang. These two prison gangs have had little impact on the streets, but we are currently seeing efforts being made by the Crips to unite.

In the Compton area we have been seeing various Crip gangs unite with one another to enhance their criminal enterprises. These gangs are now calling themselves C.C. Riders (Compton Crips). This new alliance is partly responsible for the increase in the gang war in South Central Los Angeles. They also have been exporting their various gang activities to other cities in California and other western states.

The violence level of the black gangs is extremely high. For several years black gangs have been at war with one another in the Southeast San Diego area. The Crips and Pirus are traditional enemies and will generally fight with each other over turf encroachments or supposed insults. A fight can start from something as simple as wearing a red shirt in a Crip neighborhood or calling a Piru gang member "Cuzz" in a greeting. Additionally non-gang members (the Public) have been victims of these gangs since they formed

(ie; robberies and thefts). Non-gang members have been killed and wounded in the battles between these two gangs. As the black gangs become more involved with drugs, they gain financially. The money that they get from their illegal enterprises is now being used to purchase firearms from both legal and illegal sources. Previously black gang members attained the majority of their firearms from burglaries or other means. The firearms that they were using were small caliber rifles and handguns (.22, .32, & .38 calibers), and shotguns. Today, the black gangs in San Diego County are armed with sophisticated para-military rifles such as semi-automatic rifles of 7.62 and .223 calibers. They're also armed with Uzi, Mac-10 type firearms and 9mm and .45 caliber pistols. All of these weapons have high capacity clips and magazines.

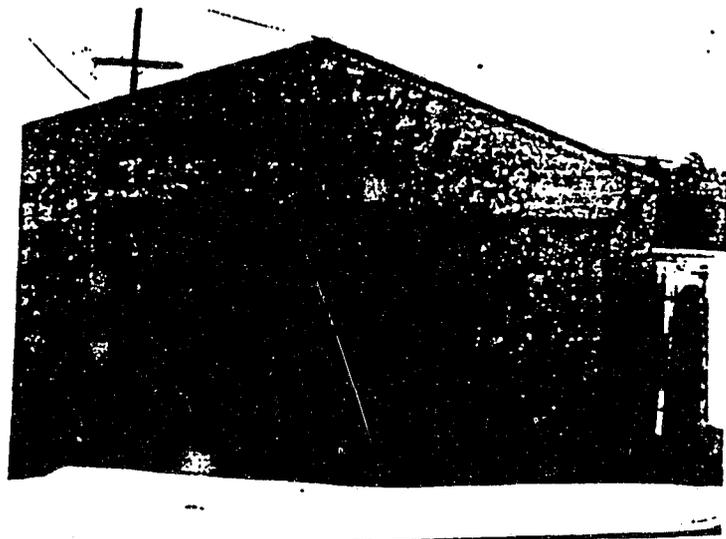
In recent months law enforcement agencies have recovered AR-15 rifles with 100 round magazines, AK-47 type rifles with 30 and 40 round magazines, and smaller 9mm weapons with anywhere from 15 to 30 round magazines. At several drive-by shootings, investigators have recovered between 40 and 80 expended casings at the crime scenes.

We are seeing increasing expansion of the black gangs of Los Angeles County into other cities, counties, and states. What was once a serious problem for law enforcement in Los Angeles is fast becoming a problem for the rest of the country.

Narcotics and Black Gangs

In the past several years, we began to see an increase of black gang members dealing narcotics. In 1984 it was firmly established that many members of black street gangs were involved in narcotics dealing.

Primarily the predominant drugs were marijuana and PCP. This trend has steadily progressed to include cocaine. This involvement, to some degree included the operation of "Rock Houses." Recently, there has been a major increase in the violent activities of these black gang narcotic dealers. Non-gang members have been murdered by gang members over drug transactions or rip-offs. Extortion is becoming more prevalent. Gang crime is expanding beyond its traditional boundaries.



In the traditional black street gang, there is no one member in charge of everyone or a formal rank structure. There are members with more influence than others, but the term "leader" is seldom used. A person's age, physical stature, arrest record, and behavioral background were the main factors involved in weighing an individual's influence upon a gang, but now, because of drug trafficking, money is the greatest factor. Where a gang member in the past would have to demonstrate their nerve in order to gain respect and influence, power within a particular gang can now be bought.

As a gang member becomes more and more successful in drug sales, he tends to drift away from the actual gang, and gang activity itself. The gang members' loyalty to the gang can still be demonstrated by providing narcotics, guns or money to a particular gang or gang member, but close contact with the gang is an added risk to the dealer. As the dealer forms a mini-organization for the purpose of narcotics sales, his right-hand men will usually be trusted fellow gang members. The more money the dealer has, the more influence within the gang. Positive contact is maintained for services to be bought (street dealing, muscle, and contract killings).

Most gang members do not know the source of the narcotics, only that a member, usually one who they refer to as "Rollin" (nice cars, money, and jewelry), delivers about an ounce of rock cocaine at a time and returns for money pick-up. The gang members who are employed at narcotics locations have a penal system where as a gang member is responsible for an amount of narcotics and money due and depending upon the amount missing, will reflect on the type of punishment received; anywhere from working for free to a contract hit (murder). On an average, each gang member gets from \$5 to \$8 for each rock sold, which generates anywhere from \$100 to \$300 a day, and the runner gets about \$100 an ounce depending on how many locations and how many ounces per location a day. If a gang member works a "Rock House" wherein shifts are generally in 12-hour increments, he is paid anywhere from \$700 and up. It should be noted that the prices of rock cocaine vary depending on the law enforcement activity and the availability of the drug.

Gang Slang

Slang terms used in one geographical area may have a different meaning in another area of the state. Besides having a different meaning, a word may have different emphasis or connotation from area to area or group to group.

Some terms will be used exclusively by one group. When used by another group, those terms may carry a derogatory connotation.

As sociological and cultural changes occur, new words may be devised for previously used slang terms by all gang/barrio/neighborhood/street groups.

Hand Signals

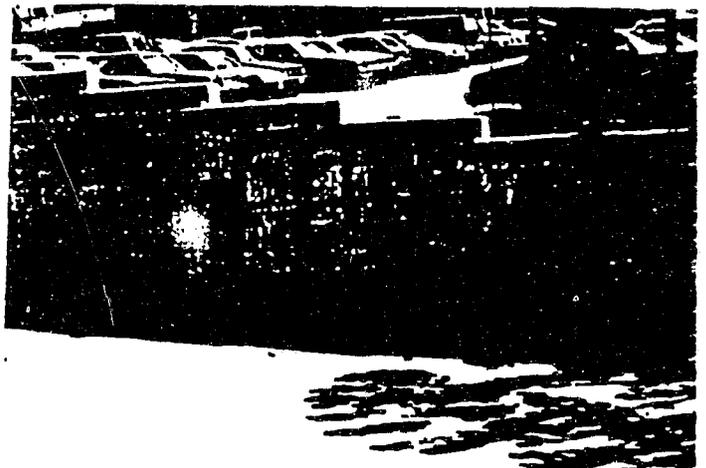
Youth gang members employ several means of non-verbal communication to acknowledge their gang or to challenge rival gangs, including hand signals or "throwing signs."

Black Slang Terms

Ace Kool	Best Friend/Backup
Blood	Piru/Non-Crip
Book	Run, get away, leave
Break	Run, get away
Breakdown	Shotgun
Bullet	One year in custody
Bumping titties	Fighting
Busted, popped a cap	Shot at someone
Busting	Involved in a violent act, such as fighting with fists or a weapon
Check it out	Listen to what I have to say
Colum	Columbian marijuana
Crab	Crip
Cragared down	Low rider type car or full dressed gang banger
Cuzz	Crip
Dime speed	10-speed bicycle
Drop a dime	Snitch on someone
Double deuce	.22 caliber gun
Deuce & a quarter	Buick 225 vehicle
Durag	Bandana wrapped around head
Dusted	Under the influence of PCP
Eight-tray	83
Esseys	Medicans
Everything is everything	It's all right

These signals or "signs" are made by forming letters or numbers with the hands and fingers, depicting the gang symbol or initials. By using these signals, the gang member can show which gang he belongs to and issues challenges to other gangs in the vicinity.

The following examples show some of the various signals used. It should be noted that hand signals given in one city will probably stand for a different meaning in another city, the only exceptions being "P" for "Piru" gangs and "C" for "Crips." This signal remains constant throughout the state.



HISPANIC GANGS

Hispanic barrio (neighborhood) gangs are among the oldest in the United States. They are usually organized around neighborhoods, streets, or certain areas and take their names from the geographic area or some characteristic of the area they claim. They tend to express their gang affiliation more artistically than other gangs via dress, graffiti, tattoos, and vehicles.

Participants in Hispanic street gangs are youth who have relied largely on street peers for socialization. Youth with problem families, lack of adult supervision and guidance, and a fear for personal safety are most vulnerable to gang involvement. Youth join gangs seeking a sense of belonging. Gang membership affords a clearly defined set of peers with whom friendship and family-like relationships can be enjoyed. Another reason for gang affiliation can be family tradition. Joining the gang is a natural expectation in a family where fathers, uncles, and brothers have participated in the gang.

Adolescence brings additional stresses which produce many school drop-outs. Lack of training and limited job opportunities find these youth on the street with gang peers. They may strive to demonstrate gang loyalty or machismo (manliness) through drinking, drugs, exhibiting sexual prowess, fighting ability, and a quick readiness to fight. The availability of guns and the wide use of mind altering drugs lead to serious criminal consequences. James Diego Vigil, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for Urban Policy and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, suggests that the physical pummeling that is part of the initiation to most barrio gangs helps resolve gender identifications in youth. The initiation also serves to test a prospective member's toughness and desire for membership and to enhance loyalty to the group. Initiation rites range from "being jumped" (being beaten) to stealing cars or committing a burglary. In addition, if a youth wants to leave a gang, he has to go through an exit rite which requires performing a criminal act, often violent.

The average age of an Hispanic youth gang member is 14 to 21 but children as young as seven have joined. The most violent age seems to be 13 to 16. The average life expectancy of an Hispanic gang member is 25. About age 21 or 22 members tend to leave the gang but remain criminally active.

To enhance the gang identity, standardized clothing styles, nicknames (street names), tattoo and graffiti techniques, speech practices, and even distinctive patterns for face and hand gestures, body posture, and walking are used. Vigil calls this the "cholo front." Most gang members freely drop their cholo front in situations where it impedes their attaining a particular goal.

Motivations of youth for joining gangs determine the level of involvement in the gang. Some are totally committed to the gang while others use the gang for socialization but have interests elsewhere. Some members may enjoy the parties and try to avoid the more violent activities. Sometimes a leisurely cruising episode can quickly turn into violence.

Grffiti is significant among street gangs because it delineates a gang's claimed area ("marks the turf") as well as indicates those areas in dispute. It proclaims who the top ranking gang members are, serves as a directory of gang membership, communicates challenges, and advertises types of activity the gang or gang member is involved in. Hispanic gang graffiti is highly stylized and usually is not placed on larger areas like walls until the scribe has acquired a fair degree of skill in such writing. It tends to be in Old English lettering, explosive block style, or the sharp angled California Hispanic street gang style that developed in Los Angeles.

Gang members put their gang logos or members' names on anything that will hold paint, felt tip pen, chalk, or pencil. The gang logo or moniker painted on a wall is called a "placaso" which derives from the

Spanish word "placa" which means badge, insignia, plaque, or plate. It is the gang members' insignia.

Placing graffiti in the area of a rival gang is considered an insult and a challenge to the rival gang to which the rival gang invariably feels compelled to respond. The response can be anything from simply crossing out the rival graffiti to a drive-by shooting or other violence. It is not uncommon for death to result from graffiti confrontations. The first response is inevitably the "X-ing out" of the rival graffiti along with some additional negative display in bold letters. Most cross outs are found around the fringes of a gang's claimed area instead of in the geographic center. Hispanic gang members commonly list their "homeboys" on the walls in their area or the area of rivals or the area of a crime they have recently committed. The order of the names often has significance as to who is considered the top members.

The major industrialization and urbanization boom of the twentieth century requiring thousands of laborers has produced a continual Mexican immigration in this century. This boom has contributed in turn to the development and growth of street gangs. The continuity of these barrio gangs stems from the same conditions that initially caused the development of gangs: poverty, substandard housing, poor-paying jobs, low levels of education, estrangement from families, and widespread discrimination. In addition these neighborhoods usually have few parks and playgrounds, no safe, supervised places for youth to gather. Schools often do not provide staff capable of understanding and dealing with language and cultural differences.

The Depression and World War II brought many changes for Mexican immigrants. Attempts at deportation of Mexicans to Mexico combined with racist practices in schools and in public facilities made the people feel very unwelcome. This resulted in challenging and anti-social behavior, especially on the part of second generation youth who considered themselves American but were being rejected.

The Zoot Suit riots in 1943 increased the anti-Mexican sentiment and are considered a turning point in the development of a serious gang problem. The riots culminated when servicemen and Anglo citizens hunted down and beat up Mexican youth dressed in "zoot suits." Intense attention from police and the media intensified gang participation.

World War II removed many Mexican male role models from the barrios (neighborhoods) leaving only those rejected from service with criminal records to serve as role models for the younger boys. The war created labor shortages thus creating a welcoming attitude toward both the legal and illegal immigrant laborer. Improvement in the work and earning powers of many immigrant families resulted in social mobility allowing many to move from the poverty conditions of the barrio. Returning soldiers took advantage of government programs to improve their housing options. These factors removed even more positive male role models from the barrios.

The introduction of drug use and dealing in the late 1940s and early 1950s was a major factor in changing the gang into a more formalized unit. The Chicano civil rights movement altered the form, activities, and direction of gang activities. Gang members have said that gang-banging (fighting) is like "showing you are an American."

Vigil describes cultural change in terms of "choloization." He defines a "cholo" as a people caught between two cultures. Such is the case in the Hispanic culture. First generation immigrants attempted to maintain their native language, traditions, and lifestyles while second generation youth realized a need to be more closely identified with American youth. The result was a lack of acceptance by both cultures.

ASIAN GANGS

According to the November 15, 1990 Lipman Report, "Asian gangs threaten to become America's new Mafia." Of all the gangs formed along ethnic lines, the Asians are the most terrifying. Metropolitan Toronto Police Constable Kent Bradbury said, "These Asian criminals are unbelievably ruthless. They're not afraid of pain, and they're not afraid to die. Every day that they're alive is just another day to them." Asian gangs are evolving into a global force and threaten to become more dominant in American life than the Mafia.

Southeast Asians are moving through the free world in larger numbers than ever before. The vast majority have become productive, law-abiding citizens but a small, growing number are involved in organized crime whose reach is continent-wide. Many members move frequently between underworlds in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, New York, Boston, and Canada. Their underground network provides refuge for fugitives wanted for serious crimes, as well as for assassins who are willing to commit murders in distant cities where they are unlikely to be recognized.

According to the January 18, 1988 issue of *U.S. News and World Report*, police and prosecutors are calling this new criminal element the "internationalization of crime" in the United States. David Leroy, chief of domestic intelligence for the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) says "Ethnic gangs appear to be the new trend in crime."

Just as Irish, Italian, and Jewish criminal gangs fed off their own communities first before amassing enough money and strength to prey on groups outside their communities, Asians are following the same pattern. James Goldman of the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) says, "As long as the pattern of crime is kept within the communities themselves, it is not sparking the interest of the federal government. But once these crimes begin to affect the larger community, we begin to take note."

Gangs are fighting for control of a wide range of lucrative illegal businesses: heroin and other drug trafficking trade, illegal gaming houses, prostitution, and other illegal activities. Unless their grip can be broken, Americans will see Asian-dominated crime invade all levels of American society just as Asian products have done.

Criminal Triads are now restricting themselves largely to acting as financial supporters of smugglers of heroin or illegal immigrants. Vietnamese gangs and the Dai Huen Jai (Big Circle Boys), gangsters from mainland China and Hong Kong, engage in everything from neighborhood extortion to international drug trafficking.

FBI Director William Sessions has said that the Asian criminal element may easily become the dominant organized crime force in the United States in the 1990s and beyond. Chief among the reasons for this surge is the growth of the Southeast Asian drug trade.

Senator Joseph Biden (D-Del) who in August, 1990 chaired a hearing into the Asian heroin trade, predicted that membership in Chinese triads in the United States could reach 9,000 by the end of the decade, double the number of members in the American Mafia at its peak in the 1960s. According to the March 25, 1991 issue of *MacLean's Magazine*, The 14K and Kung Lok Triads have over 300,000 members in Chinatowns of Toronto, Vancouver, and Calgary. By comparison, estimates are that there are 2,000 Mafia members in North America. In 1989 almost 50% of the heroin supply in the United States came from the Southeast Asian opium crop. According to the March 25, 1991 issue of *MacLean's Magazine*, the Dai Huen Jai are now supplying 80% of the Asian heroin currently consumed by an estimated 750,000 U. S. addicts through Canada.

WHY THE INCREASE IN ASIAN ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE U.S.?

Asian crime in America appears to stem primarily from two international political conditions. First is United States involvement in the war in Vietnam and the subsequent immigration of Vietnamese after the 1975 fall of Saigon and then the 1979 immigration of Sino-Vietnamese boat people. While most of the Vietnamese have become well assimilated and productive citizens, estimates are that 20 to 30% of the boat people were malcontents, criminals, and trained espionage agents. Additional problems can be traced to later immigration by largely uneducated, rural Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians who grew up in an environment of guns, drugs, and violence. Most entered this country as deprived and needy refugees who often turned to gangs for social solidarity.

The second political condition is the changing status of Hong Kong. Law enforcement agencies believe that prior to 1997 when control of Hong Kong passes from Britain to the People's Republic of China, 10 to 25% of Hong Kong's 5.6 million people will enter the United States or Canada. Hong Kong is believed to be a major headquarters of Chinese organized crime groups called triads, many of which have already established trade and family networks in the United States. Even if only a small percentage of the estimated 100,000 triad members emigrate to the United States, our country will experience a sharp rise in criminal activity. This predicted increase does not include estimates of criminal activity of other ethnic Asians. According to Allen Breaux of the FBI, because the People's Republic of China has strongly communicated that gang related crime will not be tolerated in Hong Kong, a sharp increase in Asian organized crime is feared.

The proportional increase in criminal activity to the growing influx of Asians to the United States has become a major national problem. While Asian criminals traditionally confined their illegal operations to Asian communities, they are now, according to FBI Director Sessions, "extending their tentacles into the rest of American society."

TYPES OF ASIAN GANGS

Chinese, Vietnamese, and Japanese are the three ethnic groups most active in the United States, but Korean crime has recently begun to expand as well. Each group is associated with particular crimes and modes of operation.

I. CHINESE GANGS

Before 1965, crime rates within Chinese communities in North America were very low. Among Chinese adolescents, delinquency was uncommon which may have had to do in part with the fact that few Chinese teenagers were in the United States as a result of the Chinese Exclusion Act passed in 1882 and the National Origins Act of 1924. The Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965 was a turning point in the history of Chinese immigration.

The large number of newcomers found few social service agencies prepared to help them with housing, employment, education, and health problems. This breakdown in support coupled with the growth of the Chinese population in isolated and fragmented communities, brought a corresponding increase in criminal activities among the Chinese.

According to a 1983 study of the New York City Police Department, most Chinese gang members are predominantly male. Each gang has an average membership of 20 to 50 hard-core members with a few inactive and some peripheral members. The age range of members is 13 to 37 with most being in the late teens or early twenties. Most speak the Cantonese dialect.

Structures of gangs vary. There can be 1 to 5 leaders at the top called tai lou (big brothers). They are the liaisons between the tongs and the gangs. Under the leaders are lieutenants who command the street soldiers, who guard the streets and commit most of the extortion, robbery, and street violence. They are

known as the *ma jai* (little horses). Youth join gangs out of fear as well as the putative benefits of membership. Youth who are not doing well in school or who already dropped out, newcomers with little or no command of English and few job prospects are prime for gang recruitment. Gang members approach youth who hang out at video arcades, basketball courts, bars, and street corners. Once a youth joins, he goes through an initiation ceremony that is a simplified version of the Chinese secret societies' recruiting rituals where they take oaths, burn yellow paper, and drink wine mixed with blood in front of the gang leaders and the altar of General Kwan.

To counter Chinese gangs, attention needs to be given to the diverse cultural heritages and the unique features of each Asian ethnic group must be identified. There are three reasons for the persistence of Chinese gangs. First, unlike black or Hispanic gangs, Chinese gangs are not based on youth fads or illicit drug use. Instead, they are closely related to their communities' social and economic life. Opportunities for money, power, and prestige are international unlike other ethnic groups. Second, Chinese gangs flourish in rapidly developing and economically healthy Chinese communities that are closely tied to Chinese societies in Southeast Asia. Other ethnic groups have no outside and few local resources. Third, gangs are embedded in the Triad subculture established and maintained by secret societies which gives them a certain legitimacy within their communities.

Chinese organized crime both in the United States and abroad is directed by structured groups referred to as triads, tongs, and street gangs. From 1970 to 1980 the Chinese population in the United States jumped 85% from 435,062 to 806,027.

TRIADS: Triads are secret societies which have existed as early as 209 B.C. Many were organized for the noble purpose of redressing injustices. Modern triads formed in southern China in the late 1600s when five Chinese Buddhist monks swore to overthrow the Mongolian Manchu invaders who had deposed the Ming Dynasty. They took their name and their symbol, a triangle, from the Chinese concept of the three fundamental elements of the universe: heaven, earth, and man. The monks' revolution failed but the network of secret associations they founded prospered.

By the late 1800s, the Triads had evolved into widely feared criminal societies. During the upheavals in China after World War II, they aligned themselves with Chiang Kai-shek against the Red Army of Mao Tse-tung. When the Communists seized control of mainland China in 1949, the syndicates fled to Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Today's triads are heavily involved in crime. Their members' strong adherence to the code of secrecy and ready use of intimidation contribute to the success of their lucrative rackets which include extortion, gambling, prostitution, alien smuggling, gun dealing, and narcotics trafficking.

TONGS: Tong means "hall" or "gathering place." Tongs began as primarily business and social organizations with the first wave of Chinese goldfield and railroad workers. They provided self-help groups to these displaced people. Dating to the 1800s they were founded as benevolent associations to offer protection and guidance to those in need. Their membership is limited to persons of Chinese descent.

Since the 1960s, in order to improve their image, the tongs have been renamed as associations. The heads of these associations are normally influential and well-respected community leaders.

STREET GANGS: Street gangs were originally loosely-knit groups of young street kids who helped with the tongs' gambling operations. Now they are more formal criminal organizations. Two of the more notorious are the Flying Dragons and Ghost Shadows who operate in nearly every major Chinese community in the United States and Canada. Sophisticated, highly structured, and vicious, these groups exist to maintain and perpetrate control over a community's vice and drugs activities.

Gangs use control by the use of explicit or implicit extortion. One practice is to enter a restaurant at peak hours and behave in a disorderly fashion, intimidating other patrons. Another is ordering expensive menu items and then simply writing the gang name on the back of the check. *Hei bai lian* is the technique of using gang members to frighten business owners while others appear and pretend to be "good guys" only to return and demand protection money. *Tai jiau tsi* is a process to flatter a potential victim who unknowingly associates himself with the gang until it is too late for him to get rid of the gang label. *Wo di* is an undercover approach in which a gang member infiltrates a business seeking a job. When he collects enough information about the owner and the business, he informs the gang who plans the extortion or robbery.

II. VIETNAMESE GANGS

Vietnamese gangs, as well as other Asian gangs, are not as well organized as Chinese gangs because they have no adult group to emulate. Vietnamese gangs prey almost exclusively on Asian victims and are associated with particularly ruthless and violent crimes. *MacLean's Magazine* states "Vietnamese gangsters are unquestionably the fiercest. They are mainly immigrants who grew up accustomed to blood and violent death."

One Vietnamese youth gang, Born to Kill, has been linked with murders, robberies, and turf wars in New York's Chinatown. Other gangs specialize in home and business invasions, so termed because operations are executed with military planning and precision. More reckless and mobile than traditional Asian gangs, these groups seek gold, jewelry, cash, and terrorize their carefully targeted victims until they relinquish their goods. Because Asian immigrants distrust banks and are reluctant to confide in police, they are particularly vulnerable to such crime. In Toronto, Vietnamese gangs have been known to supply automatic weapons to school-age youth.

Very little scientific research exists on Vietnamese youth gangs. Most information comes from law enforcement and social workers. The effects of the Vietnam War, low socioeconomic status, governmental neglect, culture conflict, academic failure and racism have prevented many youth from realizing their American dream via education and hard work. Thus, youth gravitate to gangs.

Vietnamese gangs do not fit the profile of organized Asian gangs nor of black or Hispanic street gangs because they do not claim turf, adopt particular modes of clothing, or even have gang names. They seem to exist to provide their members with what they are unable to obtain legitimately: money, recreation, autonomy, and a sense of family. There are practical and pragmatic choosing not to participate in drug dealing because of the risk, competition, and "start-up" costs. They try not to draw attention to themselves and because protecting their criminal lifestyle is their only way to the American dream.

III. JAPANESE GANGS

Japanese organized crime groups are known as Yakuza or "the violent ones." They are believed to be the largest organized criminal groups in the world with membership as high as 110,000 in as many as 2,500 gangs. Run like businesses seeking profit and power, they have invested in U. S. properties and organizations for more than 20 years primarily in Hawaii and in the western United States. According to California Attorney General John Van De Kamp, Yakuza takes in up to \$4 billion a year worldwide through various criminal enterprises and then invests the money in real estate and in legitimate businesses. Yakuza are also involved in drug trafficking particularly in the traffic of crystal methamphetamines known as "ice."

IV. KOREAN GANGS

Koreans in the United States are associated mainly with prostitution. According to police intelligence sources, criminal networks import many of the young women to staff brothels from Malaysia, Korea, and Thailand with false promises of employment as entertainers or waitresses. Often girls are provided false passports and smuggled into this country. When they reach North America, they are virtually imprisoned in brothels. As a criminal industry, prostitution in the United States is estimated to generate annual revenues in excess of \$10 billion.

BARRIERS TO COUNTERING THE PROBLEM

Enforcement has been stymied by a myriad of problems including insufficient manpower and a lack of agents who speak Asian languages. Asian gangs are difficult to penetrate. They are innately secretive, extremely loyal to their own, wary of non-Asians, and speak in virtually innumerable dialects. As of August, 1990, only 126 of the FBI's 10,000 agents were of Asian descent.

Because understanding is the first step to control, individuals and government officials must become educated in the cultures of these new citizens and, when practical, in their languages as well in order to monitor their activities effectively. A major problem is the lack of recent research on Asian gangs. Most of the information available is from police and journalists.

WHAT IS BEING DONE

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) has established an information clearinghouse. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has established a task force called Group 41, made up of agents fluent in many Chinese dialects.

RISKS TO THE CORPORATE WORLD

Corporate America must take steps to protect itself against the growing threat of Asian crime. The June 10, 1991 edition of *The Wall Street Journal's* reported "Japan Gangs Reach Deeper into Business." It reported that a growing number of gangsters are involved in property, finance, and leasing businesses. Many are heavily involved in land and stock speculation and often use coercion to ensure that they do not take losses. According to the article, "financial authorities are very alarmed by reports that criminal syndicates are opening branch offices nationwide and getting into legitimate businesses in new areas."

Companies operating in areas of large, recent immigrant populations often hire these new Americans with limited language and technical skills for more routine assembly or custodial tasks. In so doing, companies risk enormous losses from inventory pilferage. Computer chips and other high tech equipment are particularly vulnerable. Because a ready market exists overseas for high tech components, Southeast Asians who have joined gangs or other groups for protection may be directed by group leaders to obtain desirable parts from assembly lines or from inventories.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON SOCIETY?

Organized crime is a pervasive threat and it is costly, costing the United States billions of dollars annually and affecting citizens at every level of society. While organized crime's gross annual income is believed to exceed \$100 billion, the IRS estimates that only about 40% of it is reported. Consumers pay higher prices when competition is suppressed and when costs of doing business are increased by extortion and theft. Communities pay more when additional law enforcement officers must be deployed. Society pays dearly when its officials become tainted by mob money and when it must function within an environment of escalating lawlessness.

Asian Gangs

four Vietnamese or Chinese youths wearing black "Members Only" style jackets enter a Vietnamese business and ask for \$200 for "My Brother," an extortion is being committed. The fear element is established through the combined effect of their members, dress, physical demeanor and positioning and the reference to "My Brother." When this is documented in the preliminary investigation and/or follow-up reports, Los Angeles Courts are increasingly accepting it as evidence of the fear element and gang affiliation.

Graffiti

Graffiti is of minor significance with most Asian street gangs. The Satanas (Filipino) and Bahalana (BNG-Filipino) gangs write graffiti at schools they attend and around their hangouts, similar to Hispanic gangs. Their graffiti can be found on school folders, address books, etc.

Vermont and Melrose is a good location to find Satanas gang graffiti. BNG gang graffiti is appearing at several junior high schools and high schools in the Hollywood Area. Some minor Vietnamese gangs have written graffiti on theater walls in Chinatown ("BXD"=Black Dragons). A minor Vietnamese gang which sprang up at Lincoln High School in 1984 had many of its members writing their gang name ("Kool Boys") on their tennis shoes. "Viet Ching" and "Wah Ching" graffiti is nearly non-existent though those gang names can be seen etched into table tops at some restaurants their member frequently patronize. "Korean Killer" (Korean) graffiti can be seen in Korea Town on a small scale (usually "Korean Killers #1 or just "Korean Killer" or "KK"). In keeping with the monetary motives, and desire to operate secretly and present a low profile to law enforcement, graffiti is not any practical use to most Asian gangs. The exception to that is the "Satanas" and "BNG" gangs which closely resemble Latin gangs in many respects.

Tattoo/Marks

Tattooing is not as widespread among Asian gangs as among traditional gangs. Members of the Japanese "Yakusa" (actually several gangs based in Japan with operatives in the United States) engage in elaborate body tattooing on their upper torsos. As sign of loyalty and atonement for transgressions a "Yakusa" might amputate the tip of his little finger. A future offense might result in the removals of the top joint of another finger. "Wah Chings" and "Viet Chings" have tattooed eagle on their forearms. This practice has been largely discontinued once law enforcement was seen to key on it. Members of the Vietnamese "Loi Ho" (Thunder Tigers) gang may have tigers tattooed on their arms or chests. Currently the "Satanas" gang is burning round cigarette scars onto the backs of the left hand of members during initiation. The older "Korean Killers" members often have this same scar obtained during their initiation.

Asian street gangs are frequently termed non-traditional gangs when compared to street gangs of other ethnic groups. They are highly organized. Most have as their primary goal financial profit. Many have national and international ties. Membership behavior codes are well and rigidly defined. Acts of violence are less random and less frequent than with traditional gangs, and are committed primarily to achieve group goals. Secrecy and remaining anonymous to law enforcement is a constantly sought goal. Despite these aspects much is known about Asian gangs. In many cases more is known of specific Asian gangs than many traditional gangs. Asian gangs also share many characteristics of traditional gangs, such as territoriality, graffiti, dress, gang rivalries, etc., though these aspects are not always as obvious or clearly evident as with traditional gangs.

Territory/Turf

With Asian gangs, "turf" is less rigid and fluctuates. An Asian gang thinks of its Los Angeles territory in terms of its victim population (victims usually of the same ethnic group as the gang preying on them). A Korean Killer regards Korea town as his territory as does a (Korean Burger King Gang) "BK" and (Korean All American Burger Gang) "AB." While Korean Killers ("KK") associate with "AA's" they don't get along with "BK's." "BK" gang is friendly with AB gang. Acts of violence due to gang rivalries are infrequent as activity which does not obtain monetary gain is regarded as pointless. If, as is the case, Koreans begin migrating to the valley a Korean gang will regard the valley as within its area of operations. In Chinatown the "Wah Ching" gang (Cantonese Chinese) is the dominant group and regards Chinatown as its territory. During the early 1980s the "Viet Chings" (Vietnamese of Chinese Ethnicity) became active in Chinatown and Chinatown was informally split into a southern section having a large number of Vietnamese businesses and the northern area containing predominately Cantonese Chinese businesses.

The purpose of this division was to avoid conflicts that would result in warfare and consequently divert energy from the extortions and robberies that produce income. When Operations-Central Bureau CRASH obtained prosecutions of the Viet Ching leadership for extortion the "Wah Chings" moved into the leadership vacuum and assimilated many of the "Viet Chings" into their organization. The Vietnamese "Frogman" gang (predominately pure Vietnamese) will commit crimes on Vietnamese wherever it can obtain a profit, including Chinatown. Most of its members live and caper in northeast area. It also regards as its territory any place having Vietnamese. The Filipino "Sa-

anas" gang claims Vermont and Melrose Streets as part of its turf, but is active throughout Northeast and Rampart Areas. Yet, like all Asian gangs, it has no problem allowing gangs of other ethnic groups to reside in and claim "turf" in its perceived area. "Turf" for Asian gangs is best regarded in terms of the locations and population clusters where the gangs victim population (generally its own ethnic group) resides and/or owns businesses. "Turf" doesn't recognize municipal boundaries. A Vietnamese "Frogman" will participate in a business robbery in Pasadena, a residential robbery in Northeast, another in Hollywood and another in Monterey Park on successive days. The common thread in his chain of capers is that the victims are Vietnamese and all had money/jewelry to be obtained.

Dress

Asian street gangs have dress codes (via peer pressure) like traditional gangs, though their dress code is often more subtle and is subject to change. It is not rigid and cannot be the primary criteria in establishing gang affiliation. Asian gang dress is subject to change over time

according to fashion trends. Many Vietnamese gangs will wear black cloth or leather "Member Only" type jackets with dark pants, when committing a crime or visiting nightclubs. Of course Vietnamese "Wanna Be's" will visit clubs dressed the same.

Indochinese/Southeast Asian

The Pan-Asian Community is reluctant to participate in the Criminal Justice System. Only a small percentage of crimes are reported to the police. Cultural barriers are part of the cause, as is the lack of faith that the suspect will remain in custody any length of time. The community sees the criminal back on the street in a short time free to continue their criminal acts.

There are criminals in the Pan-Asian Community of Los Angeles. They are organized groups that have a leader and commit crimes, but do not have a claim to a certain area. We have seen Vietnamese street gangs forming in Orange County and believe the trend will begin to move southward in the future.



Gang roster painted on sidewalk at a San Diego park by a Hispanic gang.

Q: I sense there are two types of gangs or gang leaders: those who are professional, vicious, smart — they know what they want and they know how to go about it; and those who are really innocent bystanders, impressed by the other guys who are driving fancy cars and have rolls of hundred dollar bills. Do we have a study of how many kids come from broken homes with a father who is an alcoholic or couldn't care less, so the kid, age 10, 11, 12 or 13, whatever, is left on his or her own and there is no place to go? These youngsters come into a crowded classroom and crowded school; the programs we have, even though we spend 55% of our total budget on education, we still have great, serious problems.

A: I will beg the question by offering a statement that I made many years ago while still being a police officer working with kids: I never found a kid who was in trouble who wasn't from a broken home. But now comes a definition of a broken home: It could have been a two-parent home; it could have been a home with parents who were alcoholic; it could have been a

home where parents were drug addicts; it could have been a home where parents were just dysfunctional; it could have been a single-parent home with parental leadership or with maternal leadership. Those are the kinds of points I don't think that anybody can draw a conclusion from. But a broken home by reason of the dysfunction does occur. I think our California justice system, our juvenile justice system, does allow us the opportunities to deal with the youngsters before they get into the heavy throes of deep criminal behavior in an appropriate fashion so that they are not painted with the broad brush. But I do believe that the amount of violence that we have on the streets — and we see it every day with the numbers of killings . . . we know violence is there. The solution, I believe is in us as a community, accepting our responsibility to deal with the issue.

(Joint Committee on Organized Crime, "Gang Violence," Interim Hearing, Barrio Station, San Diego, October 1988)

TEXAS PRISON GANGS

Prison gangs developed around the 1960s in California and have spread nationwide. Prison gangs are highly organized and secretive about their operations. Extremely strict discipline is maintained through intimidation and violence. Prison gangs are far more sophisticated than street gangs but street gang members are often recruited when they enter the prison system.

Very little information has been collected on gangs in the Texas prison system prior to 1984. Even less information has been published so little is known about these gangs outside the realm of the prison system. Over the last ten years prison gangs have developed from a few inmates banding together for protection to a well organized network of criminals that have controlled criminal activity both inside and outside the prison walls.

Prior to 1980 there was only one organized gang identified in the Texas prison system. In 1983 there were less than 200 gang members. In 1984 there were 6 groups identified as prison gangs and the confirmed number of members had grown. By 1985 more than 800 gang members had been identified and steps were being taken to gather information and to keep a close watch on their growth. By 1987 the number had grown to over 1200.

Growth of prison gangs is attributed to the desire for self protection and the hunger for power. The self protection developed into a protection of the gang's interests and their business of extortion, protection, prostitution, drug trafficking, and murder. The abolishment of the building tender system created a problem of power and control among the inmates themselves and they responded by joining gangs inside the prison.

Gangs provided members the ability to survive in an hostile environment. Gangs formed around racial lines. Protection expanded into power with the use of extortion to steal personal property from weaker inmates to be traded for drugs used by the gang members.

Prostitution involves homosexual activities with identified people, called "punks" or "girls" to take care of inmates' sexual needs. Punks are often traded and sometimes given to specific members as favors. They are also used as "house boys" to clean the gang members' cells.

Drug trafficking is the main money source of criminal activity by prison gangs. Only in the past five to six years has the drug scene developed into an artful manipulation of guards as well.

Murder is the artistic way of eliminating the competition within the prison system. It has become the primary tool for gang intimidation. Murder is used also to make a statement to a rival gang, other inmates, guards, and prison officials.

As of July 3, 1991, over 2400 gang members and untold numbers of sympathizers and supporters of gangs are in Texas prisons. Approximately 900 have been discharged, paroled, or are on mandatory supervision in the free world. It is estimated that 60% to 70% of these released prison gang members have been or are still involved heavily in criminal activity.

According to a report by Royce W. Smithey, Criminal Investigator, Special Prison Prosecution Unit, Huntsville, Texas prepared for the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office, approximately 33 gangs have been identified in the Texas prison system. The most organized and largest gangs are as follows:

Texas Syndicate is the most organized prison gang in the Texas system. It is heavily involved in drug activity throughout the state. Estimates are that the syndicate is involved in up to 30% of the drug trafficking in the state of Texas. Its membership of 550 is mainly Hispanic with a few white members. It has a para-military structure.

Mexican Mafia is the largest of the Texas prison gangs and is also involved in drug trafficking in the free world. It too is para-military and has a membership of 1018 Hispanics.

Aryan Brotherhood is a white neo-Nazi white supremacy organization which has a para-military structure.

Texas Mafia is considered a gang more concerned with criminal activity than racial boundaries. Its 125 members are mostly white with some Hispanics. It too is para-military.

The Self Defense Family is the largest of the organized black gangs in the Texas system with 105 members and a para-military structure.

The Mandingo Warriors is another black gang with only 50 members.

La Hermandad De Pistoleros Latino - Pistoleros (HPL) is a loosely structured Hispanic gang of 195 members and growing.

The Crips, a black street gang, is beginning to grow within the prison system with approximately 75 members. Their growth potential is great because of lack of organization among the black inmates.

Los Carnales De Nuestro Chicanos - Nuestro Carnales (NC) is an Hispanic gang of 75 members and growing. This gang is much larger in other state penitentiaries and has the ability to become more organized in the near future.

The Constitution of a prison gang directs that the gang comes first, even before family. When a person becomes a member ("brother"), he is a member for life. The only termination of membership is death. Tattoos have diminished because of easy identification by prison officials. A code of silence is imperative. Respect for other members and sharing your personal belongings are important. In short, prison gangs fill the void of an inmate without a family in the free world. Constitutions also explain how new members, "prospects," are sponsored.

The escalation of the numbers of prison gangs is reason for concern. The most significant relationship of prison gangs to the outside free world is the growth of the Crips which has a strong street gang base to carry on its business in the free world. Better tracking systems of prison gang members needs to be developed and implemented as inmates reenter the free world.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR SCHOOLS

Educators must realize that children today lack consistent ethical instruction by parents, schools, churches, and community. Schools must recognize and accept their role in teaching social as well as academic skills to their students.

I. CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Schools must recognize and respect cultural differences among students and their families by:

- a. Providing training for all staff which includes information about cultural differences and ethnic diversity present in the school. (i.e., family structure, traditions, value systems, expectations, etc.)
- b. Creating and supporting positive organizations of youth which promote ethnic pride. (ex: Latino Club, Ebony Club, etc.)
- c. Involving students in the recognition of special events of certain ethnic groups (i.e., Martin Luther King's birthday, Mexican Independence Day, Jewish holidays, etc.)
- d. Inviting successful alumnae of neighborhood schools to participate in special programs or events at school as positive role models.
- e. Providing all parent meetings in English as well as other languages spoken by parents of students attending the school.
- f. Translating and publishing all written communiques from the school to the parents into the primary language spoken by the parents.
- g. Providing special orientation meetings for each ethnic group within the school early in the school year to determine specific needs of families (i.e., language barriers, interests, information they need to ensure a successful school experience for their child) and to communicate to them how to best access the system.

II. IN-SERVICE TRAINING

1. Schools must incorporate gang awareness and violence prevention into in-service training of teachers and all school personnel working directly with youth, utilizing resources available through the Gang Task Force. Topics to be included are:
 - a. How to identify a gang member:
 - Graffiti and its implications
 - Hand signals and other modes of gang communication
 - Gang clothing, colors, language
 - b. How to react to gang activity/violence within the school setting.
 - c. Resources available for referral of gang members.
2. Schools should work with the Gang Task Force to research, develop, and provide literature and curriculum resources for school district employees' staff development on gangs and gang-related activity.

3. Each Tarrant County School District should work with the Education Committee of the Gang Task Force to research and provide as a resource to schools a *Handbook on Gangs and Related Juvenile Violence* to include:
 - a. A local school assessment instrument of gang activity on and about school property.
 - b. Guidelines or a process for implementing and enforcing regulations pertaining to gang activity and juvenile violence on and around school property.
 - c. Procedures/policies for sharing information between school, police, and other criminal justice agencies, on specific youth involved in gang-related activity and violence in the school.
 - d. Literature and curriculum resources for school district employees' staff development on gangs and gang-related activity.
 - e. Developing a list of curriculum resources that will provide students with appropriate information and skills to resist peer pressure to become affiliated with gangs.
 - f. Providing a list of community based resources available for students and their families.
 - g. Bridging the gap between community-based services and youth and their families.

III. CURRICULUM AND PROGRAMMING

1. Schools need to develop and implement a life skills curriculum K-12 which can deal with issues related to building positive self esteem, good decision-making skills as well as providing information related to life issues and human growth and development. The class should be an opportunity for open discussion with peers in a "safe" setting of sensitive, relevant issues to youth (alcohol, drugs, sex, pregnancy, AIDS, gangs, suicide, violence, family structure, jobs, college, financial aid for college, etc.)
2. Schools should research, develop, and present curriculum that will provide students with appropriate information and skills to resist peer pressure to become affiliated with gangs.
3. Schools must incorporate gang prevention into curriculum with focus on grades 3-6, the ages when youth are most at risk of gang affiliation by:
 - a. Utilizing curriculum resources provided by the Gang Task Force of the Citizens Crime Commission.
 - b. Utilizing existing programs such as DARE and advocating for program expansion when necessary.
 - c. Developing new programs as necessary.
4. Schools need to provide a wide variety of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities and choices, reflecting the needs and interests of the entire student body and encouraging participation and recognition by ALL youth.
5. Schools should create self-worth and a sense of responsibility in the student to the school and to his/her community by requiring participation in service projects (i.e., "Keep Our Campus Clean", volunteering for community organizations/projects, promoting volunteer opportunities at school, etc.)
6. Schools need to take the lead in developing community partnerships to enhance, complement, and expand social education opportunities within the school as a cost effective (in terms of money and personnel) means of providing services to meet the needs of youth within the school by:
 - a. Providing more structured after school care and tutoring programs in high risk areas, taking full advantage of all the local community resources (i.e., youth serving agencies, churches, older students, senior citizens, etc.)

- b. Extending the school day for elementary and secondary school students by keeping the buildings open after school hours and inviting community-based services into the buildings to provide programming (i.e., Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, Camp Fire Clubs, YMCA child care, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.)

IV. MEDIA

Schools should work with the media to research, develop, and implement media messages about gangs and alcohol and substance use and abuse to students and parents through:

1. Television PSA's and programming
2. Radio PSA's and programming
3. Billboards, posters, flyers, and newspapers
4. Speakers' Bureau
5. Assemblies - Teen Drama, etc.
6. Parent meetings - parent education, Parent-to-Parent, etc.

V. ORGANIZED PARENT GROUPS (PTA'S/PTO'S, ETC.)

Organized parent groups must take the lead in educating parents and the immediate school community about gangs and the related problems. They must:

1. Create awareness of the gang problem through parent meetings, newsletters, special seminars, etc.
2. Enhance family awareness of gang involvement of youth by educating parents about warning signs of gang affiliation and the related dangers.
3. Educate parents about how to discourage gang participation utilizing resources available through the Gang Task Force of the Citizens Crime Commission.
4. Target parents of gang members and provide information to educate parents on how to help their child disassociate from gangs.
5. Find creative ways to involve all parents, being sensitive to language and cultural barriers.

VI. COUNSELING

1. Schools must expand the scope of the counseling program in ALL schools to include adequate counseling on social issues affecting youth by:
 - a. Increasing the number of counselors in ALL schools - especially middle schools and high schools.
 - b. Expanding the counseling program to include all elementary schools.
 - c. Identifying youth at risk and developing a case management plan for the youth and his family.
 - d. Finding creative ways to involve parents, being sensitive to the particular needs of parents (i.e., language, social, transportation, time, etc.)
 - e. Holding regular meetings of counselors within a high school's geographic area (or pyramid) including all the elementary and middle feeder schools counselors to:
 - Share information about a student as he/she promotes or moves
 - Share strategies concerning student and/or family case management
 - Share information about families with students in multiple schools in an effort to offer maximum success in family case management

- f. Utilizing and expanding peer counseling programs.
 - g. Keeping teachers informed about social needs and/or special learning needs of a student to maximize potential for success in school.
2. Counselors must research and make available to students information about college scholarships and grants.
 3. Expand the role of *Because We Care* specialists to include gang prevention.

VII. MENTORS

Schools need to identify and initiate effective, year-round, long-term positive role models for youth utilizing all resources available in specific neighborhoods by:

1. Utilizing Adopt-a-School sponsors in a mentoring program for at risk kids, remaining sensitive to cultural and ethnic differences.
2. Adopting policies to remove barriers, constraints, and limitations of mentoring programs.
3. Recruiting successful adults who have moved from neighborhoods at risk to return to act as mentors for students.
4. Utilizing older students as positive peer models for younger students, allowing movement between campuses if necessary.
5. Recruiting local businessmen and police officers who have moved from neighborhoods to serve as mentors/positive role models for the youth at risk remaining in the neighborhood.
6. Encouraging members of local churches in the neighborhood to act as surrogate families/mentors for students and families at risk.
7. Utilizing senior citizens in the neighborhood to act as mentors for youth.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR SCHOOLS

1. Schools should develop policies and procedures for sharing information between school, police, and other criminal justice agencies, on specific youth involved in gang-related activities in the school.
2. Schools should lead in developing community partnerships to recognize and address youth issues, interests, and needs by:
 - a. Recognizing publicly the positive achievements of youth.
 - b. Recognizing publicly individual youth who make positive contributions to the community.
 - c. Researching, developing, and providing program resources to schools, parents, religious institutions, and community organizations regarding services for students wishing to disassociate themselves from gangs with the help of other resources supplied by the Gang Task Force.
 - d. Creating INTERVENTION TEAMS by collaborating with businesses, youth serving agencies, churches, police, and organizations to connect youth with mentors, jobs, or other specific services they need.
 - e. Utilizing existing resources to schools, parents, religious institutions, and community organizations that provide information and skills for students to resist peer pressure to become involved with gangs, alcohol, and drugs (i.e., Teen Drama, Teen Hotline, Class Acts, Because We Care, DARE, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.)
 - f. Creating jobs and apprenticeships for youth at risk.

3. School should advocate for policy change when needed to allow flexibility in meeting the individual needs of students both socially and academically. To be considered are:
 - a. Year round school.
 - b. Extended school day, especially at the elementary and middle school levels.
 - c. Non-traditional school hours (i.e., after school, nights, weekends, all night) for students needing to work during the day or for older students needing to complete high school diploma requirements and/or for youth and their families needing a "Safe Place" to go at any time of the day or night.
 - d. Creative alternative school placements for youth wishing to disassociate from gangs (i.e., utilizing non-public school placement options and allowing interdistrict/intradistrict transfers.)
 - e. Utilizing existing alternative educational settings when appropriate (i.e. Cassata, Happy Hill Farm, etc.) by making referrals when necessary.
 - f. The need for additional alternative schools within each school district for incorrigible, problematic students.
4. Utilizing curriculum and service resources available through the Gang Task Force to train teachers and administrators to work with gang members and the related problems, especially if problems or potential problems exist.
5. Utilizing Adopt-a-School volunteers, local businessmen, successful school alumni, churches, and all other available resources to serve year-round as mentors to gang members or youth at risk of becoming gang members. All barriers and restrictions on current policies should be removed.
6. Establishing counseling programs which implement case management of gang members/youth at risk and their families by:
 - a. Setting up a case management plan for each youth and his family.
 - b. Providing long-term follow-up.
 - c. Collaborating with and promoting accessibility of all community resources.
7. Providing affordable summer school programs with additional scholarships and financial aid availability in high risk neighborhoods.
8. Providing quality vocational educational training centers.
9. Providing quality technical training centers.
10. Collaborating with all community resources to provide worthwhile and plentiful job-placement sites and/or opportunities for training and apprenticeships.
11. Facilitating reentry to an appropriate school setting for youth released from detention.
12. Making alternative education options attractive and accessible to youth at risk.
13. Providing immediate educational alternatives for youth who are suspended or expelled from school.
14. Considering uniforms for ALL students at ALL levels to discourage gang dress, emblems, etc.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR SCHOOLS

1. Schools must develop policies and procedures for sharing information between school, police, and other criminal justice agencies on specific youth involved in gang-related activity in the school.
2. Schools must establish and enforce reasonable consequences for bad decision making on the part of youth.
3. Schools must establish rules and regulations for behavior in schools that help curtail gang involvement and all inappropriate, unacceptable behavior. These rules and regulations should be applied fairly and consistently.
4. Schools must be willing to do whatever it takes to maintain a safe school environment free of drugs and weapons including:
 - a. Use of metal detectors in schools.
 - b. Bringing dogs into schools to search for weapons and drugs.
 - c. Enforcement of stiff penalties for violators.
5. Schools should prohibit gang dress, hand signs, graffiti, and all gang symbols in school.
6. Schools should remove graffiti as soon as it appears to give a message to gangs that they are not welcome.
7. Schools must develop a plan for identifying wannabes, fringe members, and gang members and be knowledgeable enough about existing programs to refer youth to appropriate services and to react appropriately.
8. Schools should be knowledgeable about and maintain a list of community resources and make referrals to community-based services as necessary.
9. Schools should provide identification cards for all students and require that they be worn where they are visible at all times to help identify strangers on campus.

City of Miami



PERRY L. ANDERSON, Jr.
Chief of Police

CESAR H. ODIO
City Manager

Dear Parent:

This letter is to inform you that your son/daughter _____ was at _____ on _____ at _____. Your child was in the company of other youths that have been identified, by the Youth Gang Detail of the Miami Police Department, as active gang members.

The purpose of this letter is to assist parents make family decisions with the full knowledge of their child's possible involvement in gang related activities. This will enhance our ability to control the gang problems within the City of Miami.

If you would like additional information regarding this incident, please contact Sergeant Joseph Rimondi at 579-6619, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

Sincerely,

Major Mary Stair
Commander
Community Relations Section

For: Perry L. Anderson, Jr.
Chief of Police



PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES

I. CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Agencies must recognize and respect cultural differences of clients and their families by:

- a. Providing staff training which includes information about cultural differences and ethnic diversity present among the client population (family structure, traditions, value systems, expectations, etc.)
- b. Creating and supporting activities/programs for youth which promote ethnic pride.
- c. Employing staff members who are sensitive to the ethnicity of the client population.
- d. Providing staff who can effectively communicate with the client population (i.e., know the language, slang, etc.)
- e. Translating and publishing all written communiques (flyers, brochures, newsletters, etc.) from the agency to the youth and their parents into the primary language spoken in the home.
- f. Before promoting a particular program within a community, conducting an assessment of special needs of that neighborhood so that marketing strategies can be most effective. Consideration must be given to ethnicity, economics, family structure, social and physical needs, best times and places to present program, etc.

II. STAFF TRAINING

1. Agencies should incorporate gang awareness and violence prevention into training of staff and all personnel working directly with youth, utilizing resources available through the Gang Task Force. Topics to be included are:
 - a. How to identify a gang member:
 - Graffiti and its implications
 - Hand signals and other modes of gang communication
 - Gang clothing, colors, language, hair styles
 - b. How to react to gang activity/violence.
 - c. Resources available for referral of gang members.
2. Agencies should develop a plan for identifying wannabes, fringe members, and gang members and be knowledgeable enough about existing programs to refer youth to appropriate prevention services.

III. PROGRAMMING AND PROGRAM DELIVERY

1. Agencies should look beyond traditional delivery systems, i.e., taking programs into communities by utilizing facilities such as churches, recreation centers, multipurpose centers, public housing, schools, etc. within specific neighborhoods.
2. Agencies should collaborate with other youth-serving agencies, churches, community based organizations, businesses, etc. in program delivery.

3. Agencies should share specific information about agency programs and delivery systems with the Gang Task Force Community Committee in a cooperative effort:
 - a. To make programs more accessible to those who need them.
 - b. To develop, produce, and distribute a directory of support services for youth and their families *by neighborhoods*.
 - c. To help identify gaps in services in specific neighborhoods.
 - d. To help break down barriers to non-traditional service delivery systems (i.e., schools, city facilities, public housing, churches, etc.)
4. Agencies should provide after-school programming which provides tutoring, sports, arts, gang prevention programming, drug prevention programming, parenting programming, etc. as needed by a specific community with a willingness to decentralize service delivery.
5. Agencies should explore ways of expanding successful existing programs into communities which need them.
6. Agencies should take an aggressive approach to soliciting youth participation by incorporating a street/block walker concept to bring youth into programs.
7. Agencies should explore ways to include gang awareness/gang prevention into their programs.
8. Agencies should use every opportunity to enhance family awareness of youth involvement with gangs and the potential dangers.
9. Agencies need to recognize and share the responsibility that schools are having to assume in providing education and training on ethics and social issues to youth by:
 - a. Providing, strengthening, and increasing programming which promotes development of positive self-esteem, feelings of self-worth, self reliance, good decision making skills, consequences of bad decisions, etc.
 - b. Educating youth about social and life issues (i.e., gangs, crime, violence, drugs, substance and alcohol abuse and use, parenting, AIDS, sexuality, jobs, college.)

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES

1. Agencies should provide STREET WORKERS to work collaboratively with all community resources (United Way, churches, schools, businesses, other youth serving organizations, police, city and county governances) to identify youth at risk, assess their needs, and make appropriate referrals for service to them and their families by:
 - a. Targeting youth who cannot be reached otherwise.
 - b. Providing training on gang behavior, youth at risk of gang involvement, and cultural awareness, and mediation techniques to help defuse gang violence.
 - c. Developing case management services to work with youth wanting to leave the gang.
 - d. Referring youth to needed services and support networks.
2. Agencies need to offer alternative activities to gang members (camp outs, fishing trips, sports, etc.) removing these youth from their environment when possible.
3. Agencies need to increase the number of summer programs available to youth in targeted high/risk neighborhoods.
4. Agencies should form support groups for gang members wishing to disassociate from the gang.
5. Agencies should attempt to use former gang members as mentors/volunteers in programming.
6. Agencies must be creative in program development and delivery such as:
 - a. Mid-night basketball leagues, etc. in agency facility or other existing facility (i.e., city or church owned.)
 - b. Sports leagues.
 - c. Late hours or weekend hours of program accessibility.
7. Agencies need to develop "team building" in programming to create a sense of belonging so that youth will stay involved.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES

1. Agencies must develop policies and procedures for sharing information between schools, police, and other criminal justice agencies on specific youth involved in gang-related activity.
2. Agencies must establish and enforce reasonable consequences for bad decision making.
3. Agencies must establish rules and regulations that promote positive, acceptable behavior and apply them fairly and consistently.
4. Agencies must be willing to do whatever it takes to maintain a safe environment free of drugs and weapons including:
 - a. Use of metal detectors.
 - b. Using dogs to search for drugs.
 - c. Enforcement of stiff penalties for violators.
5. Agencies should prohibit gang dress, hand signs, graffiti, and all gang symbols.
6. Agencies should remove graffiti as soon as it appears.
7. Agencies must develop a plan for identifying wannabes, fringe members, and gang members and be knowledgeable enough about existing programs to make appropriate referrals.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

1. Neighborhood Associations and other neighborhood organizations must collaborate to mobilize their communities to identify and address their specific problems.
2. The Gang Task Force will assist communities throughout Tarrant County to:
 - a. Assess the needs of their particular area.
 - b. Recognize and evaluate the available resources, identifying gaps in services.
 - c. Devise a plan of action to meet the needs of the community and its citizens.
 - d. Help bridge the gap between service providers and those who need services.
3. Neighborhoods should develop block watch programs to increase communication among neighbors about criminal activities and resources.
4. Neighborhood organizations (NAC's, Crime Watch, etc.) should encourage police officers to become more involved in the neighborhoods by:
 - a. Inviting them to attend community meetings.
 - b. Asking them to serve on boards of community-based organizations.
5. Citizens should write letters to radio and television stations and sponsors encouraging positive and responsible advertising and programming for youth, discouraging messages which glamorize violence, gang activity, sex, alcohol, drugs, etc.
6. Neighborhoods need to encourage the development of community support systems for at risk residents (families and youth) by:
 - a. Encouraging churches within the community to develop counseling, tutorial, recreational, and other support programs for youth and their families.
 - b. Encouraging businesses within the community to provide jobs for youth.
 - c. Encouraging local community leaders to serve as role models for youth in the immediate neighborhood.
 - d. Encouraging the formation of neighborhood parent support programs.
 - e. Encouraging schools to stay open late for program delivery by youth serving agencies.
 - f. Encouraging city facilities to maintain hours and programs which meet the specific needs of the immediate community.
 - g. Informing PTA's and school counselors of particular issues about which the community needs to be aware.
7. Neighborhoods should expect accountability of parents for their children.
8. Parents and all citizens should organize to assist and support the efforts of the neighborhood schools.
9. Parents and all citizens should encourage additional opportunities for peer counseling and support programs in the schools.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

1. Neighborhoods need to organize to take a proactive role in meeting the needs of citizens either through existing structures (NAC's, Crime Watch Groups, PTA's, etc.) or by forming new coalitions when necessary.
2. Neighborhoods need to devise strategies to:
 - a. Support at risk residents most vulnerable to gang intimidation (elderly, single female households, etc.) by being aware of what is happening in the neighborhoods.
 - b. Identify and provide positive role models/mentors for youth at risk by:
 - (1) Inviting successful adults who have moved from the community to return on a regular basis
 - (2) Utilizing senior citizens in the neighborhood
 - (3) Enlisting local businesses and community based organizations
 - (4) Enlisting support from churches
 - c. Communicate with each other through telephone trees, newsletters, regular meetings, block watch programs, etc.
 - d. Watch for children when they go to and from school because this the time they are most vulnerable to gang recruitment or approach from drug dealers.
 - e. Identify "Safe Houses" for youth to run to in time of need.
 - f. Act as surrogate parent for working parents or homes where children have little or no supervision.
3. Some neighborhoods could replicate the model of AA Men in Dallas or COE-POPS in Chicago-groups of men who patrol the streets with walkie-talkies at night.
4. Citizens should demonstrate pride in their neighborhoods by having clean up projects, graffiti paint outs, etc. and involving youth.
5. Citizens should advocate for stronger controls to prevent possession of illegal weapons by youth.
6. Citizens should advocate for and support expanded community-based restitution/rehabilitation opportunities for juvenile offenders.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

1. Citizens must educate themselves about community issues if they are to become empowered to solve problems.
2. Citizens should know those in positions of decision making (legislators, county commissioners, city council, and school board) and communicate concerns when appropriate.
3. Citizens should monitor meetings of all governing bodies so that they can be informed and advocate for change when necessary.
4. Neighborhoods should meet regularly with the police officers who patrol the area to communicate concerns and to receive suggestions and information from officers in a collaborative attempt to fight crime.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

1. Community organizations should hold job recruitment fairs for gang members and youth at risk.
2. Businesses should provide support for gang members and youth at risk by providing training and employment.
3. Businesses and community organizations should provide jobs for youth in high risk areas being sensitive to transportation needs, availability of proper clothing, provision of adequate training and supervision.
4. Adopt-a-School volunteers and other volunteers from business and organizations should serve as mentors to gang members.
5. Businesses and organizations should be willing to provide support to youth-serving agencies and schools providing services to gang members (money, volunteers, technical assistance, etc.)
6. Businesses and organizations should support "get ready for school" activities in targeted high risk neighborhoods to empower youth to resist gang recruitment/criminal activity.
7. Businesses and organizations should assist the Gang Task Force in developing a list of resources by neighborhood and help distribute to all residents.
8. Businesses and organizations should assist in providing opportunities to show wannabes "the other world" by removing kids from neighborhoods for trips to college campuses, businesses outside the neighborhood, etc.
9. Businesses and organizations need to provide access to safe, positive social activities to youth (Six Flags, Wet and Wild, Putt Putt, skating rinks, bowling, Cowboy games, Rangers games, etc.)

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

1. Businesses and organizations should provide resources (paint and volunteers) to assist other community groups in a collaborative effort to immediately remove graffiti thus sending a message to gangs that they are not welcome.
2. Businesses should take the lead with the community to communicate to gangs that crime, violence, and graffiti will NOT be tolerated.
3. Businesses need to work with the police to develop a reporting system to encourage reporting of gang activities.
4. Businesses need to remove graffiti as soon as it is written on their buildings.
5. Businesses should organize Business Watch groups to discourage crime in the community.
6. Businesses and organizations should work collaboratively with neighborhood groups, schools, and youth-serving agencies to develop a community-based plan to fight crime.
7. Businesses and organizations should advocate that ALL city governments within Tarrant County budget funds to enable participation in the Automated Gang Information Network.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

1. Businesses and community based organizations should promote awareness of, sensitivity to, and respect for cultural and ethnic diversity within the community as well as within their specific organizations.
2. Businesses and community based organizations should collaborate in providing more job fairs, jobs, and job training opportunities within specific communities.
3. Community based organizations should encourage and provide support for businesses to hire youth at risk.
4. Businesses should be willing to hire youth at risk, creating meaningful jobs.
5. Businesses and organizations need to assess and identify current job training programs and work to fill voids where they exist.
6. Businesses and community organizations should provide programs and opportunities for youth to develop job skills: resume writing, how to apply for a job, interviewing skills, etc.
7. Community organizations should utilize local colleges in job training and skill development of youth.
8. Businesses and community organizations should be cognizant of ways that collaborative funding can provide programming and specific needs of at risk youth (ex: sponsorship of sports teams).
9. Businesses should provide apprenticeships in skilled labor positions to enable youth to obtain skills to become marketable in the job market.
10. As the economic base of the community, businesses and organizations should take the lead in mobilizing the community to take ownership of its problems, i.e., take the lead in a Community Reclamation effort. (Example: Adopt a park - trash pick up, removal of drug paraphernalia, etc.)
11. Businesses should provide opportunities for youth to see firsthand the value of a strong work ethic.
12. Businesses and organizations should provide resources (food, clothing, money, technical assistance, etc.) to churches, agencies, etc. to meet the basic needs of families.
13. Businesses and organizations should provide resources for students trying to return to school or to go to college (i.e., money for transportation, clothing, books, etc.)
14. Businesses and organizations should help provide gang awareness information in appropriate languages throughout the community by offering assistance to schools and youth serving agencies.
15. Community organizations with a specific ethnic orientation (Ex: Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce, etc.) should develop proactive strategies to promote respect for cultural differences in neighborhoods.
16. Businesses should provide "Brown Bag" information programs for employees during the lunch hour.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR MEDIA

1. All forms of published and broadcast media need to promote awareness of and respect for cultural differences and ethnic diversity.
2. Newspapers, radio, and television should research, develop, and publish/broadcast media messages about gangs and dangers of drugs and alcohol use and abuse to students and parents through:
 - a. Television/radio PSA's and programming.
 - b. Billboards, posters, flyers, and newspapers.
3. Editors/policy makers should demonstrate a responsibility to the welfare of youth in programming in all facets of the media by:
 - a. Eliminating all programs or messages which have a negative impact on youth (violence, sex, racism, glamorizing alcohol and/or drug use) and show consequences of choices of these types of behaviors.
 - b. Providing programs which accentuate positive, acceptable behaviors and promote and condone ethical behavior.
 - c. Publicizing accomplishments of youth both individually and collectively.
 - d. Balancing bad news with good news.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR MEDIA

All mediums of media should collaborate to plan and implement a media campaign to show the negative aspects of gang involvement by:

- a. Focusing on positive alternatives to gang involvement.
- b. Publicizing resources available to youth wishing to disassociate from gangs through every avenue available.
- c. Adopting an anti-gang slogan, making buttons for students and citizens to wear.
- d. Creating and displaying anti-gang posters throughout communities.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR MEDIA

1. Media should publicize the hard work and accomplishments of enforcement agencies, recognizing group and individual efforts.
2. Editors of newspapers should write and publish editorials supporting legislation which seeks swift prosecution and reasonable consequences for gang related crimes.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. All personnel should receive sensitivity training and regular updating about ethnic diversity and cultural differences.
2. T-CLEOSE should mandate cultural awareness training for all law enforcement officers.
3. Police Departments should create a Community Relations Division with adequate staff to serve as the prevention arm of enforcement.
4. The DARE program should be expanded and presented in every elementary school in Tarrant County and in secondary schools in high risk areas.
5. Officers should make frequent routine drop in visits to schools and agencies in an effort to change negative attitudes of youth toward police.
6. Agencies should utilize a community-based policing philosophy, assigning officers to foot/bike/horse patrol within communities in an effort to create accessibility of enforcement personnel.
7. Police storefronts should be opened in every community, especially in high risk neighborhoods in an effort to decentralize services and make police more visible and accessible, providing a wide spectrum of services specifically needed by the community.
8. Enforcement agencies should form community partnerships with community based resources to enhance services through police storefronts.
9. Police training academies should require a community service component which requires potential enforcement personnel to work directly with youth at risk.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. Police officers need to educate block captains through Crime Watch about gang activities.
2. Police need to determine ways to cut off avenues of gang recruitment and train citizens in how to help.
3. Police storefronts need to have information for citizens on how to combat gang crime and youth violence.
4. Schools should be alerted by police agencies at the earliest possible time about the potential of gang violence on school campuses.
5. All facets of the criminal justice system (police officers, probation officers, attorneys, etc.) should develop and participate in mentoring programs for youth at risk.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. When necessary enforcement agencies should take a hard core approach to communicate to youth and the community that violence and/or possession of weapons will NOT be tolerated by:
 - a. Using metal detectors in schools.
 - b. Bringing dogs into schools to search for drugs.
 - c. Enforcing stiff penalties for violators.
 - d. Advocating for more stringent prosecution and sentencing of gang members who commit crimes.
2. The criminal justice system should maintain a tracking system of gang members as they go in and out of prison.
3. Designation of a special prosecutor to handle gang-related crimes should continue.
4. Law enforcement agencies should increase their ability to track gang members and gang-related crimes by participating in the Automated Gang Information Network.
5. Agencies should advocate for passage of legislation that increases the consequences of gang-related criminal behavior by supporting the legislative changes recommended by the Gang Task Force.
6. Penalties for gang members should include community service to remove graffiti.
7. Agencies should participate in the development of creative programming/sentencing alternatives for incarcerated youth (i.e., Outward Bound type programs).

PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR GOVERNING BODIES

I. CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Governing bodies must recognize and respect the cultural differences of all citizens by:

- a. Providing training for all staff which includes information about cultural differences and ethnic diversity (family structure, traditions, value systems, expectations, etc.)
- b. Recognizing the special events of certain ethnic groups (i.e., Martin Luther King's birthday, Mexican Independence Day, Jewish holidays, etc.)
- c. Being sensitive to ways to adequately communicate with all ethnic groups in decisions affecting them by making proper allowances for language differences, and scheduling times and places of public forums to meet specific needs of neighborhoods.

II. PROGRAMMING

1. Municipalities need to assess needs of citizens *by neighborhood* in order to budget, plan, and provide optimum services within specific communities.
2. Where public facilities exist (recreation centers, multipurpose centers, public housing, libraries, etc.) programs must be tailored to fit the needs of the neighborhood by:
 - a. Providing an adequate number of staff members who are sensitive to the culture, value systems, and ethnicity of the neighborhood.
 - b. Operating facilities during hours most needed by the neighborhood (i.e., late evening hours, weekends).
 - c. Utilizing resources available in the neighborhoods to enhance, complement, and support programs in public facilities (volunteers, senior citizens, churches, businesses, youth-serving agencies, etc.)
 - d. Allowing community based organizations (churches, Because We Care counselors, youth-serving agencies) to provide programs in public facilities at no fee or at least a reduced fee.
 - e. Training staff to coordinate the scheduling of the multiplicity of programs from community resources respecting the time, effort, and expense of the service providers thus maximizing the benefit to youth.
 - f. Operating facilities with the expectation that programming should meet both the social and recreational needs of the immediate community.
3. Staff in public facilities should provide programming to promote social skill development (parenting training, family planning/sexuality, job training, drug and alcohol counseling, gang awareness, etc.)
4. Governing bodies (local, state, and national) need to make identification of funding sources for new and expanding gang prevention and intervention programming a priority by:
 - a. Designating staff time and energy in researching grants for gang/crime prevention or intervention programs.
 - b. Referring funding to appropriate agency/entity most capable of successful program delivery utilizing Development Committee of Gang Task Force.
 - c. Designating a portion of annual budgets for crime prevention/intervention programs administered by non-profit organizations.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR GOVERNING BODIES

1. Governing bodies should develop policies and procedures for sharing information between municipalities, schools, and criminal justice agencies on specific youth involved in gang-related activity.
2. Governing bodies need to take the lead in developing community partnerships to recognize and address youth issues, interests, and needs by:
 - a. Recognizing publicly the positive achievements of youth.
 - b. Recognizing publicly individual youth who make community contributions.
 - c. With the help of the Gang Task Force researching, developing, and providing program resources to schools, parents, religious institutions, and community organizations that provide access to services for students wishing to disassociate themselves from gangs.
 - d. Creating INTERVENTION TEAMS by collaborating with businesses, youth serving agencies, churches, police, and organizations to connect youth with mentors, jobs, or other specific services they need.
 - e. Encouraging businesses/corporations to create jobs and apprenticeships for youth at risk.
3. Governing bodies must encourage all community resources to provide worthwhile and plentiful job-placement sites and/or opportunities for apprenticeships for youth.
4. Municipalities should incorporate the street worker concept into staff of recreation centers or multi-purpose centers to identify and enlist involvement of gang members into programming.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR GOVERNING BODIES

1. Governing bodies must encourage enforcement agencies to establish rules and regulations that help curtail gang activity and youth violence.
2. Governing bodies must be willing to do whatever it takes to maintain a safe environment in public facilities which are free of drugs and weapons including:
 - a. Use of metal detectors.
 - b. Using dogs to search for drugs.
 - c. Enforcement of stiff penalties for violators.
3. Personnel in public facilities should discourage gang dress, hand signs, graffiti, and all gang symbols.
4. Governing bodies should provide policies, procedures, and supplies so that graffiti can be removed as soon as it appears on public buildings/facilities.
5. Governing bodies must develop procedures for staff of public facilities to identify wannabes, fringe members, and gang members and be knowledgeable about existing programs to make appropriate referrals.
6. City councils of all Tarrant County municipalities should budget monies for the monthly line fee required to provide access for enforcement agencies to participate in the Automated Gang Information Network.
7. Policy makers should advocate for stronger control of and stiffer penalties for possession of illegal weapons.

GANG TASK FORCE SPEAKER INFORMATION

[NOTE: The information you provide will be used by the Crime Commission to develop a brief biographical paragraph which will be given to those requesting presentations to be used in introductions. Only your name, organization, title, and information you provide in the last section will be included. Other information - including phone numbers - will not be made public unless you so request.]

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____ TITLE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE _____ HOME PHONE _____

PAGER _____ MOBILE _____ FAX _____

PREFERENCE FOR SPEECHES (i.e., day, night, weekdays, weekends, etc.):

HOW OFTEN WILL BE YOU WILLING TO DO PRESENTATIONS (i.e. weekly, monthly, once or twice a year, etc.) _____

DO YOU HAVE A PREFERENCE OF AUDIENCE? (i.e., youth, adult, professionals, educators, citizens groups, etc.) _____

WHAT TYPE OF AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS WOULD YOU LIKE THE CRIME COMMISSION TO PROVIDE FOR YOUR PRESENTATIONS? _____

ARE YOU BILINGUAL? _____ SECOND LANGUAGE(S) _____

BIOGRAPHY/BACKGROUND: (education, training, professional and volunteer experience, etc.) YOU MAY ATTACH A RESUME IF YOU PREFER.

**GANG TASK FORCE
SPEAKERS' BUREAU REPORT FORM**

SPEAKER _____

ORGANIZATION/AGENCY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

DATE OF SPEECH _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

AUDIENCE (i.e., age, type of organization, etc.) _____

LOCATION _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____

LENGTH OF PRESENTATION _____

TOPIC(S) COVERED _____

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED _____

AUDIO/VISUAL AIDS USED _____

ISSUES/REQUESTS FOR FOLLOW-UP _____

WHAT CAN EDUCATORS DO?

- Use every available resource to ensure a safe and secure campus, conducive to the optimum educational environment.
- Educate yourself about gangs and the related issues so that you will know how to identify students who are involved or at risk of becoming involved.
- Create a positive school and classroom environment.
- Be sensitive to special needs of students - emotional, social, physical as well as academic - and strive to provide opportunities for success in all areas.
- Include opportunities within the school program to teach good decision making skills, conflict resolution, and respect and tolerance for diversity.
- Document graffiti and then immediately remove it.
- Begin an in-school crime stoppers program in your school.
- Assume a zero tolerance attitude toward gang behavior.
- Do not tolerate the use of hand signs or unknown vocabulary.
- Do not allow beepers or cellular phones on campus.

The Gang Task Force is a project of the Citizens Crime Commission, consisting of 300 volunteers from law enforcement agencies, educators, service providers and concerned citizens working together to reduce gang violence in Tarrant County.

For more Information, call:

**Citizens Crime Commission
of Tarrant County
903 Summit, Fort Worth, Texas 76102
877-5161**

The Crime Commission can provide you with:

- Referrals to resources and services
- Training and education programs
- Resource materials from our library
- Crime Prevention Techniques

Gangs, Drugs & Violence . . .

The most
serious threat to
Youth in the 90's



Gang Task Force

All citizens must recognize that Gang Violence is not a law enforcement problem, not a school problem, not parents problem, ... It is OUR PROBLEM and it will take EVERYONE working together to MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

THE PROBLEM OF GANGS & VIOLENCE

Although gangs have been around for hundreds of years, the alarming increase in gang activity and gang-related crime and violence have been described as the single most serious social problems facing communities of all sizes, ethnicities, and socio-economic levels in the 90's. Although gangs have historically organized around racial and territorial lines, law enforcement is witnessing a growing number of "hybrid" gangs with members of several ethnicities with both male and female members. Identified gang members are as young as eight-years old in Tarrant County and members are remaining active longer than in the past, sometimes into their late twenties or thirties.....*if they live that long.*

WHY TARRANT COUNTY?

The introduction of crack cocaine on the streets of Tarrant County in the mid-1980's changed the gang scene dramatically, as it has in other cities across the nation. Crack, a potent form of cocaine, is big business for gangs because it is cheap, provides a quick high, and is extremely addictive. The huge popularity of crack and the vast profits to be made from its sale have encouraged gangs to "franchise" their drug trafficking from California to almost every state in the nation. No neighborhood is secure from the threat of this ominous invasion.

WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?

GRAFFITI is one of the first signs of gang presence in a neighborhood or school. It is a clear marking of territorial boundaries which serves as a warning and challenge to rival gangs. It is also used to communicate messages between gangs. Often gang members will list a roster of its membership along with the gang name.

YOUTH HANGING OUT is another sign that gangs are possibly invading a neighborhood. The presence of large number of youths hanging around public parks, fast food stores, video arcades, etc. on a regular basis is a warning. Notice the frequent use of public phone booths by people who actually receive phone calls there.

DRUGS HOUSES are used for manufacturing, distributing, and selling drugs. These houses are usually in disrepair and are

the sites of many parties. The most identifiable characteristic of a drug house is the heavy traffic of people coming into the house and leaving after a short interval.

HAND SIGNS are a means of non-verbal communication to identify gang affiliation.

CLOTHING, FAVORING A PARTICULAR COLOR, AND HAIR-STYLES are ways that gangs may identify themselves although Tarrant County law enforcement agencies report that as gangs begin to attract the attention of police, they now have a tendency to avoid these practices.

INCREASES IN CRIME can be experienced as gang presence increases. Vandalism, assaults, burglaries, robberies, car theft, and even drive-by shootings are typical "initiation rites" for new gang members and are popular activities for criminally-active gangs. The potential for violence is ever present.

BEEPERS AND CELLULAR PHONES are used by many drug dealers.

WHY DO YOUTH JOIN GANGS?

- Need to belong
- Power or independence
- Peer pressure
- Safety, protection from intimidation or threat
- Excitement or fun
- Low self esteem/self-worth
- Lack of appropriate alternatives and activities
- Lack of appropriate parental involvement, resulting in neglect
- Desire for money, material possessions, status

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

- Educate yourself about the issues of youth gangs and violence.
- Educate your child about the potential dangers and the possible consequences of gang involvement and alcohol and drug use.
- Know where your child is and who his friends are. Know his friends' parents, if possible.

- Establish family rules that make the use of alcohol, drugs, and gang membership non-negotiable.

- Establish clear guidelines and limits for your child's behavior and activities.

- Respect your child's feelings and attitudes and help him develop a strong sense of self-esteem.

- Help your child learn to express anger appropriately; avoid teaching him to suppress anger.

- Know your child's teachers and school counselors and communicate with them regularly. Take an active role in your child's educational experiences.

- Be aware of changes in your child's behavior, dress, selection of friends, truancy, use of strange vocabulary, choice of music, extra money that cannot be accounted for, lack of respect for others.

- Report suspicious activity or criminal activity in your neighborhood to the police.

- Know your neighbors.

- Educate yourself about legal issues and advocate with your elected officials when change is needed.

- Listen to your child

- Be willing to be a "surrogate" parent to a child without parental support.

- Teach your child personal safety skills.

Do your part to make neighborhoods and schools SAFE for youth, their families and all citizens.