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## INTRODUCTION

The formation of gangs is not a new phenomenon in the United States. From the East to the West coast, gangs have taken over are large cities and have made in roads to rural America. No city is immune from gang activity. It has penetrated the core of our existence, today's young people.

In today's world gangs have grown more deadly, than in the past. In the early years gangs were neighborhood based and their names reflected this foundation. However, gangs have exported their brand of violence and a way of life throughout the United States. The National School Safety Center news service reported in their November 1991 issue that gangs have released their unforgiving type of terrorisms all across our nation. The gang population in the country has reached new levels with New York reporting 50 gangs with 5,000 members, Chicago revealing 125 gangs with 12,500 members, gangs and Los Angeles reporting 900 gangs with over 100,000 members (National School Safety, November 1991).

The problem is complex and few answers appear to be at hand. Lack of jobs for these youths and poor parental supervision contribute to the gang phenomenon. Causal factors include peer pressure, intimidation by hard core gang members, and poor role models (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

Gang members are often underachievers with no real sense of identity. They try to find their identity within the gang organization. Since most of them are underachievers the gang provides the perfect atmosphere for what they perceive to be important: to make money and gain power (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

The gang members usually comes from low income families, they also have poor academic record, and have either dropped out or has been indefinitely suspended from school. Gangs will be classified as 100% of the nationality of their gang as a whole with less than 1% membership from other races (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

In the gang members' society, different norms and rules emerge. Any gesture, real or imagined, can be met with harsh and deadly consequences toward rival gang members. All hard-core gang members are willing to defend their turf and their policies to the death. When coming into contact with a possible gang member, it would be best not to show fear. It can never be known weather a gang member wearing colors is hard-core or fringe member, a person should not show disrespect or ridicule their graffiti or clothing. Dangerous and violent consequences could follow (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

I hope that this pamphlet will help people understand how gangs destroy their child, their community and their society. Identifying the problem early could be the answer in fighting gangs. It appears the deeper the gangs are entrenched in the community the harder it is to solve the problem and break the gangs influence.

Information provided by Fredrick Vrgora, M.S.

## GANGS IN THE UNITED STATES

### Disciples

*Origin:* Chicago, Illinois

*Kings:* David, Hoover, William, Don Dee, Shan, Shun, Don Killwill  
*Sets:* (BGD) 63;412;410;360 (IGD) 36;720

*Types:* (BGD) Black Gangster Disciples (IGD) Insane Gangster Disciples (WGD) White Gangster Disciple (MMGD) Money Making Gangster Disciple (YGD) Young Gangster Disciple (UGD) Undercover Gangster Disciple (DQ) Disciple Queen (GQ) Gangster Queen

*Ranks:* Foot Soldier; Knights; Chiefs; Generals; Dunn's; Kings

*Colors:* Black and Blue

*Clothing:* L.A. Kings; Raiders; Lakers; MIAMI

*Shoes:* K-Swiss; Nike; Fila; Addais

*Gang Emblems:* Six-pointed star; Pitch Fork; Devil's Horn & Tail; Sword; Heart

*Disciple Talk:* Wear all items to the "right"; refer to other members as "Folks"; Disciple Knowledge

### Vice Lords

*Origin:* Chicago, Illinois

*King:* John

*Sets:* Unknown Conservative; 4 Corner Hustlers; Cicero Insane; Imperial Insane; Renegade; Undertaker; 12th Street; City Lords; 15th Street; Village; Traveling

*Colors:* Black; Gold; Green; Red

*Ranks:* Foot Soldiers; Knights; Chiefs; Generals; Dunn's; Kings

*Clothing:* Pittsburgh Pirates; UNLV; MIAMI; Civil War Hats

*Gang Emblems:* Five-pointed star; Crescent Moon; Sun; Pyramid; Cane; Glove; Circle; Fire; Baskin Robins 31; Flavors; Chrysler star

*Vice Lord Talk:* Wear all items to the "left"; refer to other members as "People"

### Crips

*Origin:* Los Angeles, CA. 1969/70 *Founder:* Randy Washington

*Sets:* Indicate local membership which can range from 10-100's of members. Crips have around 900 different sets. Their names originate from the neighborhood they occupy. Sets of Crips can be found on page

*Types:* (OG) Original Gangster; (G) Gangster; (BG) Baby Gangster (TG) Tiny Gangster

*Color:* Blue

*Clothing:* Any cap that denotes a "L.A. Base Team" or is the color blue; bandannas; blue jeans

*Crip Talk:* Call other members "CUZ", "CUZZ"; "KUZ"; B/K Blood Killer; B-187 (Penal Code for Murder in the State of California); Cross out the letter "B" or "P"

*Street Name:* K-Loc; T-Loc; Sexy; Gangster

### **Bloods**

*Origin:* Los Angeles, CA. 1970-71 *Founders:* Sylvester Scott & Vincent Owens. Known as Piru's because founded on Piru Street in Compton, CA.

*Sets:* (Same as Crips) Blood sets can be found on page

*Colors:* Red

*Clothing:* Red Bandannas and caps; blue jeans

*Types:* Same as Crips; OG; G; BG; TG

*Blood Talk:* Bloods; C/K Crip Killers; replaces the letter "C" with the letter "P" or "B" or crosses out the letter "C"; C-187; refer to other members as "Piru"

*Street Names:* T-Lok, K-Bone; Gangster; Al Copone

### **White Supremacy Gangs**

*Types:* Motorcycle Gangs; Skin Heads; Aryan Nation; Aryan Brotherhood; Ku Klux Klan

*Origins:* (MG) Hollister, CA. 1946; (SH) England 1968; (AB) San Quention Prison, 1967; (KKK) Pulaski, TN 1865

*Ideology:* Jews People control the media; government; Federal Reserve; blacks contaminate the white race and ruin the economy; hate in the name of God

*Distinctive:* (MG) Harleys, Tattoos; (SH) Shaven Heads, blue jeans; (KKK) White hoods and Robes

### **Latino Gangs**

*Origin:* Date's back to the 1930-40's; settlements known as the "Barrio's"; reflect Spanish rule

*Colors:* Black and White

*Sets:* Latino and Mexican gangs names reflect their culture and the area they call their "turf"; Almighty Insane Unknown Nation; Latin Kings; La Rana Frog; Westside Mouse; La Soma Shotgun Gangster; etc.

*Clothing:* Khaki paints; plaid wool shirt button to the top; hair nets; sagging paints; clothing that is a size larger than usually worn

*Distinctive:* Tattoos are animals as snakes; spiders; insects, etc or life in the barrios or jail

### **Mafia**

*Origin:* Sicily late middle ages; protection of landlords

*Ranks:* Boss (Godfather); Underboss (Vice President); Consigliere (Retired member who is an advisor); Caporegime (Buffer between top and lower echelon personnel); Soldati (Button Men who reports to the Caporegime); Soldier (Worker)

*Families:* (5) Gambinos; Colombo; Bonanno; Lucchese; Genovese

*Distinctive:* Omerta (Code of silence); Las Costra Nostra (meaning our affair-encompass all the crime families.

*Crimes:* Loan-sharking; drugs; prostitution; gambling; etc.

## **El Rukns**

*Origin:* Late 50's Early 60's Chicago, IL.

*Different Names:* Original Name (Blackstone Rangers); Grassroots Independent Voters League; Almighty Black-P-Stone Nation; Moorish Science Temple of America (This religious organization denies any connection with the EL Rukn Nation)

*Present Leader:* Jeff Fort

*El Rukn's meaning:* Sun or Warrior

*Ranks:* Consist with Disciples and Vice Lords

*Crimes:* Murder; Robbery; Rape; Arson; extortion; drug trafficking

*Distinctive:* Ruled by a "Main 21" all Generals; 100% Black

## **Identifying Factors to Gang Involvement**

*Knowledge:* Knowledge is the history of a particular gang usually in question and answer form. It will be numbered to indicate status within the gang. Gang members are required to memorize this knowledge. Pages 6&7 are examples of Black Gangster knowledge. Knowledge may reveal the rank of the gang member. The higher the numbers on the knowledge the more rank the gang member has obtained.

*Knowledge:* Vice Lords' knowledge is similar to Disciple knowledge. Page 8 is an example for parents viewing.

*Distinctive:* This is a distinguishing characterize that separates one group from the next.

*Sets:* This is the local group of individual who give themselves a name to separate their group from another group within the neighborhood. The name of the gang will usually reflect the neighborhood in which the live or the name will reflect the history of the gang.

*Hand-Signs:* Gang members use hand-signs to communicate with one another. Disciples, Crips and Blood hand-signs are shown on pages 9,10 &11. A child will use these hand-signs in front of their parents when they feel that their parents are unaware of their activities.

*Graffiti:* Graffiti are pictures or drawings that parents may see on their child school books, tattoos, arm or leg cast, or painted on the walls on their homes, and/or child's room. Graffiti of Disciples; Vice Lords; Crips and Bloods; along with selective Latino gangs will be on pages 12,13,14,15 &16.

*Street Gang Language:* The final pages consist of street gang language that a child who is involved in gang activity may use. This could be an indication of a child's involvement in gang activities. Street gang language is on pages 17 & 18.

## Action to be Taken by Parents/Guardian/Teacher/Professional

### Initiation and Intimidation by Gang Members

All gangs will initiate by "beating in" their members. Depending on the gang set, the beating could last from 3 to 5 minutes. The beating entails other gang members hitting the new member anywhere on their bodies for the designated length of time. Disciples will also "bless in" their members. They do this by placing an imagery six-pointed star on the member's chest and then punching them once in the center of the chest.

If a child reports that they are being intimidated or harassed by gang members, these suggestions should be followed by a parent/guardian/teacher/professional. Encourage that child to report any problem to a person in authority. That person should document the complaint and taken appropriate action, ie. report to the police, the child's parent etc.

If a child has signs of being physically beaten and claims gang members have been harassing him, the story should be check out thoroughly. This could be evidence of gang initiation rather than the result of being a victim of a gang crime. Parents should take the time to know their child in order to discern if expressed fear is genuine or just an excuses to stay home from school.

### When There are Warning Signs of Gang Activity

If you suspect a child to be involved in gang activity, check for the following signs:

- (1) Wearing recognized gang type clothing
- (2) Unexplained bruises on their body
- (3) Runaway activity with staying out all night with friends
- (4) Speaking in gang language
- (5) Gang tattoos on your child's body  
(Gang Tattoos could be a positive indicator of gang activity)
- (6) Possession of gang knowledge or writings
- (7) Involvement in illegal crimes that have gang connections

### Steps to be Taken

Collect all hats; shirts and knowledge that is gang related

Contact a professional counselor to work on gang problem

Protect child by restricting activities

Notify local authorities:

- (1) Police
- (2) School
- (3) Parent/Guardian

Black Gangster Knowledge Examples

Knight Walker  
→ RANK

- Phone # 360 - 3660
- Address 63rd street
- Where do you live? Hampton City
- Hoover is on the right side of Hellgate
- David is on the left side of Hellgate
- Satan is in the middle of Hellgate
- John put up the 5 pt star
- Hoover shot it down
- Hoover born in Oct. 18, 1966

bur matis is on the plant  
it grows larger every time someone is in it

- The 3 cities are Hampton City,
- Folk City, David City
- Hampton City is in hell
- Folk City is in heaven
- David City is in Chicago
- One was about to become a King of Kings

A	Y J H L	7200 Honor
B	T Z n T L p r w f	50 opposition
C	K i F	45 neutral standing
D	J k	410 Love
E	x	4120 Life
F	K L I	420 Loyalty
	E L I A 7	430 Wisdom
	M I I V	6000 Knowledge

Data Base Document Screening

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New Index Term(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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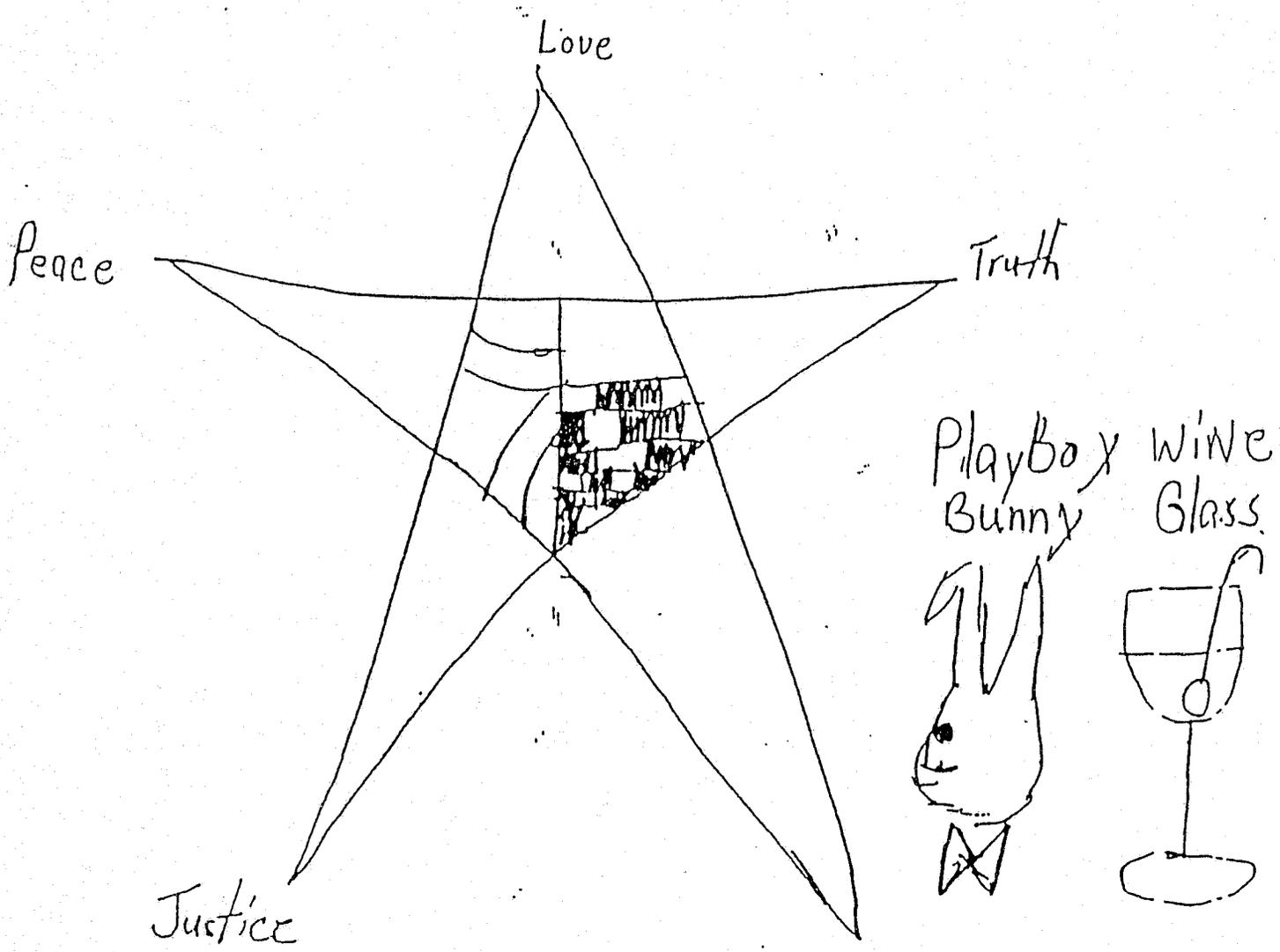
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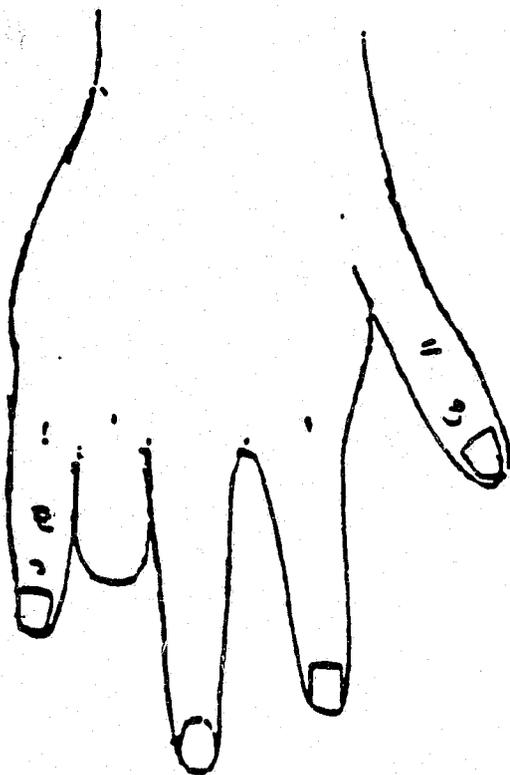
<sup>i</sup>  
~~opening pray~~  
As the gold may glow the world shall know  
that were Vice Lords as it says in the holy bible  
and those who follow the footsteps of the lord  
shall always receive salvation

~~starting pray~~ Vice Lords were started in  
1963 by Black Peace Stone (BPS) Jeff  
fort lead (BPS) under the five point star.

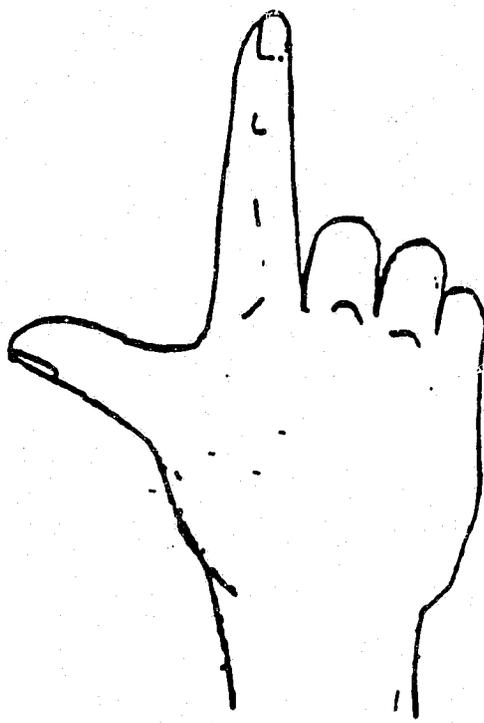


# Blood Hand Signs

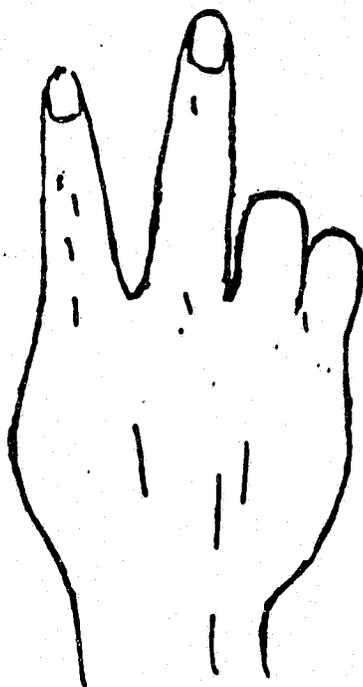
SWANS BLOODS



DENVER LANES BLOODS



VILLIANS BLOODS

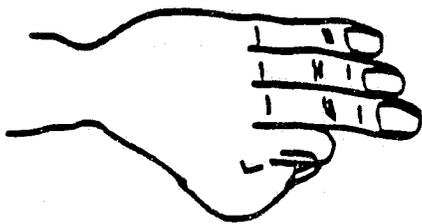


BRIMS BLOODS



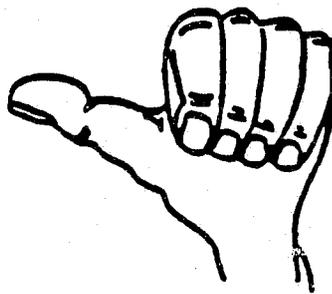
Crips and Bloods Hand Signs

PIRU SIGN

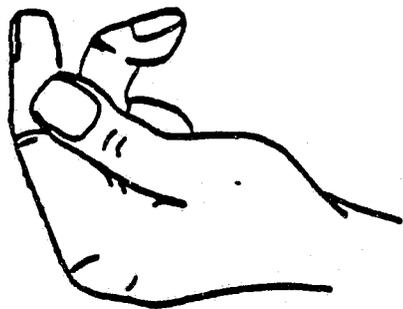


"BLOOD"

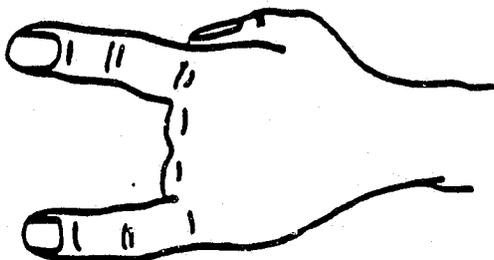
BISHOP



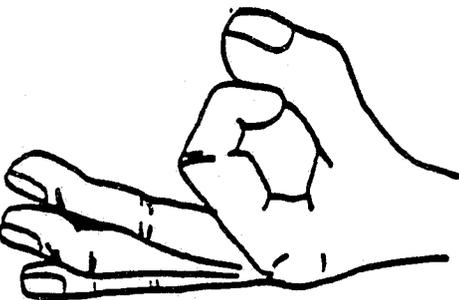
KITCHEN CRIP



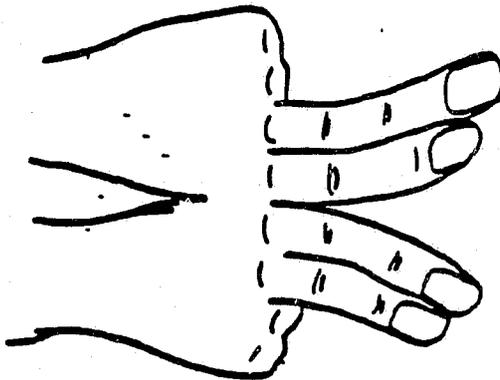
BRIMS



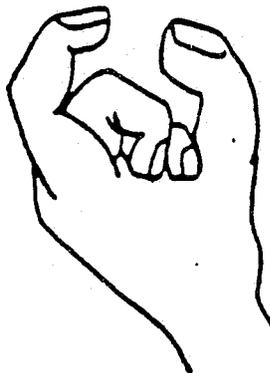
BOUNTY HUNTERS



MAFIA CRIPS

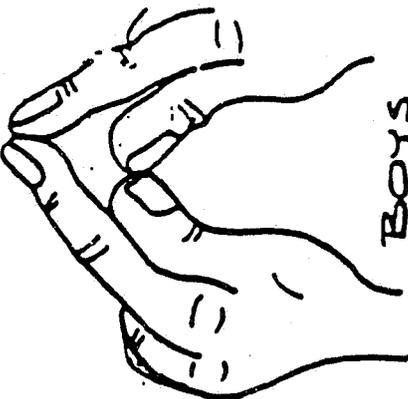


CRIPS



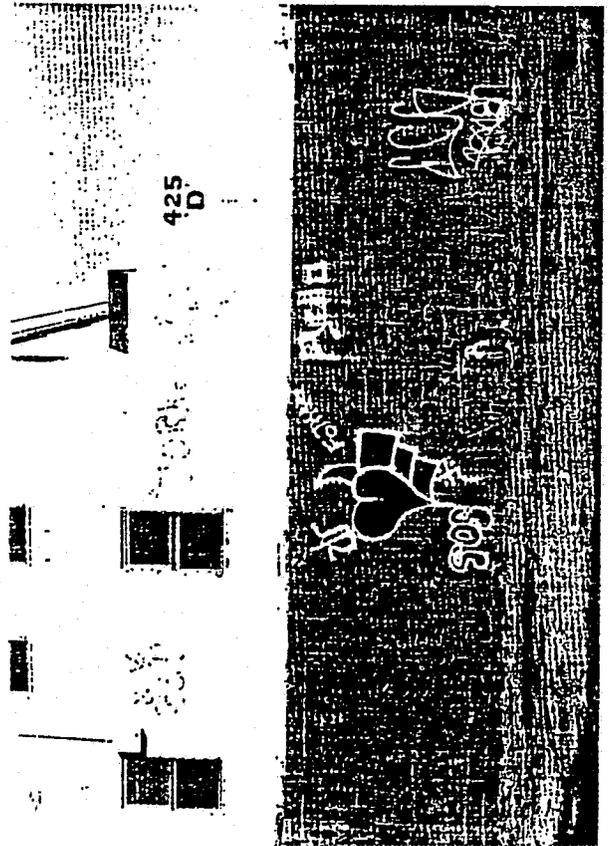
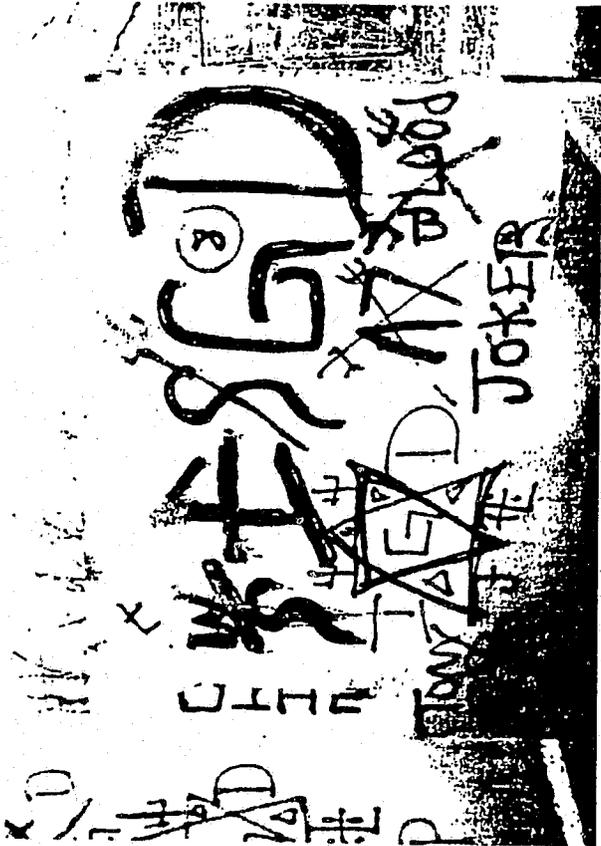
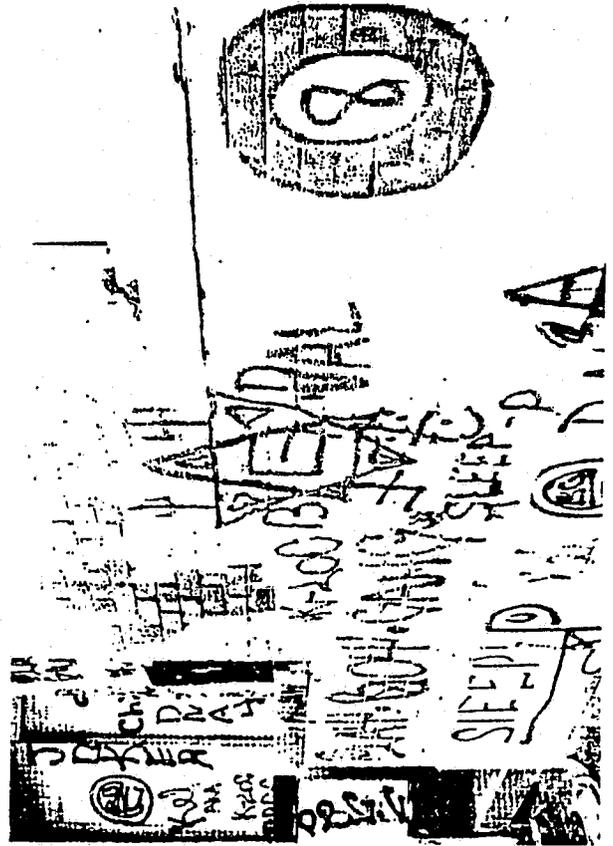
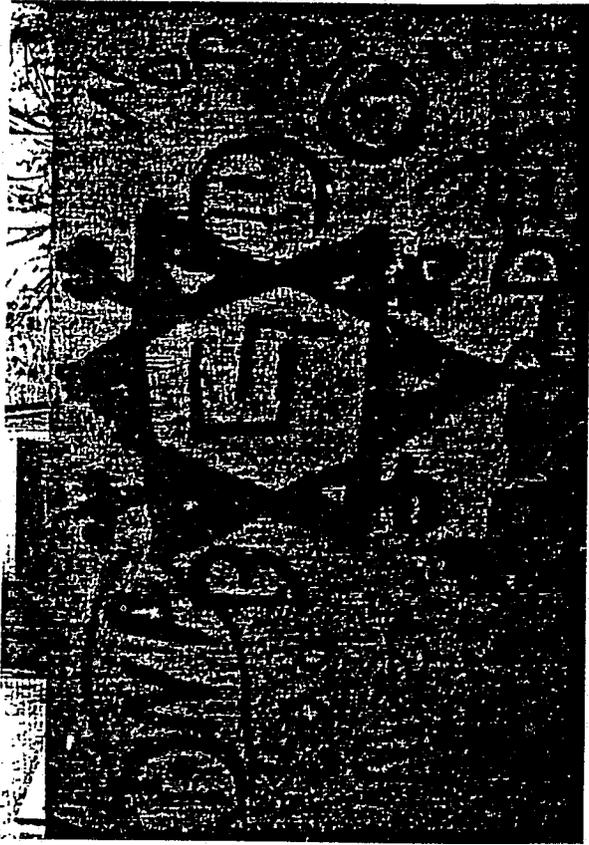
"COUSIN"

ATHENS PAR

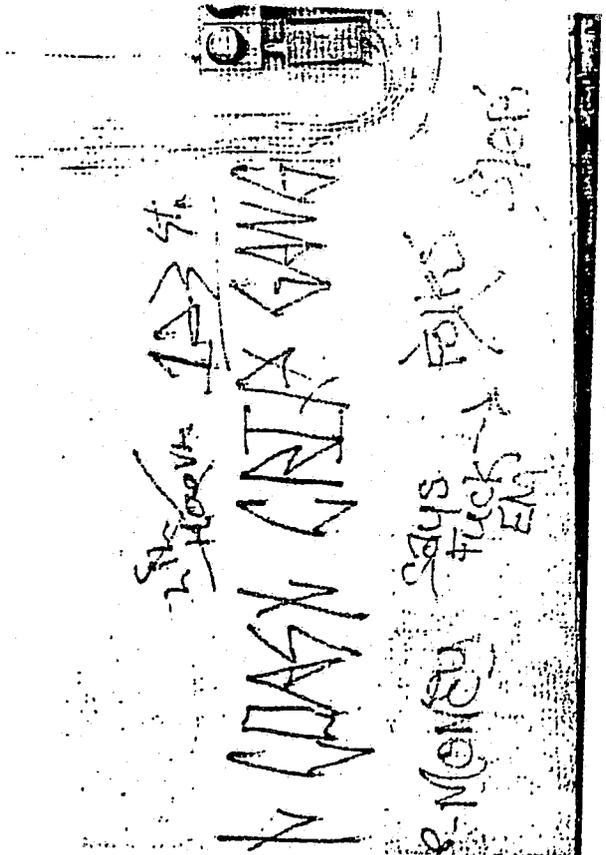
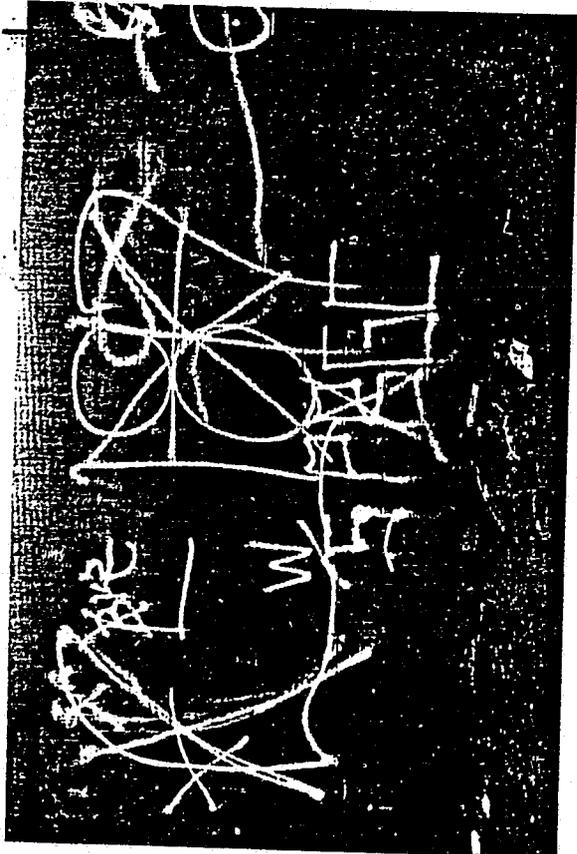
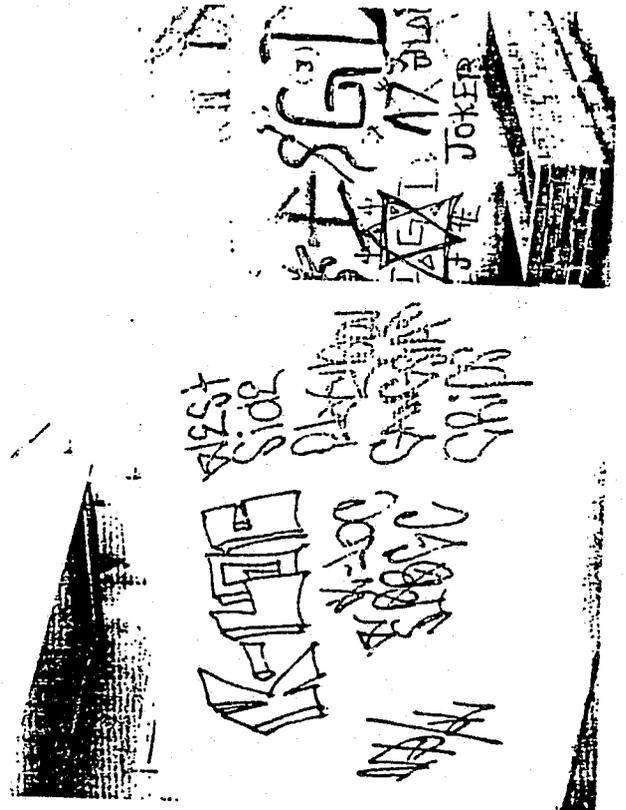
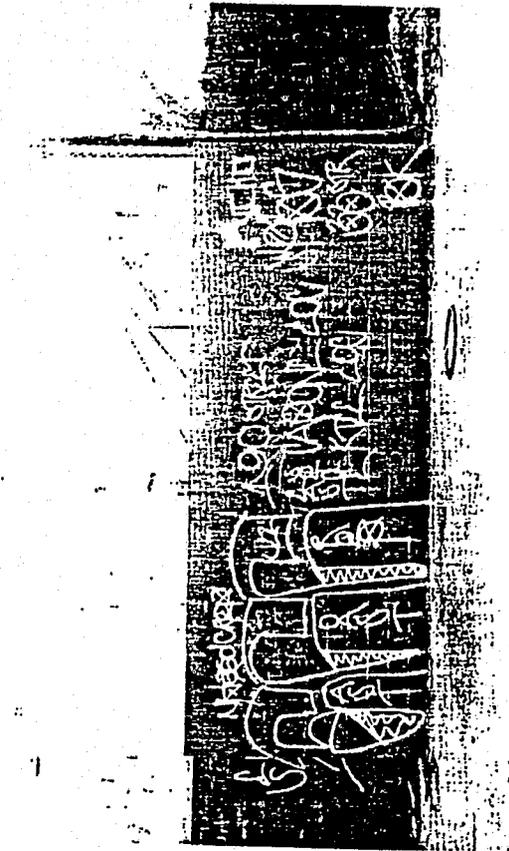


BOYS  
A.P.B.'s

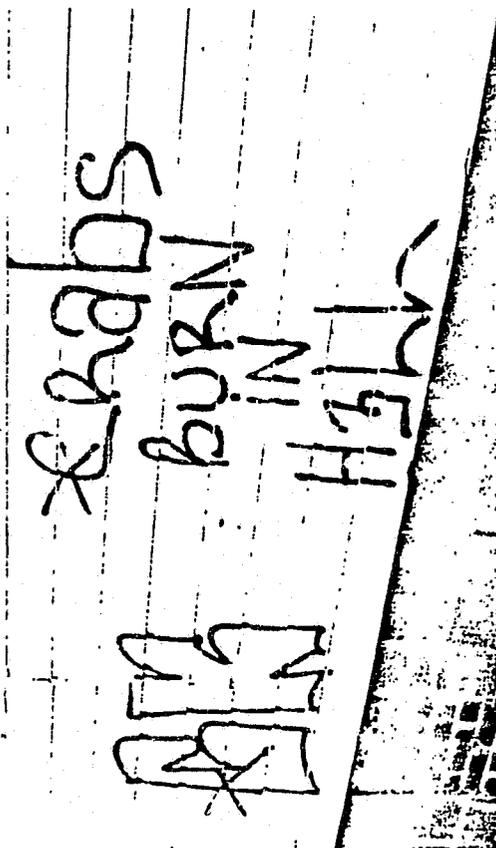
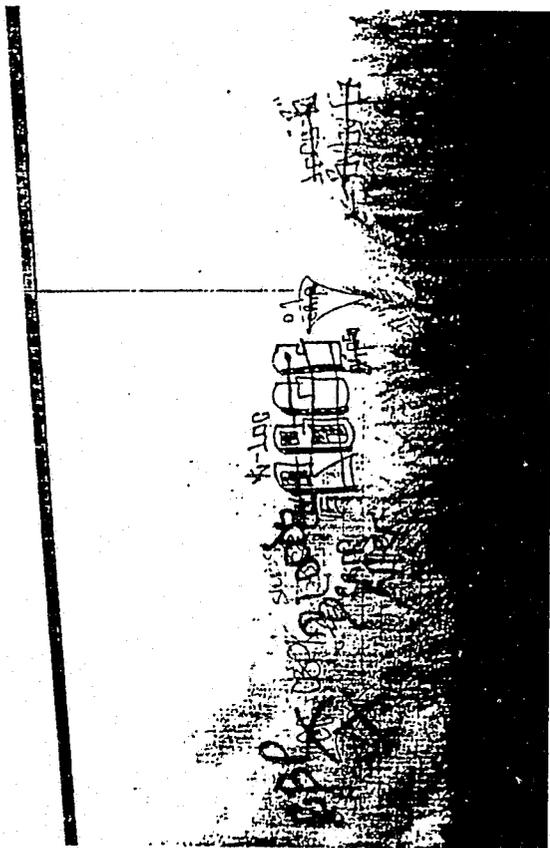
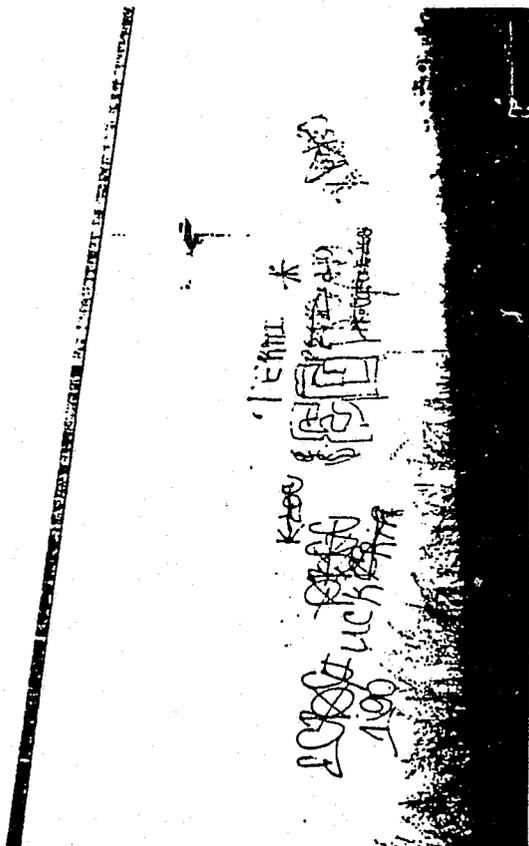
Disciple Graffiti



Crip Graffiti



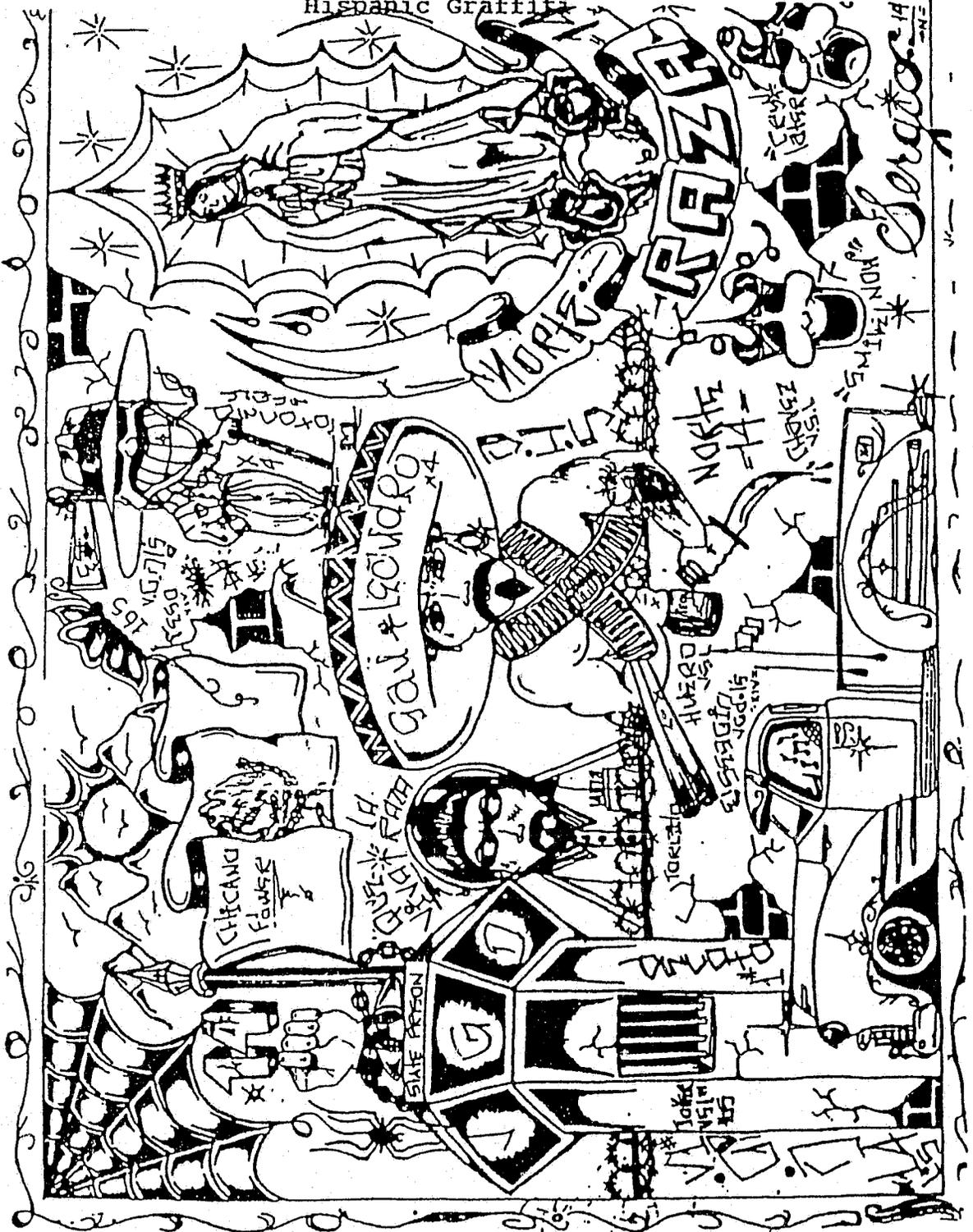
Blood Graffiti



# Street Gang Language

<u>Term</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Ace Kool .....	Best friend/Backup
Base Head .....	Person Hooked on Cocaine
Beemer .....	A BMW vehicle
Benzo .....	A Mercedes Benz
Blob .....	Crip nickname for blood member
Blood .....	Piru non crip
Bo .....	Marijuana
Boned Out .....	Quit chicken out
Book .....	Runaway
Break .....	Runaway
Breakdown .....	Shotgun
Bucket .....	Old raggedy car
Bud .....	Marijuana
Bullet .....	One year in custody
Bumper Kit .....	Girl's butt
Bumping Titties .....	Fighting
Busted Popped A Capot .....	Shot at someone
Buster .....	Fake gang member
Cabbage patch .....	Popular dance
Check It Out .....	Listen to what I say
Chill Out .....	Stop it
Commercial .....	Columbian marijuana
Colum .....	Columbian marijuana
Crab .....	Blood nickname for crip member
Dead Rag .....	Red rag
Deft .....	Looking good
Dis .....	No respect
Do A Ghost .....	Leave the scene
Double Duce .....	.22 Caliber gun
Jammed .....	Confronted
Jim Jones .....	Marijuana joint laced with cocaine and dipped in PCP
Juiced Lifts .....	Vehicle has hydraulics to raise and lower car
Kick You Down .....	Give you something, set you up in the drug trade
Kibbles and Bits .....	Crumbs of cocaine
Kool .....	Its alright
Lady .....	Girlfriend
Lizard Butt .....	Ugly girl
Loc .....	Dark sun glasses
Man .....	Cop
Mark .....	Want to be gang member
Mobile .....	Proper nice looking

Hispanic Graffiti



GRAFFITI

TRANSLATION

AQUI CIVT

"AQUI" meaning here, or look at this

"C" meaning Corona, IV<sup>s</sup><sub>t</sub> meaning 4th Street gang

LOS PERSUADERS

Los Persuaders, a subgroup of the 4th Street gang, responsible for the graffiti

Challo George de Lado Richard

Names and monikers of members of the gang

CORONA L R

Corona repeated, Ls meaning Loco's or crazy ones, "R" meaning "we're the best"

NOMAS

"nomas" meaning "the one and only"

C/S

C/S, a symbol meaning "Con Safos," there is nothing you can do about it, don't touch, anything you do to this, twice to you

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Kool .....	Its alright
Lady .....	Girlfriend
Lizard Butt .....	Ugly girl
Loc .....	Dark sun glasses
Man .....	Cop
Mark .....	Want to be gang member
Mobile .....	Proper idea basket

<u>Term</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Molded scritch .....	Embarrassed
Monte C .....	Monte Carlo vehicle
Mud Duck .....	Ugly girl
Nut Up .....	Angry
OG .....	Original gangster
On The Pipe .....	Free basting cocaine
On The Strength .....	Based on these facts
One Time .....	Police
Packing .....	Gang member with gun
Peanut Butter .....	Crip disrespect toward bloods
Posse .....	East Coast term for gang
Put that on the Set .....	Telling the truth
Rag .....	Color of gang
Recruiting .....	Looking for good looking girl
Red Eye .....	Hard stare
Relative .....	Blood term for home boy
DYS .....	Department of Youth Services
BGD .....	Black Gangster Disciples
IGD .....	Insane Gangster Disciples
Knowledge .....	Disciples Question and Answers
DQ .....	Disciple Queens
GQ .....	Gangster Queens
YGD .....	Young Gangster Disciples
Raiders .....	Ruthless ass insane disciples eliminate red slob
Kings .....	Killing innocent niggers gangster style
Folks .....	Nickname for disciple members
People .....	Nickname for vice lord members
GGD .....	Ghost Gangster Disciples
DK .....	Disciple Killer
BK .....	Blood Killer
CK .....	Crip Killer
G .....	Gangster
BG .....	Baby Gangster
TG .....	Tiny Gangster
187 .....	Penal code for murder in the state of California
Juvenile .....	Person under age 18
Delinquent .....	Person under 18 who commits illegal activity
Disciple .....	Gang that started in Chicago
Vice Lord .....	Gang that started in Chicago
Crip .....	Gang that started in Los Angeles
Blood .....	Gang that started in Los Angeles
Miami .....	Making insane ass more insane
K Swiss .....	Killing slob when I see some

## COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS

When addressing a gang problem there are numerous approaches law enforcement, parents, teachers and community leaders can take in an attempt to solve their problem. In June of 1991 Dr. Irving R. Spergel and Ronald C. Chance wrote an article for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) newsletter in which they identified five different strategies in which a community attempts to fight a gang problem. They were social intervention; suppression; social opportunities; community mobilization and organizational development (OJJDP, 1991).

In the survey conducted by Dr. Spergel and Chance it showed that of the communities surveyed 44% used suppression, 31.5% used social intervention, 10.9% organizational development, 8.9% community mobilization and 4.8% social opportunities. While most judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement favored suppression, the most effective method for fighting gangs in the beginning stages was community mobilization (OJJDP, 1991).

A pro-active approach to handling the gang problem appears to be the most promising. Law Enforcement, working in conjunction with the community can stem the tide of gang activity in their community. The following is a list of five organization an individual may write to and receive more information on how they can fight their gang problem pro-actively.

Positive Alternative Gang Education  
Honolulu Police Department; Juvenile Crime Prevention Division  
1455 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 (School Based)

The Paramount Plan: Alternatives to Gang Membership  
Human Services Department; City of Paramount  
16400 Colorado Avenue  
Paramount, CA. 90723 (School Based)

Dr. Irving A. Spergel, School of Social Service Administration  
University of Chicago  
969 East 60th Street  
Chicago, Il 60637 Phone#(312) 702-5879 (School & Comm Base Prg)

School Administrator's Handbook on Gangs and Campus Violence  
Puget Sound Educational Service District  
Seattle, WA 98178

Targeting Programs for Delinquency Intervention with an Emphasis  
on Gang Prevention/Intervention (Community Based)  
Boys Clubs of America  
New York, N.Y. 10017

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