Youth Gangs: Going Beyond the Myths

to Address a Critical Problem

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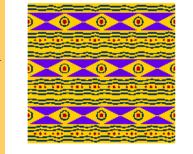


Discussion Area

Exploring Resources on Youth Gangs

Over the past few days, we have explored a range of approaches to combating gang involvement and activity among youth. While we have also presented many valuable resources in the area of gang prevention/intervention, there are resources that you and your community may find helpful as you begin to work on this important and challenging issue.

As mentioned earlier, few gang-specific programs have been evaluated or have shown clear results. As with some of your other work, programs that may not call themselves anti-gang may still provide the structure, support, and job opportunities that youth need to avoid or leave gangs.



It is important to remember that gangs spring out of local conditions and are, for the most part, locally based. Any effective intervention into gang problems will take into account community conditions, relationships among service organizations, backgrounds of gang youth and their families, law enforcement involvement, and willingness of community organizations and schools to get involved, among other things.

Today, we will focus on exploring the various kinds of resources that may be of help to you in your work. The <u>National Youth Gang Center</u> provides a wealth of information. You can receive a CD-ROM of much of its material free of charge. The <u>Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency</u> <u>Prevention</u> also provides resources about gangs.

Assessment and Implementation Guides

First, there are several guides that can help you assess and implement anti-gang programs. Among them are the following:

Addressing Community Gang Problems: A Practical Guide (1998). U.S Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs: Washington, DC. Available on-line at:<u>http://www.ncjrs.</u>org/pdffiles/164273.pdf.

Assessing Your Community's Youth Gang Problem (2002). Institute for Intergovernmental Research: Tallahassee, FL. Available at http://www.iir.com/nygc/acgp/assessment/assessment.pdf.

*Planning for Implementation (*2002). Institute for Intergovernmental Research: Tallahassee, FL. Available at <u>http://www.iir.com/nygc/acgp/implementation.htm</u>.

Strategic Planning Tool (2004). U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs: Washington, DC. <u>http://www.iir.com/nygc/tool.</u>

Gottfredson, G. D. & Gottfredson D. C. (October 2001). *Gang Problems and Gang Programs in a National Sample of Schools*. Ellicott City, MD: Gottfredson Associates, Inc. Available on-line at: <u>http://www.gottfredson.com/gang.htm</u>.

OJJDP Reports on Gangs

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has funded a series of publications on youth gangs in recent years. The publications explore issues related to youth gangs, including growth, expansion, and migration; drugs and violence; homicide; female involvement; and the effects of gang presence on communities and non-gang youth. These four-page publications provide research on specific topics in youth gangs that may be useful in your background work and in framing your approach to gang issues in your community. You can find a list of all of these recent publications along with a brief description by clicking <u>here</u>.

Gang-Related News

Another way to find information about gang problems and about success of interventions is to look at news clips. Here is one resource that provides up-to-date clips:

The National Youth Gang Center provides state-by-state article summaries about gangs and local approaches to gang prevention and intervention. It is available at http://www.iir.com/nygc/summaries.cfm.

Listserv on Gangs

You may want to consider joining a listserv called GANGINFO. The mailing list of participants discusses study, suppression, intervention and prevention of Youth Gang Crime. Practitioners, researchers, law enforcement officers, probation and parole officers, social workers, youth agency workers and others with an interest in youth gangs may join GANGINFO. Click here for more information.

Job Training

Many programs who seek to help youth involved in gangs realize that the youth need gainful employment, and often job readiness training in order to leave their gang lives. Homeboy Industries was featured on Day 4. You can find more information about their work at <u>www.homeboy-industries.org.</u>

Another similar organization, Homeboyz Interactive, trains young people in information technology who then work for clients. In 2003, client services revenues topped \$1 million. For more information, click here: <u>http://www.homeboyz.com.</u>

Funding for Anti-gang Initiatives

You may want to look for funding for an anti-gang program in your community. There are several avenues of funding available, many of which do not specifically call themselves anti-gang but still

may apply for the work you would like to do. Following are links to several federal funding sources:

- U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- U.S. Department of Justice: Community Oriented Policing Services Grants
- U.S. Department of Justice: Community Support and Grants
- U.S. Department of Education: Funding Opportunities
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Notices of Federal Funding Available (Federal Register Search)

Resources

There are numerous organizations and materials that can help you and your school dig deeper into the important topic of truancy. On this final day of the event, please complete the following steps:

Review the list of <u>resources</u> located in the Resources & Links section. You will find links to several on-line publications and organizations with information about the nature and prevention of truancy.

Identify one resource that you find interesting, follow the link, and spend some time reviewing the publication or learning about the organization.

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Visit the Discussion Area to share with your fellow participants and the event facilitator the link you followed and any interesting tips you learned. As you explore resources on gang prevention, keep in mind that several <u>past</u> <u>on-line events</u> are relevant to this topic. For example, you may want to review these:

- Exploring the Nature and Prevention of Bullying
- Truancy: A Serious Problem for Students, Schools, and Society
- <u>Using Existing Data in Your Needs Assessment</u>
- Promoting Prevention Through School-Community Partnerships

Please also take some time today to share any additional thoughts -- either about the topic of youth gangs or about this on-line event -- in the *Discussion Area*.





When you are done, please click <u>here</u> to complete a feedback form so that we can improve future on-line events!



Thank you for participating in Youth Gangs: Going Beyond the Myths to Address a Critical Problem.

We hope that you enjoyed the event!

References for Day 5 materials:

Gottfredson, G. D. & Gottfredson, D. C. (October 2001) *Gang Problems and Gang Programs in a National Sample of Schools.* Ellicott City, MD: Gottfredson Associates, Inc., . Also available on-line at: http://www.gottfredson.com/gang.htm

National Youth Gang Center. http://www.iir.org/nygc.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. <u>http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org.</u>



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Serving Children, Families, and Communities Home > Publications > Search > Search | Search | FAQs | Contact Us About OJJDP Results E-News **Publication Search Results** Topics Series: Youth Gang Series Funding Your search found 9 results. Programs Sort: alphabetically State Contacts by date of publication Publications 2004 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 **Publications** Publications Search 2004 NCJRS Library Top Youth Gangs in Indian Country Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, March 2004. Describes the nature and makeup of youth Types of Publications gangs in Indian Country. 16 pages NCJ 202714. Abstract Statistics HTML (27.2 KB) **PDF** (471 KB) Events 2001 Hybrid and Other Modern Gangs Top Home

PDF (124 KB)

Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, December 2001. Describes the nature of modern youth gangs -in particular, hybrid gangs. 8 pages. NCJ 189916. Acrobať Abstract Reader HTML (7.44 KB) To view PDF files. Early Precursors of Gang Membership: A Study of Seattle Youth download a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, December 2001. Presents Seattle Social Development Abstract

Project data on youth who join gangs. 6 pages. NCJ 190106. **PDF** (101 KB) Top Female Gangs: A Focus on Research Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, March 2001. Summarizes research on female gangs and draws attention to programmatic and research needs. 12 pages. NCJ 186159. HTML (7.65 KB) **PDF** (212 KB)

2000

Preventing Adolescent Gang Involvement

Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, September 2000. Provides information on the history of American youth gangs and current knowledge about gangs. 12 pages. NCJ 182210. Abstract

HTML (6.68 KB) **PDF** (272 KB)

Youth Gangs in Schools

Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, August 2000. Presents results of analyses of gang-related data gathered by the 1995 School Crime Supplements. 8 pages. NCJ 183015. Abstract

HTML (6.04 KB) **PDF** (107 KB)

1999

Youth Gang Drug Trafficking

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Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, December 1999. Presents nationally representative data on the extent and nature of youth gang involvement in drug trafficking, based on results from the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey. 12 pages. **NCJ 178282**. **Abstract**

HTML (4.49 KB)

PDF (180 KB)

The Youth Gangs, Drugs, and Violence Connection

Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, January 1999. Describes the relationship among youth gangs, drugs, and violence. 12 pages. **NCJ 171152**. **Abstract**

PDF (217 KB)

1998

Youth Gangs: An Overview

Bulletin: Youth Gang Series, August 1998. Reviews data and research on youth gangs, outlines the history of youth gangs and their demographic characteristics, and assesses the scope of the problem. 20 pages. **NCJ 167249**.

HTML (3.34 KB)

PDF (413 KB)

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A component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

National Youth Gang Center (NYGC): GANGINFO



GANGINFO

A Listserv Mailing List to Discuss the Study, Suppression, Intervention, and Prevention of Youth Gang Crime

Who Can Join?

Practitioners, researchers, law enforcement officers, probation and parole officers, social workers, youth agency workers, and others with an interest in youth gangs may join GANGINFO. Please see the <u>List</u> <u>Charter</u> and <u>Terms and Conditions of</u> <u>Use</u> for more information.

GANGINFO

- List Charter
- Terms and Conditions of Use
- List Rules and Netiquette
- <u>Application Form</u>

GANGINFO

OJJDP

NYGC Home

Questions

About NYGC

Networking

Publications

Frequently Asked

Conference and Training Links

Funding Links

Gang-Related News

Gang-Related Legislation

Site Search

Addressing Community Gang Problems

What Do People Talk About on GANGINFO?

- How to identify and counter gang crime
- Gang identification and activity (however, NOT police intelligence)
- Intervening with gang-involved and at-risk youth
- Gang prevention
- Victims of gang crime
- Research
- Education and training opportunities
- New gang literature

Please see also the List Rules and Netiquette.

Security

Because GANGINFO uses an unsecured means of transferring mail on the Internet, it is NOT the proper venue for posting information about specific gang members or police intelligence.

How Listservs Work

For information about how listservs work and how to participate in them, we recommend that you visit Sagrelto's InfoWorm Listserv Tutorial located at http://www.sagrelto.com/tutorial/ls1-ntro.htm.

Interested?

Join GANGINFO by filling out the online GANGINFO application form.

Questions?

National Youth Gang Center Post Office Box 12729 Tallahassee, FL 32317 Phone: (850) 385-0600 Fax: (850) 386-5356 E-mail: <u>GANGINFO-Request@LISTS.BIGIIRON.COM</u>.

You are here: <u>IIR</u> > <u>Projects</u> > <u>NYGC</u> > **GANGINFO**

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Youth Gangs: Going Beyond the Myths

to Address a Critical Problem

	Resources & Links
Home Getting Started Day 1	This section provides a comprehensive list of the materials and resources presented in this event. <u>Session Resources</u> include the main text for each day of this event, as well as supplementary materials. <u>General Resources</u> include materials designed to facilitate your participation in this on-line training.
<u>Day 2</u>	Session Resources
<u>Day 3</u> <u>Day 4</u>	Day 1 - <u>The Lure of Gangs and the Consequences for Youth</u>
Day 4 Day 5	An Overview of Different Gang Types
	Common Signs of Gang Membership
<u>& Links</u>	Day 2 - Model Strategies to Prevent and Address Youth Gangs
Event Support	Comprehensive Gang Model
<u>}</u>	Comprehensive Anti-Gang Effort in Chicago Yields some Success, Lessons
Discussion	Gottfredson Study
<u>Area</u>	Manti-Bullying Efforts
	G.R.E.A.T. Program Shows Promise, but Evaluation Results Are Mixed
	Boys and Girls Clubs Reach Youth at Risk of Joining Gangs, Evaluation Finds
	Working with Gang-Impacted Families
	Day 3 - <u>Assessing Youth Gang Problems in Your School and Community</u>
	Community Assessment Questions
	Law Enforcement Gang Data
	Day 4 - Developing an Implementation Plan for Your School and Community

Strategic Planning Tool

- Setting Goals and Objectives for Gang Responses
- Ideas for Programs for Elementary, Middle, and High School Students
- How Youth Can Get Out of Gangs

Day 5 - Exploring Additional Resources on Youth Gangs

- National Youth Gang Center
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Addressing Community Gang Problems: A Community Guide
- Assessing Your Community's Gang Problem
- Planning for Implementation
- Strategic Planning Tool
 - Gang Problems and Gang Programs in a National Sample of Schools
 - OJJDP Reports on Gangs
 - Gang-Related News
 - Listserv on Gangs (GANGINFO)
 - Job Training: Homeboy Industries
 - Job Training: Homeboyz Interactive
 - U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
 - U.S. Department of Justice: Community Oriented Policing Services Grants
 - U.S. Department of Justice: Community Support and Grants
 - U.S. Department of Education: Funding Opportunities
 - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Notices of Federal Funding Available (Federal Register Search)

General Resources

Navigating This Site

Participating in On-Line Events

Using the Discussion Area

Event Support



