

A GANG IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT FORM AN  
ALLERGIANCE FOR A COMMON PURPOSE AND ENGAGE IN  
UNLAWFUL OR CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR.



### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Youth Gang Project	823-4112 Office
	823-GANG Hotline
Youth Gangs Project/Columbia Villa	248-3909 Office
North Precinct Police Bureau	823-2120
Portland Public School Police Force	249-3307
Student Discipline	280-5783
Project Return	280-6587
Juvenile Court (Southeast)	248-5061
Juvenile Court (Northeast)	248-3460
North Portland Youth Service Center	285-0627
Northeast Youth Service Center	280-2600
North Portland Crime Prevention	823-4098
Northeast Crime Prevention	823-4763
Neighborhood Mediation	823-3152
Coalition of Black Men	280-5835
Youth Resource Desk	287-0823

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### NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

North Portland	823-4524
Inner Northeast	823-4575
West/Northwest	223-3331
Southwest	823-4592
Southeast	232-0010
Central Northeast/East Portland & Mid-County	823-3156
Downtown Burnside	224-7916

WE CANNOT HELP YOU, IF YOU DON'T CALL

# PROFILE OF BLACK GANGS

## At Risk Factors

- Academic problems
- Alienated from family and society
- Cuts across income levels
- Male or female
- Ages 12 to 22
- Generational
- Siblings involved
- Wearing of gang colors
- Associations with known gang members
- Use of gang language/signs
- Often single parent female head of household
- Living in gang impacted neighborhoods
- Physical security concerns or risk

## Known Gang Sets (Groups)

**Black gangs are often multi-racial and include whites, Hispanics, Asians, etc.**

Columbia Villa Crips  
Imperial Village Crips  
West Side Rolling 60's

47 Kerby Bloc Crips  
Grape Street Crips  
62nd St. Diamond Crips

West Side Pirus  
Loked Out Pirus  
Syndo Mob

Woodlawn Park Bloods  
Inglewood Family Bloods  
Folks

Eastside Syndicate (E.S.S.) (all white gang)

- \*Mean Criminal Minded Mobsters or Rolling 40's Crip
- \*Hill Top Hustlers (HTH)
- \*Southeast Mafia

\*multi-racial gangs primarily in Southeast Portland

In 1986 California black gangs came to market crack cocaine. They brought their gang value system, codes and behaviors to local black gangs from Los Angeles, Compton and Pomona. Black gangs in Portland have now evolved through the creation of gang sets comprised of local Portland youth.

LA gangs also brought their own brand of violence and revenge to Portland. Local area gang members began flashing their weapons to protect their "set" and "hood" (see Word List below). Drive-by shootings now occur frequently as gang members fight over turf. Other activities include robberies and assaults. Weapons may include guns of any type such as AK 47's and UZI's.

Gangs are more entrenched in Portland now than in 1986. Gang members not only consist of siblings but of generations. Teenage fathers and mothers are teaching their children gang signs and dressing them in gang colors. And black gangs are moving into all sections of the metropolitan area; southeast, southwest, Tigard, Beaverton, Gresham and Vancouver, Washington.

## The Gang Word List

**Being down:** stands up for his set  
**BK:** Blood Killer-what Crips call themselves  
**CM:** Crip murder (insult from Bloods)  
**CRAB:** insult from Bloods  
**CRIPPIN:** Crips "survive any way you can"  
**"40":** Old English 800 Malt liquor  
**Gang Banger/Banging:** involved w/gang activity  
**Homeboy:** someone from the same gang, friend  
**The Hood:** neighborhood of gang set  
**CK:** Crip Killer-what Bloods call themselves  
**O.G.:** Original gangster  
**SET:** members of a specific gang or sub-group  
**187:** California state penal code for murder  
**CUZ:** insult to Crips  
**SLOB:** insult to Bloods

## Black Gang Dress

**Wearing of colors is only one factor in determining gang affiliation.**

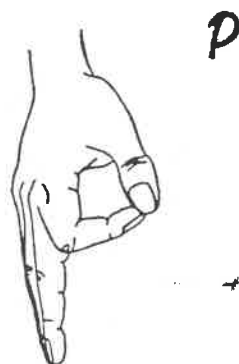
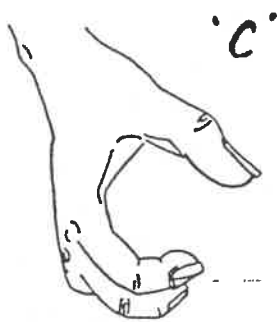
Portland area black gangs predominantly wear two colors: red (BLOODS) and blue (CRIPS). Additionally the colors green, gray and black are emerging as gang colors.

Do-rags (engineer handkerchiefs) are worn as signals. If worn out in the back pocket, the do-rag signals the member is ready to protect his set or turf.

Sagging is how a gang member wears his pants; low on the hips. Many members wear baseball caps with nicknames and gang slogans.

Inside the caps they write graffiti and their monikers.

# BLACK GANG GRAFFITI/HAND SIGNS



NORTH  
SIDE  
COLUMBIA

CURZZ

Ulla  
CRIP  
Gang  
from  
3700  
Block  
Street  
CURZZ

30° 60° 90°

CRIPS  
K.R.O.C

SH/K

~~420~~ K

~~520~~ KILL

# PROFILE OF A HISPANIC STREET GANG

## At Risk Factors

- Usually male
- Ages 10-22
- Generally Mexican-American or Chicano

## Known Hispanic Gangs

~~13th Street Cholos~~ 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
~~Pine Street Cholos~~

In the early 1900's, the first evidence of Hispanic gangs surfaced in southern California area. Rivalry developed between some of the immigrants from different areas, leading to the evolution of the first known gangs. By the early 1970's, an increase in Hispanic gang graffiti, violence and crime was occurring in all parts of California.

Hispanic gangs invariably name their gang after a geographical area or "turf", something they feel is worth fighting for and defending. Hispanic gang activity often becomes a "family affair". Young males will be the "Pee Wees" or the "lil' Winos" within the gang. Anyone who lives past age 22 becomes a "veterano." The "veterano" may actively participate in crimes, but more often will give aid, shelter and advice to younger gang members. They will hide members from police, dispose of weapons and provide places for members to meet and have parties. Cholos and Vato mean "homeboy". Homeboy is anyone from the same neighborhood or gang; a friend or an accepted person; in a larger sense, a person from the inner city; also *homie*. Hispanic gangs form alliances for purposes of strength. Inter-gang feuds and "wars" occur largely over territory or as a result of some real or imagined transgression by a rival gang. Often uppermost in the gang member's mind is the belief that "the gang is more important than the individual member".

Hispanic gang presence in Portland is minimal at this time. Those in Portland often associate with CRIP gang sets.

### Body Language

- Use body stance to intimidate
- Crossed arms
- Stand with feet in T shape or duck style
- Use same body language as Crips or Bloods

### Graffiti

- Use vivid colors with bold block styled lettering

### Tattoos

- Put on various parts of the body; indicating gang set and individual's nickname

### Hispanic Dress Styles

- Wear pendleton shirts, only top button will be buttoned
- Khaki pants, cuffed
- Dark bandana
- Hair net worn at times
- Dark sun glasses

# PROFILE OF ASIAN GANGSTERS

## At Risk Factors

- Alienated from family and society
- Male or female
- Ages 12 to 25
- Cultural conflict between youth and family
- Limited English speaking home
- Divided from family unit (separated: part of family in U.S. and part in another country)
- Immigrated without family unit or education
- Anger with governmental agencies
- Language and cultural barriers
- Seeks immediate gratification through money
- Becoming Americanized/family fears losing control of youth

## How To Define An Asian Gang?

There are three types of Asian Gangs:

**Casual Gang**--a group of friends who operate in crime (extortion, burglary and car theft/prowl). They operate by consensus with no leadership. The members participate in the most violent of crimes.

**Informal Gang**--a charismatic leader, but the membership fluctuates and is transient in nature.

**Formal Gang**--a more defined leadership with a definite chain of command. The membership is loyal and the gangsters delve into extortion. Halo Halo Boys are an example of a formal gang.

Most Asian gangsters arrived in the United States as refugees. In 1985 and 1986 an influx of Asian gangsters came to Portland from California. Known gangs then were the Portland Sex Killers, Solo Brothers and the Halo Halo Boys. The Halo Halo Boys continue to operate. In Portland, law enforcement agencies see Asian gangsters involved with major narcotic trafficking and weapons (they are obsessed with weapons). Autos (particularly Toyotas and Datsuns) and car stereos are favorite targets for theft. Asian gangs are very mobile--members travel the "I-5 pipeline" from California to Oregon to Washington. Weapons may include the martial arts, knives, nunchakus and guns of all types.

Primarily the Asian gangsters prey upon their own community through extortion, physical assaults and residential robbery and burglary.

The stated ages of the Asian youth are not always accurate. There may be a discrepancy of two to three years. Family names are often the same or similar with many having the same first and last name but a different middle name.

Asian gangsters are beginning to use gang names to identify themselves. In Southeast Portland there are the Viet Crips and the Red Cobras. The 69 Posse or The Asian Connection also operate in Portland.

### Understanding the Asian Culture

- strong emphasis on family;
- strong emphasis on education;
- mistrust of police and governmental agencies by immigrant population;
- generational conflicts between traditional values and popular culture.

### Asian Behavior and Dress Styles

**The typical Asian gangster is not distinctive in dress and can be difficult to identify.**

Black baggy pants and jacket with white shirts are favored by Asian gangsters. New wave hair styles are popular.

Many Asian gangsters exhibit tattoos on their bodies. 3 dots in a triangle may indicate membership in a gang. A row of cigarette burns on the web of the hand may indicate their bravery.

# PROFILE OF A WHITE SUPREMACIST OR SKINHEAD

## At Risk Factors

- Academic problems
- Alienated from family, society and government
- Cuts across all income levels
- Male or female
- Ages 12 to 25
- Drug/Alcohol abusers
- Physically or sexually abused (victims)
- "Loners"
- Feelings of anger, hate, injustice
- Hate all types of authority

## Who is Recruited?

Frequently the first to be recruited are the "nobodies" or an individual who feels set apart. The targeted audience is aimed at Pacific Northwest blue collar white male youth who blame others for their troubles. Many are from low income, single parent families but have a strong work ethic. Youth are recruited through schools, literature, dances. They hope to gain superiority and power through intimidation.

White Supremacists are usually referred to as "Skinheads" because of their closely cropped hair styles. Roots of the Skinhead movement in the United States began in England in 1968. Groups such as Skinheads of America (1984) and Romantic Violence (Chicago/1984) continued these messages of racial hatred. In 1986 the Aryan Nation movement reached out to the Skinheads to form an allegiance. Skinheads are now the "front line soldiers" for the Aryan Nation and White Supremacist movement. Neo Nazi, KKK and Posse Comitatus share the same philosophy as the Skinheads. They believe the white race is superior and that race mixing is taboo.

Portland Skinheads promote racial hate and violence through the distribution of hate literature targeting African-Americans and other people of color, Gays, Lesbians and Jews. Inner southeast and northeast have been target areas for the posting of such literature. Post office boxes and telephone numbers are used to further the racist belief. Skinheads are known to frequent Pioneer Square. Skinheads intimidate and harass individuals with racial slurs and physical attacks. Weapons may include clubs, bats, knives and chains. The type of music they listen to is called **OI** (music to riot by). **OI** is also used as a greeting from one Skinhead to another.

## Supremacist/Skinhead Groups

### Nationwide:

KKK Youth Core	London Skins
Boot Boys	The ORDER
LADS (LA Death Squad)	
The Northern Hammerskins (now in Portland)	
The WAY (White Aryan Youth)	

### Portland area:

Milwaukie WAR Skins  
Youth of Hitler  
ESWP (Eastside White Pride)  
PUSH (Portland United Skinheads)  
WAR Skins (White Aryan Resistance)  
POWAR (Preservation of White American Race)  
SHARP (Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice)  
Hollywood Hustlers  
Southeast Boot Boys  
AWR (American White Resistance)  
Warlords  
American Front

## Bands Favored by Supremacists

### from England

Screwdriver  
Sudden Impact  
Brutal Attack  
Black Flag  
Skullhead

### from US

Final Solution  
Prisoner of Peace  
White Pride  
US Chaos  
Nigger Nigger

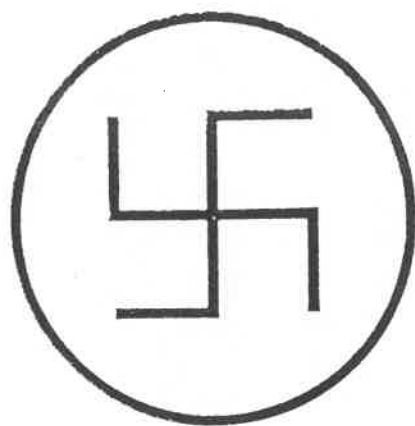
## Skinhead Dress Styles

- Dress to intimidate
- Bomber style jackets/leather
- Army fatigues/flak jackets
- Braces (suspenders)
- T-shirts with White Pride logos
- Doc Marten boots (steel-toed)
- Shaved heads or closely cropped hair

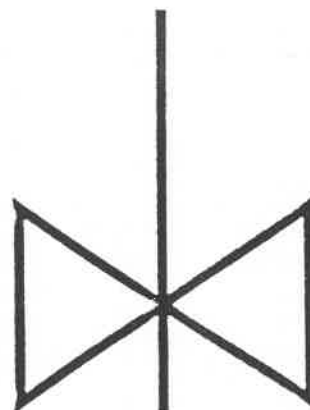
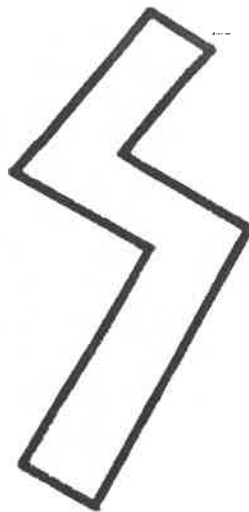
### Colored shoelaces may mean:

- White/red colors = Supremacists
- Yellow color = Recently injured someone

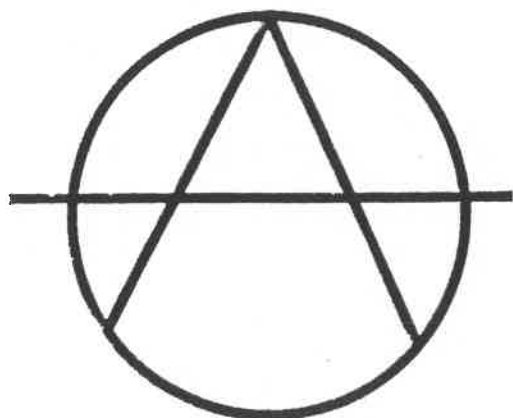
# SYMBOLS USED BY SKINHEADS



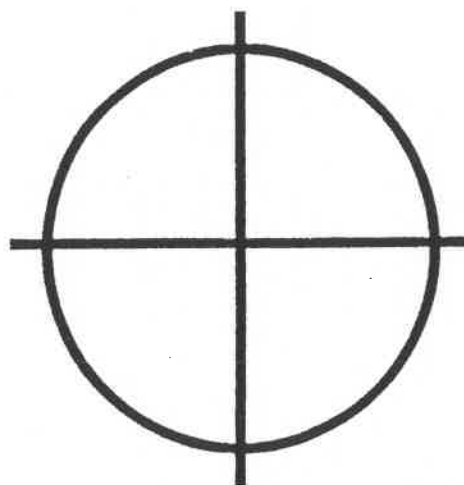
"Swastika"



Symbol of  
"Anti-Justice"



"Anarchy"



Rifle site  
"Violence"



# PROFILE OF A SATANIST

## At Risk Factors

- Academic problems
- Alienated from family and peers
- Cuts across all income levels
- Male or female
- Ages 12 to 24
- Drug/Alcohol abusers
- Generally caucasian
- Low self-esteem
- Strives for power and control
- Preference to obsession for Heavy Metal music
- Participation/obsession in fantasy role-playing games (such as Dungeons and Dragons)
- Lack of humor
- Negative feelings about school/future
- High tolerance for pain/deviance
- Frequent thoughts of suicide and death
- Secretive

## Five Types of Satan Worship

- **Religious**
  - Tax exempt status
  - Publically reject criminal activity
  - Recognized as a religious church
- **Adolescents**
  - Participate as "dabblers"
  - Adopt certain symbols
- **Self-styled**
  - Use their own fetishes
  - Usually loners
  - Obsessed with satanic themes
- **Criminal Satanic Cults**
  - Criminal activity through Satan
  - Satanism is their lifestyle
  - Involvement in sacrifices
- **Generational**
  - Two or three generations involved
  - Secretive
  - Criminal ritual activities

Satanism is the worship of the devil, its practice reverses many social values including focusing on death rather than life. Satanistic practices range in involvement from teen dabblers to public worship to criminal displays by self-styled practitioners to secretive generational cults.

Teenage "dabblers" are of great concern to those who work with youth. Dabblers can cause mental and physical harm to themselves and others. Dabblers exhibit obsession with movies, videos, posters, books and heavy metal music with themes of violence, rape, death and demonism. They will use satanic symbols doodled on notebooks, worn as jewelry or t-shirts, to decorate their room or drawn or tattooed on their body. They possess candles, incense, knives, bells, chalice, bones, herbs, blackened nails (middle or little finger on left hand) and show signs of self-mutilation. Consistent wearing of black clothing, combined with the symbols should be a major warning sign.

Satanic altars often hidden from view are identified by black candles, skulls or bones and use of satanic symbols. Satanic diaries (Personal Book of Grimoires) focus on satanic rituals, group activities, suicide, thoughts of death, and contracts with Satan. Heavy metal bands favored by teenagers involved with Satanists are Iron Maiden, King Diamond, K I S S and We Are Satan's People (WASP).

### Be Alert To:

Family members should be alert to youth who change their lifestyles to include:

- Drug use
- Backward writing
- Cruelty to animals
- A false sense of well-being
- Clandestine and secretive behavior
- Drop in grades
- Loss of interest in former friends & activities
- Exaggeration of emotions
- Preoccupation with death
- Black bedrooms and/or black clothing
- Self-mutilation

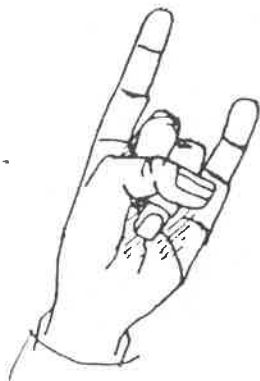
### Important Dates of Satanic Calendar

<b>Jan. 17</b>	Satanic Revels
<b>Feb. 2</b>	Candlemas
<b>March 20</b>	Spring Equinox
<b>April 30</b>	Valpurgisnacht
<b>June 21</b>	Feast Day
<b>Sept. 7</b>	Marriage to the Beast Satan
<b>Oct. 31</b>	All Hallows Eve
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Winter Solar Solstice

\*\*Satanists use Christian, Pagan and Satanic calendar to chart ritual ceremonies



# SYMBOLS USED BY SATANISTS



"Horned Hand"  
Heavy Metal Music

666 999  
FFF 6

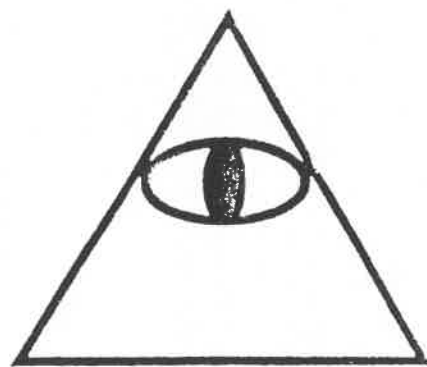
"Mark of the Beast"  
(Revelation 13:16-18)



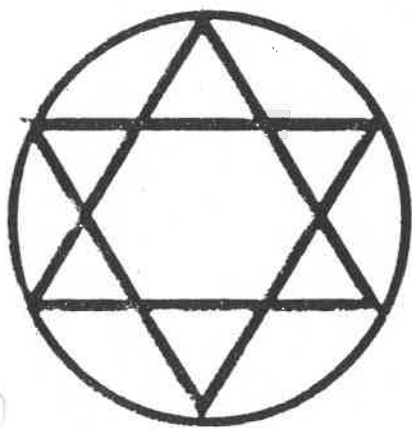
"Cross of Nero"  
"The Defeat of Christianity"



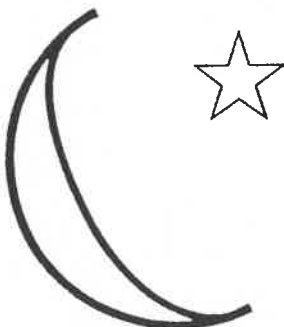
Ankh



Third Eye or Evil Eye



"Seal of Soloman"



Moon Goddess &  
Morning Star



"Baphomet"  
(Inverted Pentagram)

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**A Gang Is...**...a group of people who interact among themselves to the exclusion of other groups, have a group name, claim a neighborhood or territory and engage in criminal or anti-social behavior on a

## Typical Pre-Gang Behavior

Identification or affiliation with gangs does not happen overnight. Pre-gang behavior begins at the elementary school age.

- Poor progress or achievement in school
- Truancy from school
- Lacks hobbies or something constructive or positive to do with leisure time
- Frequent negative contact with school officials and/or police
- Draws gang symbols or insignias
- Problems maintaining relationships with family
- Puts tattoos on self
- Lives in a neighborhood where gangs exist
- Friends dress in gang attire
- Wants to dress in gang attire

While the above behaviors are characteristic of gang involvement, some youth who join or associate with gangs do not dress in the traditional gang clothes and do not exhibit conspicuous behavior that indicates gang involvement. Parents must be aware of the behavior and activities of their children. **Communication between family and youth is crucial as a means to prevent gang membership.**

## How Parents Can Help

Most experts agree that early intervention works best when a child is at risk with involvement in gangs. Families, schools and law enforcement should begin gang education as early as kindergarten making sure that the child knows what the consequences are for being active in a gang.

Often a family isn't able to recognize what is happening to their child or will keep denying that their child has become involved with gangs. Most families wait until the situation is out of control before asking for help.

How can a family keep their child out of the gangs?

Let the child know what happens when they join a gang. Watch the TV or read the newspapers together when a gang member is killed, shot or sent to jail. Show the child that there is a consequence.

Keep telling your child you love them and that they are terrific. If the child feels loved and respected they won't be at risk.

Children need to be involved without a lot of leisure time. Keep them involved in after school activities, athletics or a job along with family time.

Make sure your children have a curfew. And be ready to enforce your curfew if they break it.

Be willing to spend time with your child. Let him or her know you are there to listen.

Keep track of your child's work at school. Talk to his/her teachers, coaches to find out how they are doing.

Know who your child's friends are and where they hang out. Show interest in what they do for fun.

The needs met by gangs are acknowledgment, feelings of connection, security (both physical and economic), sense of family, a set of values and behavior code. A stressful homelife and family non-involvement contribute to the youth looking to the gang for support and acceptance. Other family related indicators may include low family educational level, low family expectations, limited-English speaking home, abuse and/or neglect and ineffective parenting.

In addition to many of the pre-gang behaviors, youth may have low motivation and low educational and occupational goals. They may exhibit drug and alcohol use. They may have poor peer relations and may not participate in extra-curricular activities. These are indicators only and are not meant to be inclusive. Threats, intimidations, fear and rumor are basic gang tools. Types of weapons used have evolved from fists, feet and knives to handguns, automatic weapons and sawed-off shotguns. Most of these firearms are stolen during burglaries or purchased through illegal means. Many gangs participate in drive-by shootings. A drive-by shooting is where members from one gang will seek out the homes, vehicles or hang-outs of a rival gang and, using weapons, will drive by and shoot at the members of that gang. Usually the "suspect" gang member will yell out the gang name or slogan so that the "victim" gang retaliates and drives by at a later date.

## Motivation for Joining a Gang

**Identity or recognition:** being part of a gang allows the youth gang member to achieve a level of status he feels is impossible outside the gang culture.

**Protection:** many members join because they live in the gang area and are subject to violence by rival gangs. Joining guarantees support in case of attack and retaliation.

**Brotherhood:** to the majority of youth gang members, the gang functions as an extension of the family and may provide companionship lacking in the gang member's home environment. Many older brothers and relatives belong.

**Intimidation:** some members are forced into joining by their peer group. Intimidation techniques range from extorting lunch money to physical beatings.

## Structure of a Gang

No formal structure exists within most youth gangs, but there does exist a system of crime specialization. One member of a gang may engage in illegal activity such as burglary, robbery or extortion.

Leaders within a gang usually acquire their positions of power through one of two methods--either by being the "baddest" guy around or possessing leadership abilities.

The gang's level of violence is determined by the Hard Cores and their ability to use the gang as a vehicle to do violence. The Hard Core are generally the leaders, the most violent and street wise. They are usually liked and respected by gang members.

Those who associate for status and recognition are the "wanna-be's". They wear the jackets, attend social functions and may even have tattoos. This association fulfills the emotional need of belonging.

## Dispelling those Gang Myths

### Myth

Parents of gang members are alcoholics or abusive.

Gangs are from very poor families.

These kids are unloved.

Gang involved youth never succeed in school.

All gangs are black.

### Truth

Parents are all different. Many are struggling to help their kids stay out of gangs.

Gang members are from a variety of backgrounds, middle-class, wealthy and poor.

There are gang members that have a loving, caring environment.

Many gang members enrolled in school may have learning difficulties but all have the ability to learn.

Gangs are now multi-racial and include whites, Hispanics and Asians.