

Helpful Links For Parents

<http://www.gripe4rkids.org>

<http://www.gangsorus.com>

<http://www.usdoj.gov>



GANG VIOLENCE

For more info visit us on the web at <http://www.gangs187.com> to make a difference get involved in your communities youth anti-gang program. Become a mentor and a positive roll model for at risk youth. Make a difference in your city or town. It all starts with you.

Our Goal

Is to educate the public on the threat of gangs within our communities and to promote anti-gang strategies to combat gang violence and the senseless loss of life. To lead our youth down a much more positive and rewarding road.

Gangs187

Stockton, Ca. 95207

<http://www.gangs187.com>



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It doesn't matter what gang you belong to when you're in the grave.



Gangs Kill

Gang Information



Norteno gang members

Gang History

Gangs have long existed in the U.S., but over the past 40 years there has been an increase in gang membership. It is estimated that there are approximately 420,000 gang members in the state of California alone. There are four primary street gangs in the state of California. Two of them, Hispanic gangs known as the Nortenos, and Surenos can trace their roots back to the California State Prison System. While the other two gangs typically African-American known as the Bloods and the Crips have roots in the Los Angeles Basin. Although Asian gangs are not as wide spread due to their population, their numbers are growing, and over time have become more sophisticated and violent.

What is the definition of a gang?

According to the California Penal code Section 186.22 defines a "criminal street gang" as: "Any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of... criminal acts... having a common name or common identifying sign or symbol, and whose members individually or collectively engage in, or have engaged in, a pattern of criminal gang activity."

Warning Signs

- May notice a change in behavior at home and in school, failing grades. Dislike and refusal to submit to authority (school, parents, police).
- Change in type of clothing worn, such as style and colors. Friends and associates dress similar.
- Gang graffiti scribbled on notebooks and other places around the home. Personal Myspace or Facebook page displays gang pictures, moniker and/or symbols.
- Hangs out in areas or with people known to be gang affiliated.

For parents, the best weapon in the fight to keep your child away from gangs, is educating yourself on the gangs in your area. Call your local Police or Sheriff's Dept.'s gang unit and find out what gangs are in your area. Educate yourself on their colors, graffiti, and their known territory. If you can, find out if your child's friends are known gang members or associates. Bottom line; know who your child is hanging out with at school and after school.

- *Keep your child busy in activities that they enjoy (e.g. sports, art, entertainment, music, hobbies, crafts, collectibles, cars, etc.)*
- *Talk with your child about the dangers of being gang affiliated. Let them know that being in a gang only leads to prison or the graveyard. It is truly a life and death situation.*
- *Listen to your child. Sometimes our children speak and we don't listen. They may be letting us know that they lack love and attention. Most kids join gangs for this very reason.*