

GANG

AWARENESS

LIVES IN THE BALANCE

# **THIS TRAINING WILL HELP YOU...**

- **DISTINGUISH THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “LIFESTYLE” AND “LOOK” VS. ACTUAL GANG “LIFE”**
- **DEFINE WHAT IS A “CRIMINAL STREET GANG”?**
- **DISCUSS THE MOTIVATION TO JOIN GANGS**
- **RECOGNIZE THE DANGER AND CONSEQUENCES OF GANGS ON OUR LOVED ONES AND SOCIETY**
- **UNDERSTAND THE TYPES OF GANGS IN OUR COMMUNITY**
- **LEARN HOW TO RESIST GANGS**
- **GET RESOURCES AND REFERRALS**

DOES  
HOLLYWOOD,  
MUSIC AND  
MEDIA HAVE AN  
INFLUENCE?

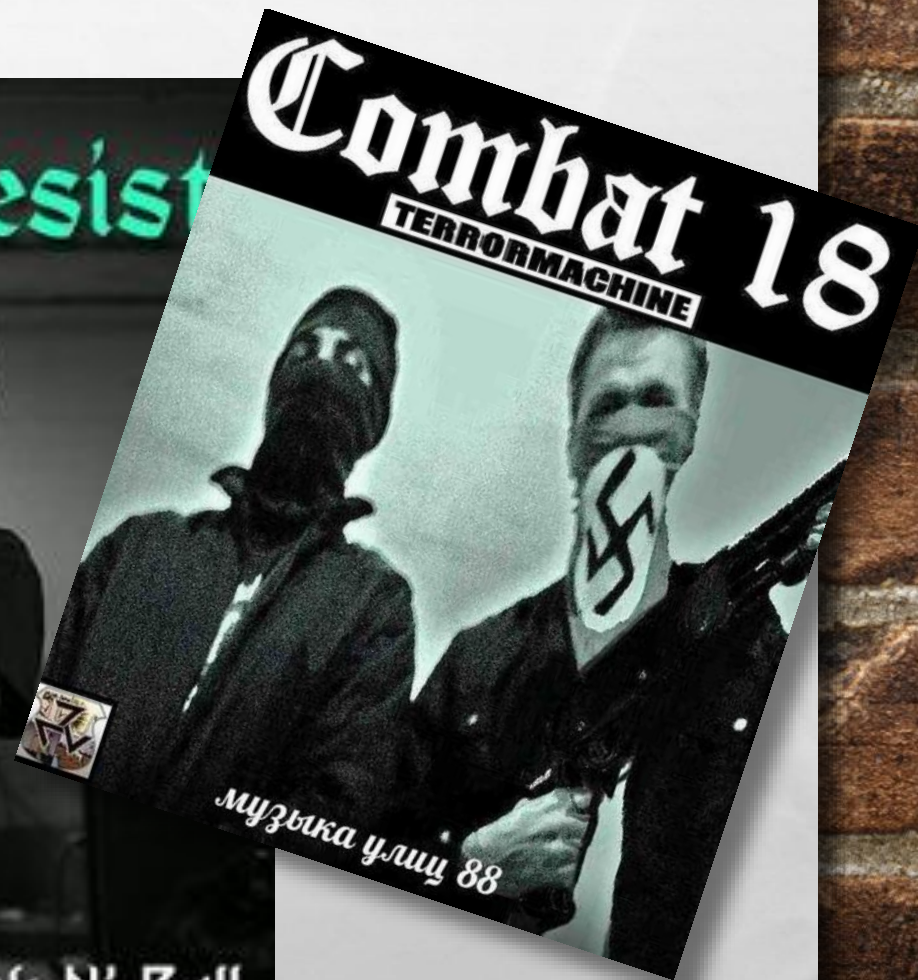


# MUSIC?





# MUSIC?



White Power Rock N' Roll



# MUSIC?



**In 2010  
5 murders in El Paso...  
3,500 murders in Juarez.**



# MOVIES?





# TV?

## SONS OF ANARCHY™





# CULTURAL STYLE INFLUENCES?



**This is a music group**

**This is a fashion model**



**These are two “blokes” from the U.K. not L.A!**





WHAT  
IS A GANG?



# **DEFINITION OF A GANG?**

## **Arizona Revised Statutes 13-105.8**

**"Criminal street gang" means an ongoing formal or informal association of persons in which members or associates individually or collectively engage in the commission, attempted commission, facilitation or solicitation of any felony act and that has at least one individual who is a criminal street gang member.**



# DEFINITION OF A GANG?

## Arizona Revised Statutes 13-105.9

**"Criminal street gang member" means an individual to whom at least two of the following seven criteria that indicate criminal street gang membership apply:**

- **(A) SELF-PROCLAMATION.**
- **(B) WITNESS TESTIMONY OR OFFICIAL STATEMENT.**
- **(C) WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE.**
- **(D) PARAPHERNALIA OR PHOTOGRAPHS.**
- **(E) TATTOOS.**
- **(F) CLOTHING OR COLORS.**
- **(G) ANY OTHER INDICIA OF STREET GANG MEMBERSHIP.**

WHY  
JOIN UP?

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?**



# **WHY DO PEOPLE JOIN GANGS?**

- **SENSE OF BELONGING**
- **IDENTITY OR RECOGNITION**
- **PERCEIVED POWER**
- **EXCITEMENT AND FUN**
- **INTIMIDATION OR PEER PRESSURE**
- **PROTECTION**
- **COMPANIONSHIP**
- **ATTENTION OR STATUS**

# **OTHER CAUSATIVE FACTORS**

- **POOR FAMILY STRUCTURE**
- **LACK OF POSITIVE ROLE MODELS**
- **LIVING IN GANG INFESTED AREA**
- **FAMILY MEMBER IN A GANG**
- **DOING POORLY IN SCHOOL**
- **LACK OF POSITIVE PEER GROUPS**
- **TOO MUCH UNSUPERVISED TIME**
- **MEDIA THAT GLORIFIES GANGS**
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**
- **LACK OF SELF-WORTH**
- **POOR DECISION-MAKING SKILLS**
- **LOW ECONOMIC LIVING**
- **PARENT IN DENIAL OR ENABLING**



# MISCONCEPTIONS

- THE GANG PROVIDES PROTECTION
- THE GANG WILL GET YOU RESPECT
- THE GANG WILL BE YOUR FAMILY AND WON'T LET YOU DOWN

WHAT DOES  
IT COST TO  
JOIN?

IT REALLY ONLY ENDS 3 WAYS...



**HER FATHER WON'T BE  
COMING HOME...**

**EVER.**





**SHE WENT OUT TO PLAY  
BASKETBALL...**

**SHOT 3  
TIMES.**



**HE WAS NEVER  
IN A GANG...**

**BUT HE'LL NEVER  
WALK AGAIN, EITHER.**







**THIS GUN  
BELONGED TO...**

**... A 14-YEAR OLD GANG MEMBER.**



THE OTHER  
OPTION?





# **LIVING IN A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD...**



A photograph showing a group of men in orange jumpsuits, likely inmates, standing in a line behind a chain-link fence. The men are seen from behind, and the fence is in the foreground. The text "WITH A NEW PEER GROUP..." is overlaid in large, bold, white letters. The background shows a building with a window and a brick wall on the right side.

**WITH A NEW  
PEER GROUP...**



**AND A FEW CLOSE  
FRIENDS...**



# OTHER EFFECTS OF GANGS

- **AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED:**
  - **“THE “3-D’S” = DEATH, DISABLED, OR DOING TIME.**
- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**
- **DRUG SALES**
- **RAPE (“Sexed in”)**
- **ESTRANGED FROM FAMILY**
  - **OR PASSING IT ON TO THEIR CHILDREN (GENERATIONAL)**
- **ROBBERY**
- **DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS**
- **A CULTURE OF VIOLENCE (“Jumped in”)**
- **MURDER**



**MURDER**

# THE NUMBERS

**According to the FBI\* there are:**

- **33,000** violent gangs in America
- **1.4 million** gang members in America

**In the City of Mesa it is estimated there are:**

- **527** gangs contacted in police records
- **70-80** Gangs that are considered Mesa gangs
- About **4,000** gang members in Mesa\*



# TYPES OF GANGS



**Street Gangs**



**Prison Gangs**



**Outlaw  
Motorcycle  
Gangs**

# STREET GANGS



**SOUTHSIDE MESA**



**WESTSIDE MESA**





# STREET GANGS



**WESTSIDE CITY CRIPS**





# OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANGS





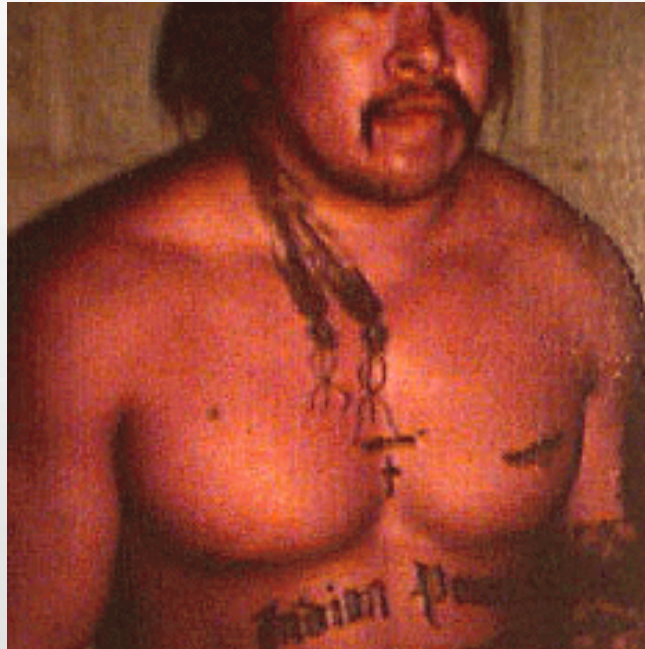
# OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANGS



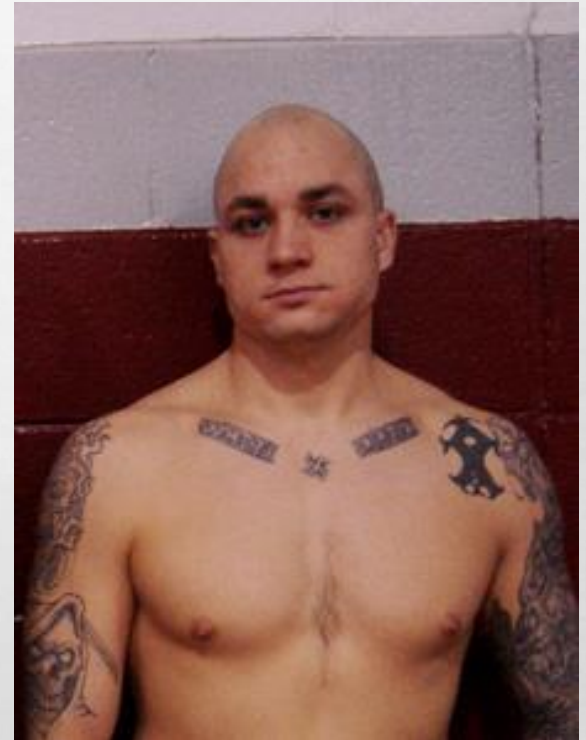
# PRISON GANGS



**Mexican Mafia  
"Eme"**



**Warrior Society**



**Peckerwoods**



# SIGNS OF GANG INVOLVEMENT

# WARNING SIGNS

- **Developing bad attitude towards family, school and authorities**
- **Changes in appearance with special haircuts, eyebrow markings or tattoos**
- **Gang graffiti on folders, desks, walls, and buildings**
- **Clothing of all one color or style**
- **Using hand signs**





# WARNING SIGNS

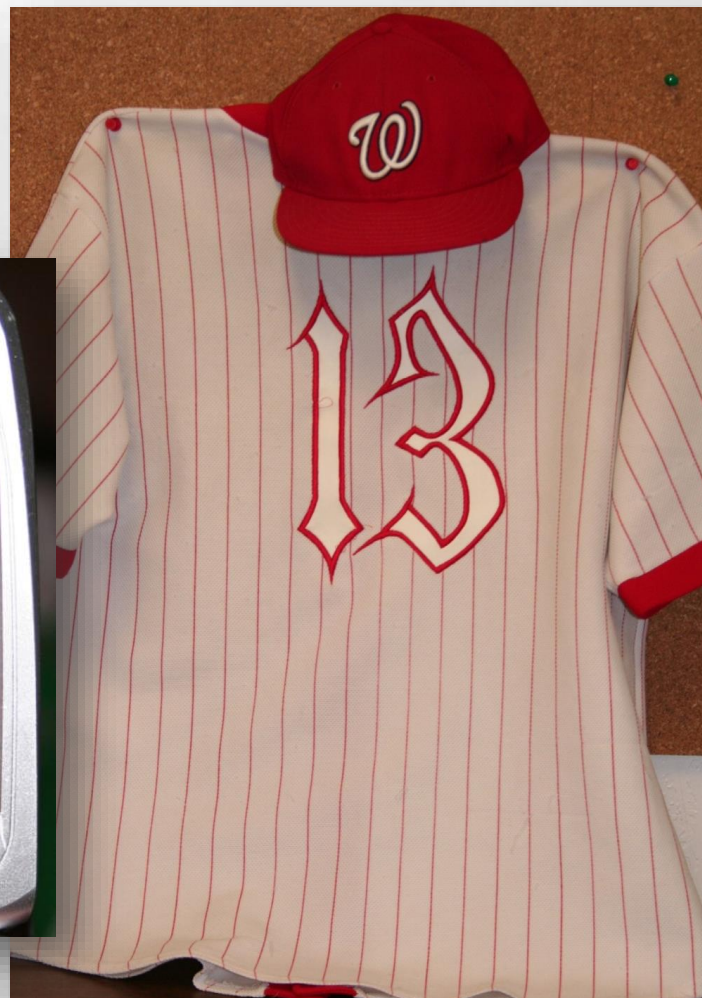
- **Staying out later than usual**
- **Carrying weapons**
- **Withdrawing from family activities**



- **Spending time with undesirable people**
- **Having more Money and Possessions**
- **Changing friends**

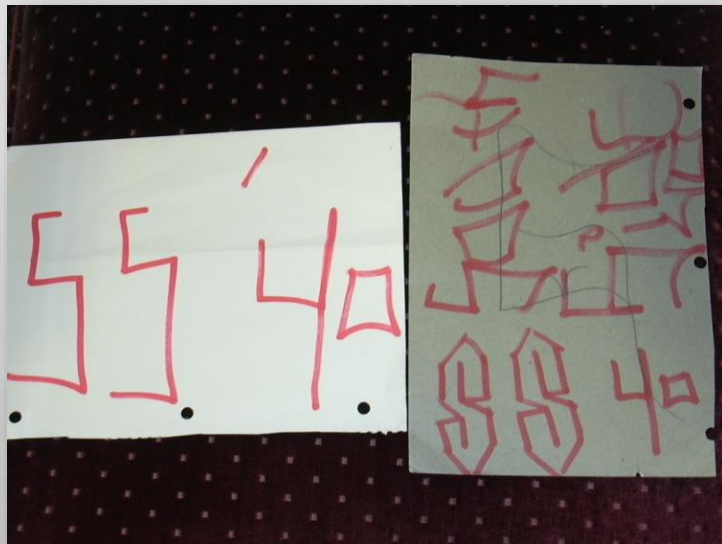
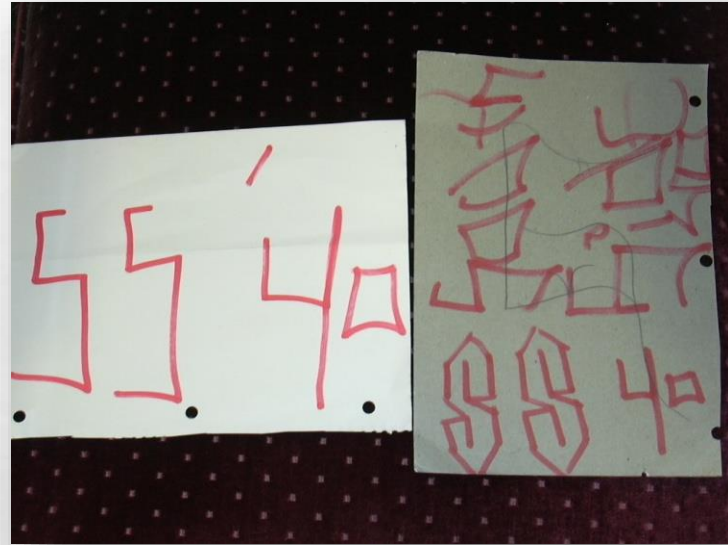
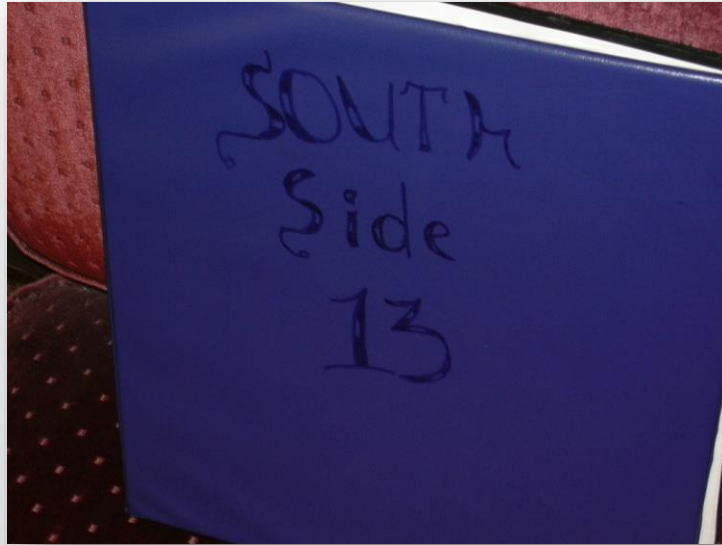


# WARNING SIGNS





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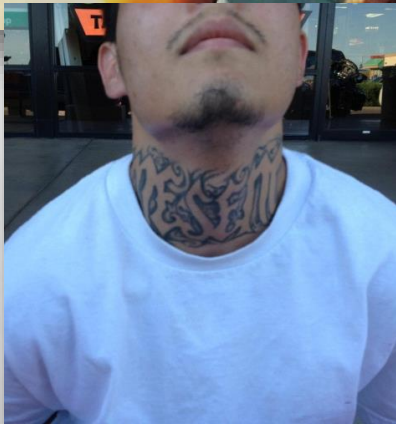
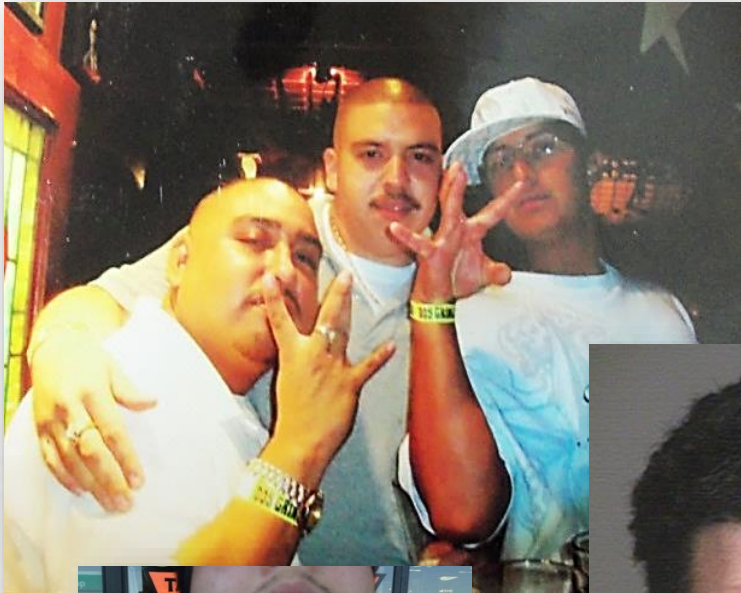


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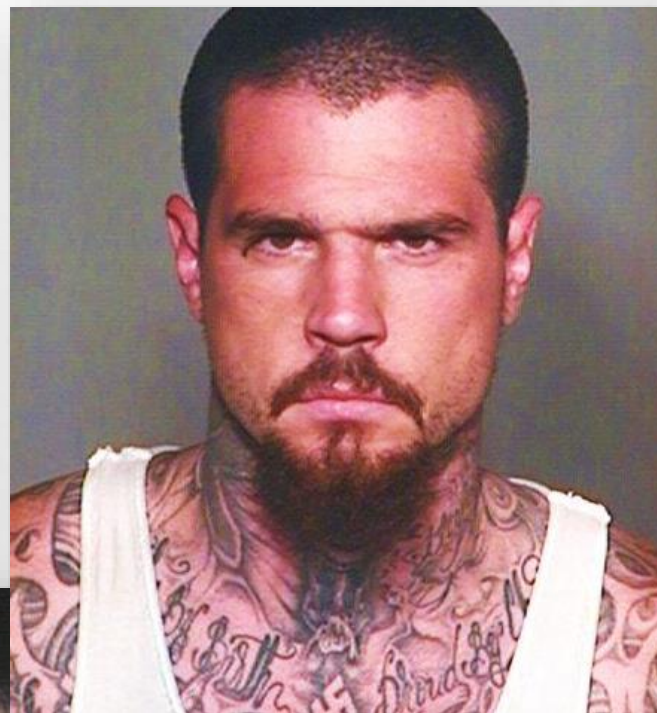


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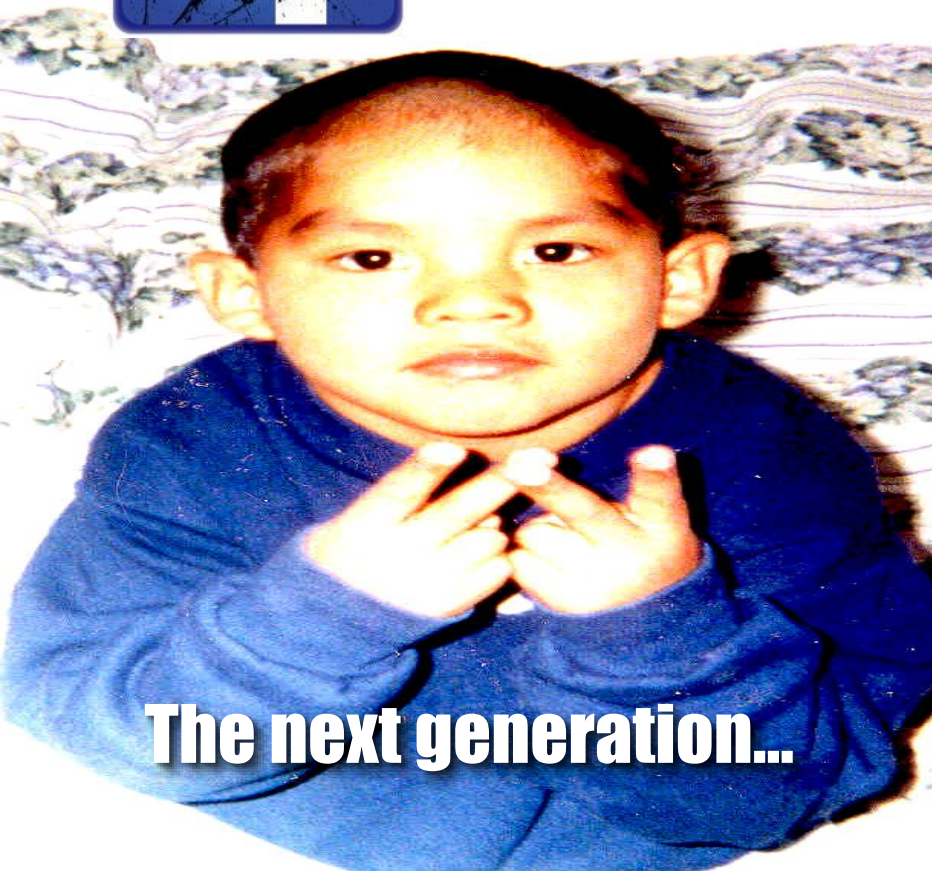


# WARNING SIGNS





# WARNING SIGNS



**The next generation...**



**How long can this last?**

HOW TO  
RESIST  
GANGS



# **HOW TO RESIST**

- **Intervention from parents, family and friends**
  - **Spend quality time with them – consistently**
  - **Talk to them and be an Active listener**
  - **Reassure that you can and will be there to help**
  - **Be a positive example and role model**
    - **They will Do what you Do, more than Do what you Say!**
  - **Establish rules, be consistent and follow through with meaningful and appropriate discipline**

# **HOW TO RESIST**

- **Intervention from parents, family and friends**
  - **Limit unsupervised time**
  - **KNOW, KNOW, KNOW their friends**
    - **and their friends' parents**
  - **When they're young – choose their friends**
  - **Offer praise and encouragement for positive behavior**
  - **Involve them in extracurricular activities**
    - **And attend them!**



# HOW TO RESIST

- **Positive involvement in school clubs and sports**
- **Broaden their worldview through education**
- **Find positive Role Models**
- **Participate in Boys/Girls Club, Church Youth Group and other Positive interactive groups**
- **REACH OUT for HELP! ... You are NOT ALONE.**



# RESOURCES AND REFERRALS

- **Teen Lifeline – crisis line for teens/parents**  
**[www.Teenlifeline.org](http://www.Teenlifeline.org)** (602)248-8336 (TEEN)
- **Kaity's Way Youth Advisory Council**  
**[www.Kaitysway.org](http://www.Kaitysway.org)** (602)740-2734
- **Tumbleweed Center for Youth**  
**[www.Tumbleweed.org](http://www.Tumbleweed.org)** (602)271-9904



# RESOURCES AND REFERRALS

- **New Pathways for Youth**  
**[www.npfy.org](http://www.npfy.org)** (602)258-1012
- **ICAN** **[www.icanaz.org](http://www.icanaz.org)** (480)821-4207
- **Boys and Girls Club of the East Valley**  
**[www.clubzona.org](http://www.clubzona.org)** (480) 820-3688
- **YMCA** **[www.valleyymca.org](http://www.valleyymca.org)** (602) 212-5163
- **A New Leaf**  
**[www.turnanewleaf.org](http://www.turnanewleaf.org)** (480) 969-4024

# RESOURCES AND REFERRALS

- **Mesa Parks and Recreation**  
[www.mesaaz.gov](http://www.mesaaz.gov)
- **Juvenile Probation**  
[www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/JuvenileProbation](http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/JuvenileProbation)
- **Mesa Public Schools Prevention Programs**  
[http://www.mpsaz.org/guidance/prevention\\_programs/](http://www.mpsaz.org/guidance/prevention_programs/)
- **M.E.S.A. Program (Making Every Student Accountable)**  
<http://mesaaz.gov/residents/police/divisions/m-e-s-a-program-1064>



QUESTIONS?

# **Gang Awareness**

**Presented by the  
Mesa Police Department  
and the  
Gang Investigations Section**

