

How To Stop Your Children From Joining A Gang

Most children join gangs between 9-14 years old. Poverty and broken families make recruiting easy. Cliques are appealing to children that can't seem to find acceptance and appreciation at home.

The pillars of the organizational structure are unity and discipline. Members pledge wholeheartedly their life, love and loyalty. Many gangs have credible creeds that call for affiliates to believe strongly in utilizing knowledge, wisdom and strive for educational, economical, political and social developments. Associates adopt mottos like: "Nobody will be waiting on anybody, but everybody will be somebody."

As in all movements, the membership is taught that sacrifices must be made, and it's an honor to aid and assist the gang. The gangbangers believe it's their duty to protect their neighborhood. They liken themselves to the U.S. military's defense of American borders; they, too, are guardians of their neighborhood.

Violence is sanctioned for disrespect towards the gang, its members or territories. They swear by death to protect their people, culture, enterprises, and their right to exist. Drive-bys are authorized when innocent people aren't direct targets; however, stray bullets kill innocent people indirectly. When violated, gangs take matters in their own hands, because the police, oftentimes, have too many cases on their hands to investigate gang-related violence between rivals. Even when police do investigate, witnesses against gang members are hard to find – they fear being killed.

How do you stop your children from joining a gang? You must extend the unconditional love your children believe they will receive from a gang. You must support your children in all that they strive to do that's positive. If they play sports, attend the games. When they make good grades, show honest appreciation by rewarding them.

When children receive the love they desire from home, they won't join gangs looking for it.

By Cedric Dean, Author of: "How To Stop Your Children From
Going To Prison."

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