WHY DO YOUTH JOIN GANGS

Recruitment

Money

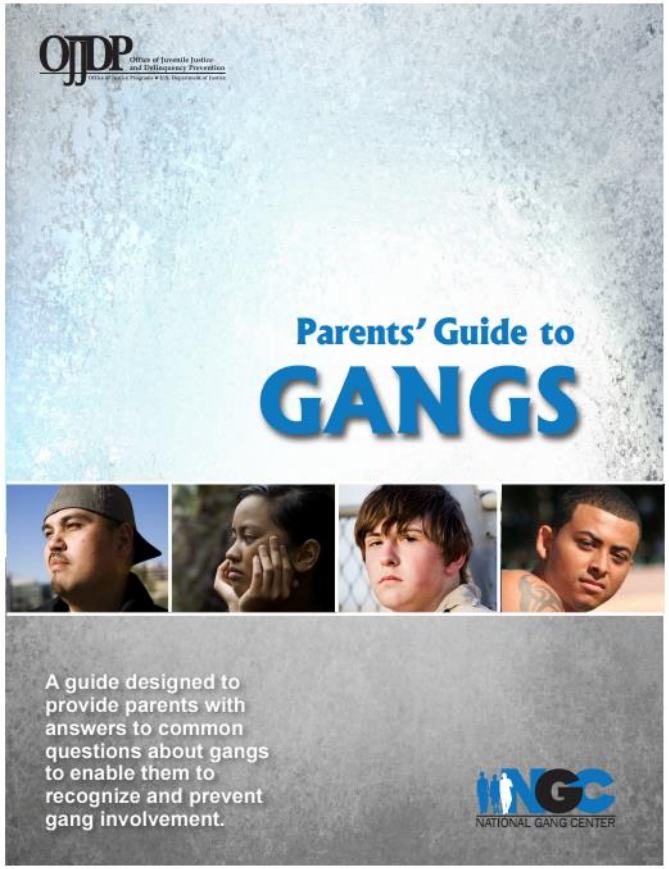
Status

Pride

Pressure

Protection

Community



WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF GANG INVOLVEMENT?

More likely to commit crimes

More likely to be arrested

Less likely to graduate high school

Less likely to maintain employment

More likely to develop health problems

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS INVOLVED IN A GANG

Risk Factors

12-14 years old – high risk

15 years old – most likely to join

Males more involved than females

Females face exploitation

Changes in behavior

COLORS/SYMBOLS AND NUMBERS – WORN IN COMMON

- Sports Logos
- Hats
- Shoelaces
- School Supplies
- Drawings/Doodles
- Symbols
- Hand Signs

CLOTHING AND APPAREL – WORN IN COMMON

Colors of clothing

Brands of clothing

Accessories

Gang related shirts

GRAFFITI

Warning Sign

Claiming a Neighborhood

Promotion of gang violence/activity

SOCIAL MEDIA/MUSIC/MOVIES

Music and Media Impact the Culture

Social Media Revolutionized Crime

Less Street Corner Presence

24/7 Presence

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD

Monitor Child's Activity

No Association with gang involved individuals/events

No Gang related dress/symbols/hand signs – even as a joke

Speak to your children about gangs and pressures

Know where your children are

Report gang activity to LMPD