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A NATION IN CRISIS

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**GANGS :
A NATION IN CRISIS**

*History, Functions and the Destructive Nature
of Gangs.*

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**U.S. Department of Justice
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To the following individuals for their support of my work and the concern they have shown in the battle against gangs: Judge John W. Davis; Judge Richard Dorrough; Referee Robert T. Bailey; Bruce Howell, Chief Probation Officer of Montgomery County, Beverly Riddle Wise; my supervisor, Micheal Provitt; Ronda Beesley; Julia Summers; Catherine Andrews; David Beverly; Mickey McDermott; Charles Glasscock; Steve Wooten; Patricia Strickland; Betty Jo Whatley; John Hurst; Micheal George; James Whittington; Mark Andrews; and Roslyn Goodwin.

This book is dedicated to Sam and Vera Vrgora, and Charlyn.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Fredrick Vrgora was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. He served as a Security Policemen in the United States Air Force from 1976 to 1980, and was awarded the Good Conduct Medal. He was a Montgomery Police Officer for five years, and has also worked with Tarwater Development Center and the Montgomery Area Mental Health Center. Mr. Vrgora is currently employed with the Family Court as a Youth Counselor II, a position he has held for the past four years. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Troy State University at Montgomery in 1984, and a Master's degree in Psychology in 1988 from Auburn University at Montgomery. He is currently working on a second Master's degree in Counseling. Mr. Vrgora has been familiar with the gang problem in Montgomery over two years, and has identified over 300 gang members. He has authored the following manuals *Gang: Awareness for Parents and Gangs: The Death of Our Society*. He has also authored the following book called *Gangs: A Counselor's Dilemma*. He has attended numerous seminars on gang related subjects, and has provided instruction on gang activity to teachers, professionals and parents. He has developed two interview guides fro gang members; one is a clinical interview with gang members, and the other concerns detect of a child at risk for gang activity. He has developed a theory concerning stages of gang involvement and the stages parent go through as they learn that their child is involved with a gang. He has also testified as an expert witness in trials involving gang members in juvenile court. Finally he has initiated the Coalition For A Gang-Free Alabama, and also sit on the board of directors of SAYNO.

FORWARD

Being a native California born of self-made immigrant parents, I grew up in the early sixties without a clue of the burgeoning gang activities that would evolve in the state. As the youngest of three children in Catholic family, I was protected and somewhat pampered. I entered the Air Force that day after my high school graduation, June 7, 1976.

However, in the middle seventies I began to notice strange symbols on buildings and walls in the Los Angeles area, the birth of widespread graffiti in the city. I neither understood the meaning of these symbols nor cared to understand it. Had I shown any interest at the time I would have felt the way many other victims of gangs have felt, powerless to stop it. Little did I realize from these seemingly isolated cases of simple vandalism, would emerge the beginning of what could arguably be called the potential death of our society.

Some twenty years later, long removed from the problems of Los Angeles, my boss, Chief Probation Officer Bruce Howell told me that he was sending five of his juvenile probation officers to a gang seminar sponsored by the Department of Youth Services. I wondered why we should attend a seminar on a non-existent problem in our area. Thomas Babicky instructed the class, in which he presented confiscated gang material from the Illinois Department of Correction. I came away from the conference with a deeper knowledge of gang formation.

Shortly, I began to notice gang graffiti, around Montgomery. On the sides of housing projects walls, business, in drainage ditches and on sidewalks, more and more graffiti began emerging.

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I used my new found information to determine that most of it was either that of the Disciples or the Crips. On hearing this, Bruce Howell instructed me to film the graffiti around town on the county's VCR camera. My co-worker Roslyn Goodwin and I spent six hours placing all the graffiti that we could find on tape.

Unknown to the public, a committee had been formed and was meeting on a quarterly basis for approximately a year to determine the gang situation in the Montgomery area. The committee consisted of George Phyfer, Director of the Department of Youth Services; Judges John W. Davis and Richard Dorrough; presiding and associate Judges of the 15 Circuit; Bruce Howell; Rachel Lee; a representative for the U.S. Attorney's Office; a local Sheriff's Department personnel; two individuals from the Montgomery County School System; and the Chief of Police for Montgomery; John Wilson. I presented our findings at a committee meeting and stated that through informant's information, Montgomery had been experiencing a gang problem for some six months or longer. Needless to say, I expected some action by the committee immediately on this revelation. No action was taken at that time.

In his presentation, Thomas Babicky stated that politics had the potential of killing a city by the political practice of withholding information from the citizens, such as that of a potential gang problem. I began to realize that this could be the case in Montgomery. Responding to local newspaper reporters questions about gang activity in the area, Chief Wilson used phrases such as recruiting phase and the sky is cloudy, but not falling. (Morse, 1990). The city of Montgomery presented a gang seminar six months later, at which time it was revealed that the Montgomery Police Department had a list of 300 known gang members. At this time Chief Wilson stated to the citizens that Montgomery's gang problem was "Manageable". (Morse, 1990)

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Mr Babicky statement rang true. The Montgomery County Family Court was aware of the severity of the gang situation but choose to "pass the buck" onto the Mayor and the Chief of Police. Basically it can be summed up by saying that leaders and officials often deny that such a problem exist in a community because they are afraid that someone will demand that they proposed a solution. They might then be forced to actually make a decision or propose a solution that can be criticized in a future election.

I hope that this book will make people aware of the suffering that cities endure while politicians skirt such issues. As we struggle to find a answer to the gang problem, more victim die due to gang violence. The violence encompasses non-gang and gang families alike. All of the time that we spend oscillating between whether we have a problem and how to begin solving it, gang members will be shooting one another, parents will be burying their children and younger brothers, will be recruited, denying them of their rights to a better life.

PREFACE

The formation of gangs is not a new phenomenon in the United States. From the East to the West coast, gangs have taken over are large cities and have made in roads to rural America. No city is immune from gang activity. It has penetrated the core of our existence, today's young people. Gangs, like the boll weevils of the 1800's, are destroying the inner city youths by the thousands.

In today's world gangs have grown more deadly, than in the past. In the early years gangs were neighborhood based and their names reflected this foundation. However, gangs have exported their brand of violence and a way of life throughout the United States. The National Schobl Safety Center news service reported in their November 1991 issue that gangs have released their unforgiving type of terrorisms all across our nation. The gang population in the country has reached new levels with New York reporting 50 gangs with 5,000 members, Chicago revealing 125 gangs with 12,500 members, Dallas with 225 gangs and Los Angeles reporting 900 gangs with over 100,000 members (National School Safety, November 1991).

The problem is complex and few answers appear to be at hand. Lack of jobs for these youths and poor parental supervision contribute to the gang phenomenon. Causal factors include peer pressure, intimidation by hard core gang members, and poor role models (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

Gang members are often underachievers with no real sense of identity. They try to find their identity within the gang organization. Since most of them are underachievers the gang provides the perfect atmosphere for what they perceive to be

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important: to make money and gain power (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

The gang members usually comes from low income families, they also have poor academic record, and have either dropped out or has been indefinitely suspended from school. Gangs will be classified as 100% of the nationality of their gang as a whole with less than 1% membership from other races (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

In the gang members' society, different norms and rules emerge. Any gesture, real or imagined, can be met with harsh and deadly consequences toward rival gang members. All hard-core gang members are willing to defend their turf and their policies to the death. When coming into contact with a possible gang member, it would be best not to show fear. It can never be known weather a gang member wearing colors is hard-core or fringe member, a person should not show disrespect or ridicule their graffiti or clothing. Dangerous and violent consequences could follow (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

I hope that this book will help people understand how gangs destroy their child, their community and their society. Identifying the problem early could be the answer in fighting gangs. It appears the deeper the gangs are entrenched in the community the harder it is to solve the problem and break the gangs influence.

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HISTORY OF GANGS IN THE U.S.

Because of the different definitions that can be used to describe a gang, the date when gangs entered the United States has remained debatable. The American Heritage Dictionary defines gangs as "a group of people who associate or work together" or informally "to harass or attack as a group". These definitions may include such groups as: the Klan, Aryan Nation, Hells Angeles, Disciples, El Rukns, Crips and Bloods. These groups and others work together to attack rival groups, or to prey on innocent victims.

The first known gang in the United States was the Ku Klux Klan. It was formed after the Civil War to harass white politicians and newly freed black slaves (*Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia*, 1991). It started as a prankish club that soon evolved into a hate organization. The Klan originated in Pulaski, Tennessee on December 24, 1865 (*Funk and Wagnalls New Encyclopedia*, 1987). A year later the Klan was reconstructed in Nashville, on political and racial lines (*Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia*, 1991). The six army officers that started the Klan adapted it from the Greek word *kuklos* which means circle (*Funk and Wagnalls New Encyclopedia*, 1987).

Klan members adapted their dress, robes and hoods, to frighten superstitious victims and to conceal their identity from Federal troops. Individuals involved in Klan activity whipped and killed innocent black free-men in nighttime raids. They drove whites who sided with blacks out of the community by destroying their crop or burning their houses and barns (*Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia*, 1991).

During the period ranging from 1868 to 1870, the Klan began to become more violent. Local organizations called Klaverns,

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became so violent that the leader and the founder of the Klan, Nathan B. Forrest, finally disbanded them. However, the Klaverns continued to operate on its own. In 1871 the Congress passed the Force Bill to implement the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, giving the Federal troops the right to arrest and hold Klansmen without trials. Because of these actions the Klan was destroyed by 1872 (*Funk and Wagnall New Encyclopedia, 1987*).

However, in the early 1920's the Klan was glamorized in movies and a new Ku Klux Klan movement emerged, primarily preaching hatred towards Catholics, Jews, Blacks, and Labor Unions. In its highest popularity in this country during the 1920's the Klan boasted approximately 2 million members in Southern, Western and Midwest states (*Academic American Encyclopedia, 1991*).

By the 1930's the Klan again lost its political power and members for various reasons. However, in the 1950's and 1960's, the Klan was renewed after the Supreme Court ruled that segregation was unconstitutional. After the Civil Rights Act was passed by Congress in 1964, membership increased to over 40,000. Since that time the Klan has regressed and the estimated membership in 1990 was approximately 10,000 (*Funk and Wagnall New Encyclopedia, 1987*).

The Mafia, which originated in Sicily, started in the late Middle Ages. Members were hired by local landlords for protection. It was a highly secretive group bound by a blood oath (*Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia, 1991*). When becoming a member of the Mafia, one must follow a rigid ethical code called the omerta. The code states that a person who has been wrongly violated must take action upon the perpetrators without coming into contact with the police. The Mafia does not have a central agency, but consists of a large number of smaller groups. In Sicily, the Mafia gained political power, helping it to have influence over the police through payoffs. This method helped it obtain weapons from the police (*Funk and Wagnall New*

Encyclopedia, 1987).

Mussolini successfully suppressed Mafiosi activities, and the Mafia eventually relocated to the United States in the late 19th century. It gained power during the Prohibition years (1920-33). After these years the Mafia became known in the 1930's as La Costa Nostra meaning "our affair" to encompass all organized crime families (*Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia, 1991*). It engaged in many illegal activities such as the drug trade, prostitution, and gambling. The Mafia consists of 26 separate units and are headed by an overall board of directors. The Mafia is reputed to gross in the multibillions of dollars due to its illegal activities (*Funk and Wagnall New Encyclopedia, 1987*).

After World War II many young servicemen came home to the United States trying to put their lives back in order. War had become an exciting lifestyle to some of them, and they often rejected previous lifestyles that they now considered boring. Some of them found new excitement in motorcycles, especially Harley Davidsons. The West Coast flourished as the biker capital of the United States (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1987*).

Soon loosely knit groups formed, two of these groups being the "P.O.B.O.B." Pissed Off Bastard of Bloomington and the Market Street Commandoes. These groups started in the late 1940's and began to become a more powerful threat in the 1960's (*Department of Treasury, 1989*).

Motorcycle gangs received their reputation from what is known today as the "Hollister Incident" (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*). In 1946 or 1947 Hollister, a small town south of San Francisco, held its annual 4th of July bike run weekend sponsored by the American Motorcycle Association (AMA). Termed the "Dirt Hill Climb", the race drew thousands of people each year. As common with these type of events, drag races, fights and other raucous activities emerged. Hollister had only seven police officers to control the disorderly behavior of the participants. One member of the P.O.B.O.B. was arrested and when the other

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members rallied for his release, officers refuse. The motorcycle gang then proceeded to wreck the small community. This incident received widespread publicity and ushered in the age of dangerous motorcycle gangs. After this incident three traditions emerged; (1) the 4th of July run; (2) one percent image; and (3) gang members calling anyone not part of their sub-culture "citizens" . The one percent image was so named because after this incident the AMA made a statement that 99% of all people who ride motorcycles are law abiding "citizens" (*Department of Treasury, 1989*).

After the Hollister Incident, the P.O.B.O.B.'s membership grew and new ideas and concepts were adapted. They began to study the idea of changing their name and in the early 1950's, the club voted on a new identity: "Hell's Angeles" (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Although the Ku Klux Klan is the most widely recognized white supremacy group, since its beginning, similar types of gangs have emerged in the United States and throughout Europe. Known as the Aryan Nation and the Skinheads their doctrines strongly parallels those of the Klan and the late Adolf Hilter. Their alliances are displayed by tattoos and patches with Nazi swastikas or white power fists. There are no known black, Hispanic or Asian members who hold membership in these gangs (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The Aryan Nation is one of various white supremacy groups that exist in this country and abroad. Its ideology states that the United States Government, the news media and the Federal Reserve System are controlled by an international cartel of Jewish bankers. The most frightening aspect of this group is that they use the name of God to gain validity for their hatred. They also believe that the black race is contaminating the white race (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The Skinheads began in London in the mid-1960's. This group represents direct descendants of the "hard mod" subculture of the

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working-class east section. The mod drove for a tough, clean lifestyle as oppose to the long haired hippies. The first mod transformed themselves into true Skinheads around 1968. The Skinheads were a racially mixed group when it first entered the United States. Anyone who shaved their heads were considered Skinheads. This included whites, blacks, Latinos and Jews. This union broke up around 1985 with the formation of the White Pride Skins, which only allowed white members. The second group which was formed, Nazi Skin Heads, also turned to only white members (*Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988*).

The Aryan Brotherhood, which is not connected to the Aryan Nation, began in 1967 in San Quentin Prison, California. Aryan translates as "White Warrior" and originates from Hitler's Germany. The original founders of the Aryan Brotherhood referred to themselves as the "Diamond Tooth Gang" and recruited most of their members from the Neo-Nazi organizations and the Hell's Angeles. A glass filled hole in each member's front tooth served as their symbol. From the "Diamond Tooth Gang", they changed their name to the "Blue Birds", with a tattoo of a bird in flight on their necks as their trademark (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Racism is no longer an American phenomenon. Europe is also experiencing a growing concern over the problem. Approximately eight million legal and two million illegal immigrants are spread out through the 12 nation of the European Community. Germany, France, England, and Italy are all experiencing symptoms of racism. In Germany, fifty Skinheads stormed a center for asylum seekers, smashed windows, and harassed clients. Police have warned that no one with black skin can feel face on the streets of Berlin. Even though immigrants make up only 1% of the total population they are exposed to constant xenophobia. In France a government study released in June of 1991 showed that 94% of the French citizens polled acknowledge racism in their country. A poll taken in July by the *Independent* revealed that most Britains

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considered their country as racist. A four-year study by the European Parliament reported that Britain is creating a racist atmosphere by exporting subcultures such as the Skinheads. In Italy, racism is now considered fairly commonplace. A national poll showed that 75% of all Italians preferred tougher immigrant laws (*Time*, August 12, 1991). The Europeans found it easy in the past to point fingers at the racism which plagues the United States. However, they too are now experiencing racism firsthand.

The most dangerous and "turf oriented" gangs are the Hispanic, Mexican and Latino gangs. Their history dates back to the 1930's and 1940's. Stemming from the influxes of newly arriving Mexicans and Mexican-Americans who had already moved to this country, their settlements became known as "The Barrios". Barrios, like those in their motherland, reflect Spanish rule associated with the Catholic Church (*Operation Safe Streets*).

Hispanics live in particular neighborhoods and attend common schools. This diverse in the community can be reflected in gang activity (*Operation Safe Streets*).

Incorporating all Latino and Mexican gangs would be a difficult task, but there are a few which are more distinct than others. Three such groups are the Almighty Insanes Unknown Nation, Latin Kings, and the United Latino Organization. The Almighty Insanes Unknown Nation (A.I.U.N.) consists of 95% Latinos and 5% percent black and white members. The Latin Kings are also a racially mixed group. The Latin Kings are made up of smaller groups but occasionally band together for a common purpose. The name Latin Kings means brown prince of darkness. The United Latino Organization, is also known as the Spanish Gangsters. Its goal is to dethrone the Latin Kings and thus increase their influence over the Hispanic people (*Gang and Gang Awareness*, 1989).

The final group to be examined in our history of gangs is the black street gangs. From Los Angeles to Chicago, black street gangs have become a steadily increasing problem for many years.

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These gangs deal in robbery, burglary, drugs and random murders of rival gang members in what is known in the gang culture as a drive by shooting. A history of what law enforcement consider some of the major black gangs in our society, these groups include the El Rukns, or Moorish Science Temple of America, Vice Lords, Disciples, and the notorious Crips and Blood gangs which originated in Los Angeles, California.

Existing now for some twenty years, the El Rukns have been known in the past by various names; one being the Grassroots Independent Voters of Illinois. It is the most wordly street gang in the state of Illinois. Its original name was the Blackstone Rangers. In the late 1960's and early 1970's it became known as the Almighty Black-P-Stone Nation. It formed as a coalition of approximately fifty Woodland District Street Gangs which grew in power and in numbers on the south side of Chicago. Some claim that El Rukn means "warrior" while other states that El Rukn means "the sun" (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Due to the organizational skills of Jeff Fort, the Almighty Black-P-Stone Nation, ruled by its body which was called the Main 21, claimed to have become the social consciousness of the community. Using this premise it received federal and private funds to enhance its illegal activities. The misuse of these funds lead to a federal indictment and the conviction of Jeff Fort. Upon his release, Fort moved his operation to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he formed the first El Rukn organization. His success in Milwaukee encouraged him to relocate in Chicago where he opened another branch of his organization in the previous location belonging to the Almighty Black-P-Stone, 39th and Drexel streets (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The El Rukns is a highly "organized crime family". It has claimed in recent years to be a religious organization and calls itself the Moorish Science Temple of America. However, officials within the organization disavow any connect with the El Rukns (*Gang and Gangs Awareness, 1989*).

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Vice Lord Nation also had its beginnings in Chicago. The Vice Lord street gang started in the mid 1950's. Experts debate how the Vice Lords were formed, but some believe it was a group of individuals who met at the St Charles Juvenile Detention Center and after their release formed the Vice Lord Nation on the west side of Chicago. Today, the Vice Lords have some nineteen factions within its group. They are different in structure, leadership and names. Sometimes they will fight among themselves. The most organized sub-factions of the Vice Lords are the Unknown Conservative Vice Lords. In 1985, they applied for a State Charter as a non-profit organization under the name of the United Concern Voters League. The letters when abbreviated are the U.C.V.L. which are the initials of the Unknown Conservative Vice Lords. This is another example how gangs have obtained federal and local funds for the alleged betterment of the community (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Membership in the Vice Lords died out in the 1970's because most of their members were in prison, or had died through gang violence. The gang resurrected because of its member's release from prison and reemergence into the community. Since many of the Vice Lords were released from prison, membership has spread throughout Illinois and throughout the nation (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The Disciple Nation originated in Chicago in the early 1960's. This gang was a rival to the Blackstone Rangers. Initially, it battle for turf with the Black-P-Stone Nation. However, with their increasing drug-related criminal activity, concern over territory became secondary to the profits from the sale of illicit drugs. The Disciples grew under the reign and terror of David Barksdales, known today as King David. Drugs and other illegal activities became increasingly profitable to Barksdale. Barksdale was seriously wounded over territorial rights due to the drug trade. After the shooting King David was no longer the powerful leader he once was and the Disciples broke

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up to smaller splinter groups (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*). David Barksdale died shortly thereafter and Larry Hoover reorganized the gang into what is known today as the Black Gangster Disciples-BGD. It is also known as the Young Voters of Illinois. Larry Hoover, known by his followers as King Hoover, has since been incarcerated in the Illinois State Prison. Other factions which emerged were the Black Gangsters (known as the Sons and Daughters of the Divine Universals Star, Inc.) which are controlled by Dirk Acklin and Shorty Freeman. In January of 1985, an attempt was made to unite these factions into one gang, however, this failed and three factions emerged; Black Gangster Disciples headed by Larry Hoover; Black Disciples headed by Shorty Freeman; and the Asiatic Apostles headed by Dirk Arklin. Presently the Disciples have the largest number of gang members identified in the Illinois Correction facility (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Street Gangs have existed in the Los Angeles area since the early 1920's. The primary location of these gangs, is no different than in the 1920's namely south central Los Angeles. Los Angeles early black street gangs consisted mostly of the same family members in each gang attempting to project a tough guy image and to make money. Gang population grew steadily in this area and in the Compton area from 1955 to 1965. Growth of these gangs was attributed to young people banding together to protect each other from rival gangs. A few names from those days were: Farmers; Slausons; Gladiators; 135's; Roman 20's and the Valiants. These gangs of the past were more territorial and would fight each other at parties, schools and athletic contests. From 1965 to 1969 there was a tremendous decrease in gang membership and activity in the Los Angeles area due to the Vietnam war and the Civil Rights Movement. Blacks became more interested in black social consciousness and awareness activities (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The Crips started in 1969/1970 in south central Los Angeles

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by a young man named Randy Washington. There are many stories on how the Crips were named. One popular belief was that Randy Washington liked to watch Tales from the Crypt and that Crip is a corruption of the word Crypt (*National Law Enforcement Institute, 1990*). Another notion is that Crip was derived from the Crips, a gang who was an offshoot of the Slausons, one of the largest gangs in the early days in south central Los Angeles. Doctrine also teaches that some of the Crips used to carry walking canes because one of their original members was crippled. Washington shortened the word "crippled" to Crip. The latest idea states when Washington was watching the movie Superman and saw the only thing that could kill Superman was Kryptonite. Kryptonite spelled phonetically is Crip (*Department of Treasury, 1989*).

Recently in Leon Bing's book Do or Die she relates another story on the development of the Crip name. She states that in 1969 there were some Asian-Americans who lived in the south central part of Los Angeles. Randy Washington and some of his members had taken one of these ladies purses after they had left a coffee shop in the area. When the police arrived they had trouble communicating with the Asian-American due to their broken English. One of the ladies stated that the members were crippled because they were carrying walking canes. However, the police could not understand them when they were explaining the incident to them. At police headquarters there was a newspaper reporter who had overheard the conversation and had picked up on the word Crip, and reported the story with the gang name Crip in the newspaper (*Bing, 1991*).

In their early history the Crips started their criminal activity in Randy Washington's high school Washington High (no relationship). During this time other Crip gangs appeared in south central Los Angeles. Their main activity in those days was robberies, extorting money by making kids pay to go down the schools hallway, and assaults. The Crips also traveled to other neighborhoods where they had a reputation for being violent and

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dangerous (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Today Crips travel not only in their local neighborhoods but all over the U.S. They engage in the drug trade especially crack cocaine. They are ruthless and very dangerous. Their drug money buys them high power weapons to commit murder and mayhem through the United States.

The Bloods developed because of the need to protect themselves against attacks from the Crips. The founders of the Bloods are Sylvester Scott and Vincent Owens. They formed the Compton Pirus in the early 1970's (*National Law Enforcement Institute, 1990*). The Bloods were started on Piru street in Compton, California and were the first known Blood group. Piru is stated to mean "fire". Bloods will refer to themselves as Pirus, as Piru is usually found in their gang names (*Department of Treasury, 1989*). To this date the Compton "red" gangs are called "Pirus" while the other "red" gangs are called "Brims"; "Bounty Hunters"; "Swans"; and "Family". They call each other Bloods as a way of identifying each other (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*). The Bloods started their activities in Centennial High School in Compton, California (*National Law Enforcement Institute, 1990*). The Bloods are currently outnumbered by the Crips three to one (*Crips and Bloods, 1988*).

The development of the Crips and Bloods into the cultural society of South Central and Compton was very rapid. Existing and newly formed gangs aligned themselves with either the Crips or the Bloods. At this point there were more gangs and gang members as every before in the Los Angeles area. From these groups a new type of homicide was developed known as the drive by shooting (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

From the early gangs such as the Klan to modern-day violent Mexican and black gangs, public tolerance has enabled their endurance. Even the most sophisticated corporation would be hard pressed to surpass the drug networking, communication and organizational skills various gangs have formulated. Therefore,

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such gangs proliferation represents the beginnings of the death of our society.

Gang Structure

In the United States there are many ways that cities, counties and states define gangs. This has become one of the problems in fighting the gang problem in the U.S.. Since there is no universal definition of gangs, what may be a gang in one part of the country is not one in another. To get a hold of the problem a national definition of gang, gang members and gang activity needs to be established. Until as a nation we define the problem we will continue to see gangs on the rise. However, we will examine how several different jurisdiction define gangs.

The Illinois Department of Correction define a street gang as an organization or nation with a leadership that is recognizable. Second, do they show their unify during good and bad times. Third, do they show their unity through colors, symbols, or hand signs. Fourth, do they engage in illegal activity that are detrimental to society. They share four elements: loyalty, unity, identity and reward (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

Other factors to be considered in how a community can determine if gangs exist in the town, is whether the gang has local meetings, or recurrent interaction. Do they discuss activities and initiate new members on a regular basis? Meetings are usually held at the same place and time. Do they claim any territorial boundaries and call it "turf" and decorate with graffiti? Finally do they involve themselves in criminal activity (Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).

In the June 1991 issue of Office of Juvenile Justice and

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Delinquency Prevention a article written by Dr. Spergel and Mr. Chance recommended definitions for a gang, gang member, and gang activity. In the article it revealed that a street gang:

is a group of people that form an alliance based on various social needs and engage in acts injurious to public health and public morals. Members of street gangs engage in (or have engage in) gang-focused criminal activity either individually or collectively; they create an atmosphere of fear and intimidation within the community.

they defined a gang crime incident as the following:

is an incident in which there was gang motivation, not mere participation by a gang member. If a gang member engages in non-gang-motivated criminal activity (e.g., crime for strictly personal gain), the act should be considered a gang incident.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department defines a gang as a group of people who might claim an area as their turf. Does this group engage in some type of violence or criminal activity (*Operation Safe Streets*)?

As can be seen what one jurisdiction may consider a gang related activity other cities will not, either do to ignorance or denial. However, in looking at gang structure a book in itself could be written on how gangs are established and how their elaborate organizations helps them maintain there illegal activity through a complicated structure. I will examine three different gang structure: Mafia; Motorcycle; and Black gangs.

The Mafia has been a trouble spot for both federal and state law enforcement. There complex organization has helped them maintain their profitable and very illegal activities. The Mafia has one person in charged called the "boss". His function is to maintain order and stability within the family. His power is absolute concerning family matters (*Abadinsky, 1981*).

Ever president has a vice president and the vice president to the boss is the "underboss". His role is one of messenger, information gather and head of the family in the absence of the boss (*Abadinsky, 1981*).

In a staff position, however, just as powerful as the

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

underboss is the "consigliere". He acts in the capacity as counselor or advice giver. This individual is usually a retired gangster, but gives his counsel to the boss and underboss and is considered powerful and influential for this reason (Abadinsky, 1981).

The "caporegime" serves as a cushion between the boss and underboss to their lower echelon people. This cushion helps the boss from coming into direct contact with the workers who usually have the attention of the local authorities. All business transaction are conducted by the caporegime. The caporegime who provides the cushion exhibits little power (Abadinsky, 1981).

Caporegime serves a chiefs of some type of local unit. They usually have people who work for them. The number of people depends mostly on the operation. They are considered the supervisors or managers of that particular area (Abadinsky, 1981).

The "button" men commonly called "soldati" in the Mafia underground are the foot soldiers in their army of crime. These individuals report directly to the caporegime. The soldati is the person who "owns" a particular illegal venture such as a gambling or book making operation and in turn pays a portion of his profits to the organization to operate in the community. These persons usually have several interests (Abadinsky, 1981).

Beneath all these individuals are the workers or employees of the family who are not usually of Italian descent. They have no insulation from law enforcement and are people who takes the bets, drives the trucks or sell the narcotics for the family (Abadinsky, 1981).

The above illustration shows why it is so hard for law enforcement agencies to convict the top people in an organization like the Mafia. The boss and underboss are well protected from the illegal activity by their hired personnel. Law enforcement efforts to stop an organization like the Mafia only comes after years of hard work.

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When an individual thinks about a motorcycle gang, movie images of long haired, hippies riding around on a Harley Davidson comes to mine. An easy life style of riding down the highway with no responsibility is also a notion play in the media. However, motorcycle gangs are highly structure. Any company would envy their ability to organize their group in such a matter.

The top man is the National President who is usually the founder of the gang. He has final say on all matters concerning the clubs activities. The territorial or regional representatives (Vice President) is in charge of the area he has been assigned. He handles all problem at the local chapter. The National Secretary-Treasurer collects all dues from the local chapter. Finally on the national level the Enforcer answer directly to the president. He makes sure all the president orders are carried out and on occasion will act as the presidents bodyguard. He also handles punishment for club members who violate the by-laws and go after members "colors" who have left the organization (*Department of Treasury, 1989*).

On the local level a chapter president has qualities that shows the other members he has the ability to leader. He can either claim the position or be voted in by the other members. The local vice president is usually picked by the president of the local chapter and can be the chapters leader when the president retires. The secretary-treasurer combination is the individual with an ability to write, take notes at meetings, collect dues and is able to pay the local chapters bills (*Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988*).

The other members are the Sergeant of Arms who maintain clubs order. A Road Captain who maps out routes and provides security for the members while they are on the road. Lastly, the members are the individuals who carry out the club's leadership decision and live by the gangs by-laws (*Gangs and Unconventional*

Groups, 1988).

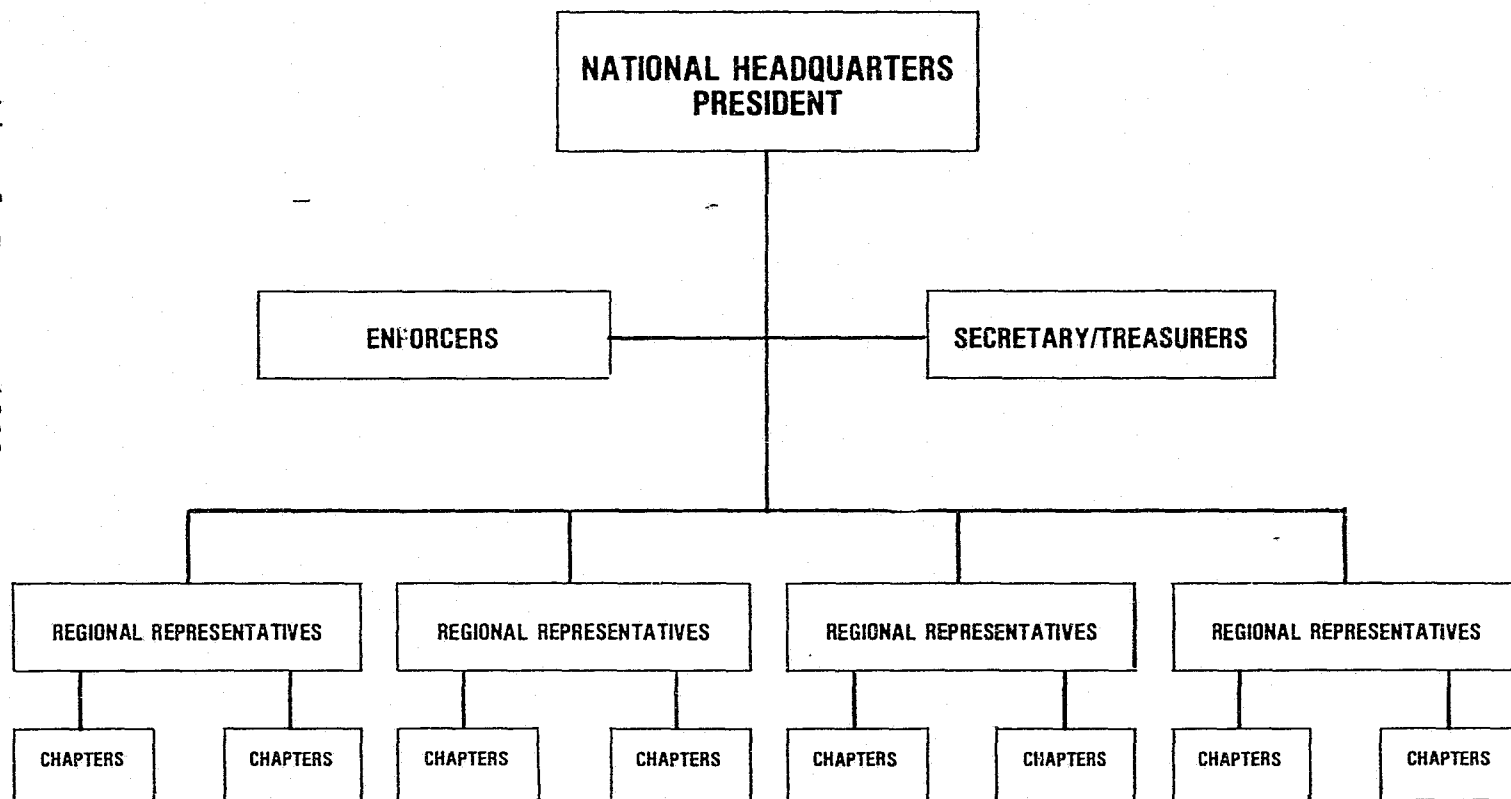
The last two groups are the probationers and/or prospective members of the gang who must serve a one year probation to show the other members that they are worthy of being part of the club. The associates or honorary members are individuals who have proven a specific advantage to the gang (*Department of Treasury, 1989).*

On the following pages are the National Organizational Structure, the Local Chapter Structure and the Formation and Line Up During a Run. These charts show the average person the motorcycle gang's ability to organize (*Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988).*

In black gangs there are structured leadership roles for some, to an army type rank configuration for others. However, before any type of classification is placed on an individual in a gang they are looked upon in a certain manner by their fellow members. The first being the leader, who is boss or general over his members. The more members one leads the stronger he can become. These members are usually the oldest and most hostile and have earned the respect of the other members through their criminal activity. The second type of gang member is a hard-core member. Leaders are always hard-core. These individuals are gang members 24-7, twenty hours a day, seven days a week. Their lives evolve around the gang and its criminal activities. In the third level, the members are called marginal or fringe. These individuals drift in and out of the gang and do not know the day-to-day activities of the gang. The fringe or marginals are usually the most dangerous members of the gang because they attempt to prove themselves worthy of the gang and risk death to prove this worth (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989).*

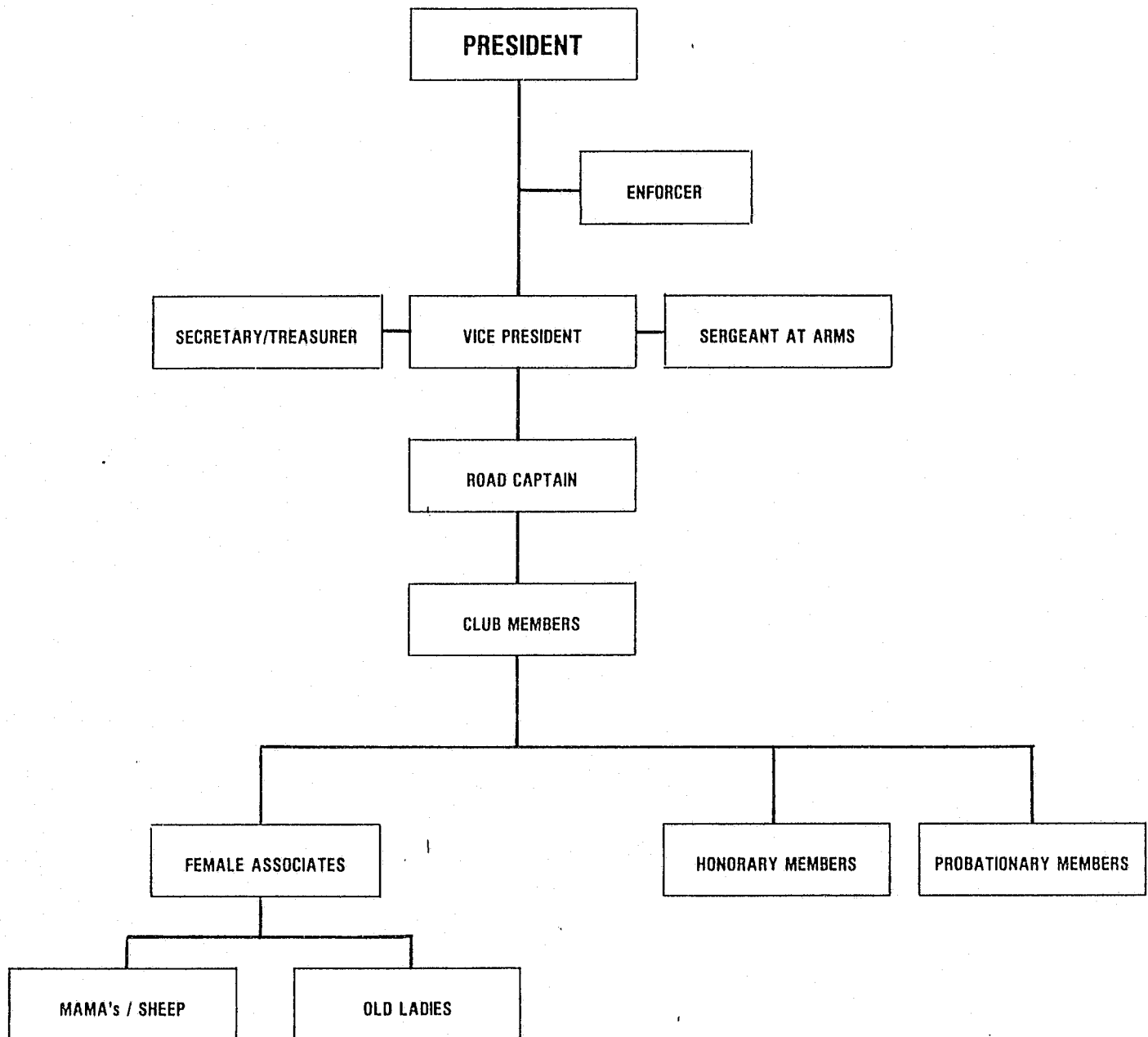
The Crips and the Bloods have four ways of identifying their members within their gang structure. The first is an Original Gangster (OG); then Gangster (G); Baby Gangster (BG); and Tiny Gangster (TG). The age for these gang members are as follows:

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



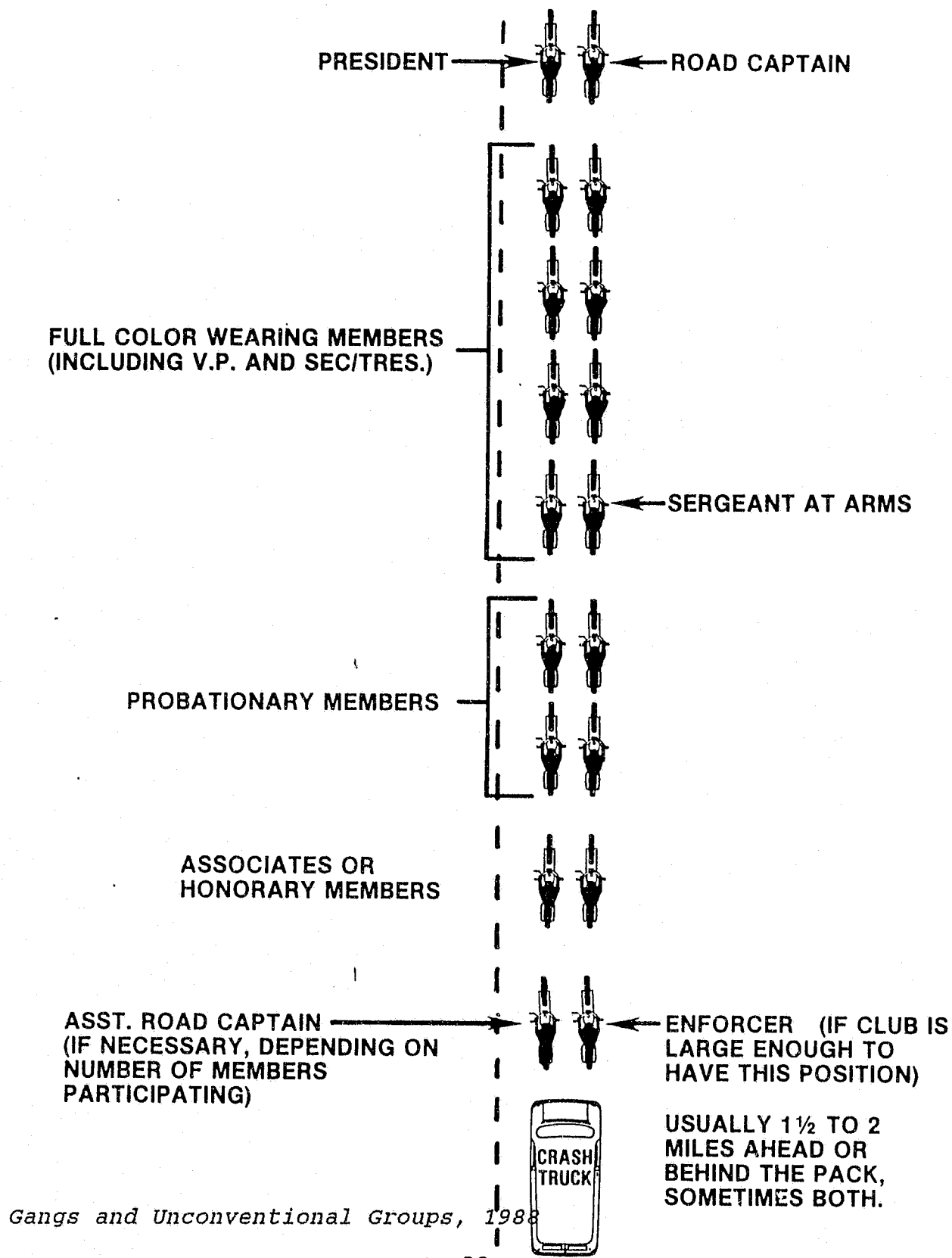
CHAPTERS

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988

FORMATION AND LINE UP DURING A RUN



Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

Original Gangster-16/22; Gangster-13/15; Tiny Gangster-12/14; and Baby Gangster-9/11 (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Other gangs such as the Disciple Nation are a very structured group and have ranks that their members can achieve. The ranks for the Disciples can be anywhere from 36 to 72 distinctive classes. I will cover a small portion of these ranks within the Disciples. The Vice Lords and El Rukns, while they do not have exactly the same rank structure of the Disciples, will have similar types of positions.

The following ranks are from the Black Gangster Disciple, faction 63. The ranks from lowest to highest are: Pee Wee; Minute Man; Foot Soldier; High Foot Soldier; Knight; Low Knight; Knight Walker; Royal Knight; Knight of the Round Table; Royal Knight of the Round Table; High Knight; King of all Knights; Chief; Chief Executor; Chief Prosecutor; Chief Violator; Chief Enforcer; General; One Star General; Two Star General; Three Star General; Six Star General; Prince; Dunn; High Dunn; Set King; Dunn Bishop; Three Star King; Six Star King; Right Hand Man; and King. Some Insane Gangster Disciples use the rank structure above, however, some may use an army type of system such as; Sergeants; Lieutenant; Majors etc.

In the structure of gangs it should be noted that not all gangs are as well structured as the groups mentioned. However, some are just as organize such as the Ku Klux Klan and other white groups which have not be referred to. Gangs have the ability to form within a community and set up these types of configuration without prior knowledge and little warning to the community. Communities need to be aware that the most dangerous part of the gang is its ability to organize.

GANG IDENTIFIERS

Gangs demonstrate their unity through identifiers which take the form of clothing, graffiti, colors and hand signs. To the ordinary person these symbols have no meaning. However, to a gang member, these symbols are a vital part of his world. To the hardcore, it represents his beliefs and the boundaries he attempts to control. In reality any falsification, maltreat, or defacing of their graffiti will result in violent atonement against persons who committed the act.

Graffiti is a way for the gang to mark their turf, using meaningful symbols. Graffiti on walls serves several purposes for the gang: To show their dominance or control over an area; to establish turf or to be recognized as a force in the community; or to show hatred or opposition to a rival gang. The latter is accomplished by showing the rival's graffiti, upside down, backwards or both. All gangs show their opposition by crossing out their rivals graffiti, or certain letters of a opposing gang (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Hand signs is a method used by gangs to communicate to one another. They will use hand signs to show allegiance to one gang or antagonism to another. Various gang hand signs are the same as that used by the hearing impaired (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Clothing is part of the gangs tradition, however, it is the worst way to identify a person as a gang member. Gang members usually dress alike and wear one dominant color such as black, blue, red etc. They will wear the colors of a rival gang but it is not the dominant color (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

Some groups are more sophisticated than other in the types of hand signs, clothing and graffiti they display. The Ku Klux Klan are known for their white robes and hoods as their uniforms to show alliances to there movement. Burning crosses is another identifier to klan activity. These types of activities separates some groups from the others. I will try to examine as many as possible identifiers for each gang. Keeping in mine that in Los Angeles alone has over 900 different sets of gangs.

Motorcycle gangs, like all gangs, take pride in its colors. This is a uniform which show alliance to a distinctive group, within the culture of the motorcycle gang. Colors refer to the emblem embroidered on the back of the jacket and the sleeveless of their shirt or jacket. The colors to the individual will represent his ideas and fundamental principle to his particular group. These symbols are never to be washed and the dirtier they appear the more respect the gain within their organization (*Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988*).

One of the most telling identifiers to a motorcycle gang is the vehicle in which they drive. There motorcycle fills various roles to them. One role it fills is the need for transportation. It's also required for membership to any motorcycle club and the motorcycle itself is a status symbol. The bike is one possession the individual within the group has to himself. Along with the clothing worn the motorcycle helps the individual elevate the "biker" image to the average person (*Department of Treasury, 1989*).

As previously stated some groups are more sophisticated than others. The Chicago based gangs are ones that have meaningful symbols. I will examine a portion of the Chicago based gangs and their identifiers. The first gang to be look at will be the Disciple Nation.

They are one of the major groups in the Chicago area. They referred to each other as "Folks". Disciples are right-oriented, which means they will wear their gang items to the right. Such as

hats; jewelry; or tattoos. They will place the letter "L" up side down and backwards to show opposition to the Vice Lord Nation. Disciples will designate themselves into two major categories; BGD or IGD. BGD stands for Black Gangster Disciple and IGD means Insane Gangster Disciple. Some Disciples may fall into other categories such as YGD-Young Gangster Disciple; MMGD-Money Making Gangster Disciple; WGD-White Gangster Disciple; GGD-Ghost Gangster Disciple and for females DQ-Disciple Queen and GQ-Gangster Queen.

The common color in their clothing is black. They will paint their one fingernail black, have one shoe lace black, (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*) or may wear one shoe black and other white.

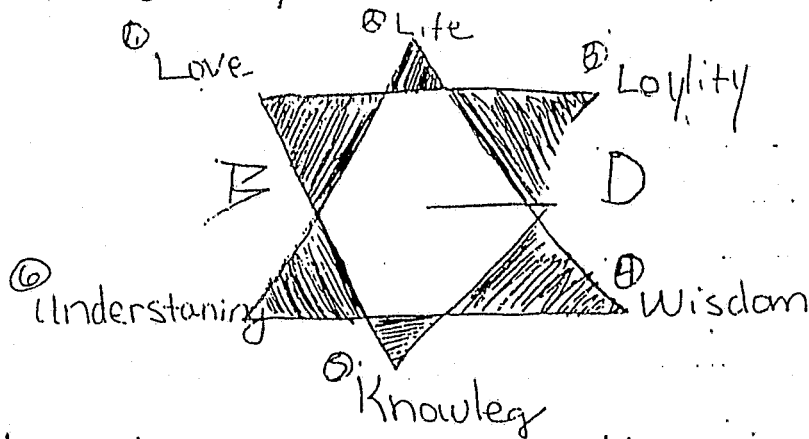
The following pages will contain "Knowledge" which is a group of questions and answers that pertain to the history of the Disciple Nation. Members study it to gain rank within the nation. A Disciple member who claims that he holds a rank must know the knowledge which pertains to that rank. Knowledge is numbered and the higher the numbering of the knowledge the higher the rank of the member. Both BGD and IGD "Knowledge" is provided so that one can become aware of what to look for when one comes into contact with this type of writing.

Note the slight difference between BGD and IGD knowledge. The knowledge contains the same information, however, IGD knowledge will have more satanism contained within the writings. Also IGD knowledge claims Satan as one of their kings.

In the pages viewed by the reader one should notice that the Disciples have very meaningful symbols pertaining to their nation. The six-pointed star stands for the six principles of David Barksdale, the founder of the Disciples. The six principles of King David, as he is referred to by the other members, is Love, Light, Loyalty, Wisdom, Knowledge, and Understanding. Around the six-pointed star the principles can either be spelled out as above, or the initials L,L,L,W,K,U. Also within the star the letters BGD or IGD will be contained.

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

Black Langster Disciple



Your 6 points on the star is

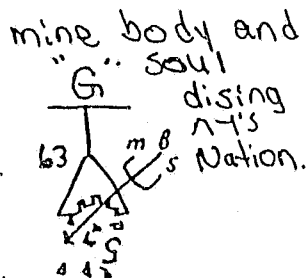
your code is "274"

your two unclaim Kings are

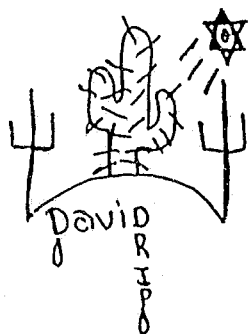
① Satan ② John

John standed the Vice Ford Nation

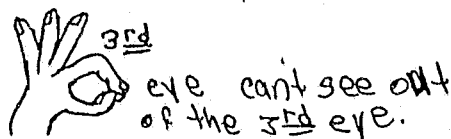
DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE



Gangsta to the heart.
The eye means worried
about my Folks.

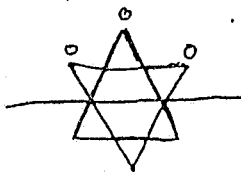


David grave as he rest in
peace.
what in the cackis
David Blood
to pitch grading it.



= The blood we shed threw
the war.

Forming the
3 point crown.



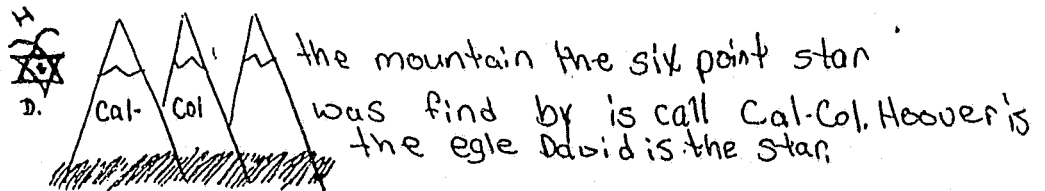
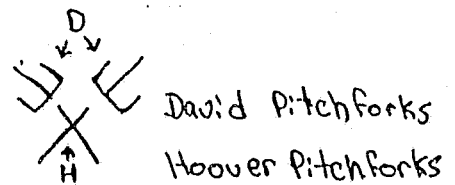
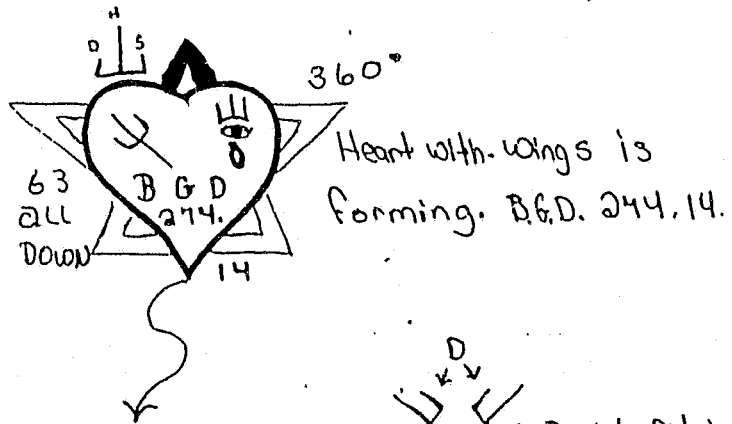
First 3 Pages of knowledge

was
in



written
David Blood

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE



DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

F. O. T. K.

1959 ~~1959~~

In the beginning all was [redacted] and silent. But there was great happening in Ghost-town. A great man and king and leader of the set B.O.S was having great expreinces with his mind. Yet this goes back even futher to James Defolk a young and radical Black Panther. He wanted to get the young men into belief of unity of the black community. There was a young Black Panther who James was fasinated with, his name was David Littleman. When James Defolk started his new nation of young men. He gave it the name folk, coming from his last name. F.O.L.K stood for Forever Our Love Knowledge. When James thought David was ready he gave David the nation, but with the promise and uoel that he would lead and protect the nation even if it meant deaf. Soon David Littleman became King David, and the leader of B.O.S. = Brothers of Struggle. And with him came great kings such as Hoover, Shawn, Don Dee, Don Kill Will, and William. Shaw who was King Shaw and leader of the

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

B.D's = Black Disciples. It's 1963 and King David is still King, but the set is changed to B.G's = Black Gangstas, but still with the same purpose. There was a war going on between the B.D's and B.G's. But with time they became united, and from this B.G.D = Black Gangsta Disciples was born, Shaw became our 7th King, and we are now set on the pyramid. King David reigned as king until 1968 when he was killed in a dispute about some money. But before this there was a King who had Shaw's place in the brotherhood. He was King John. Hoover, David, and John were the only three kings that held the pitchfork, the symbol of the strength of our nation. David turned his pitchfork gold, Hoover turned his silver. John wanted his own nation so he took his pitchfork to Vickie Lou and she told him to turn it into V.L and she named it Vice lord. Thus he had his own nation. But he had betrayed the folk nation. For this he was wiped off the ~~pitchfork~~ and kicked off the crown. But he was not killed because folk concept laws say once a folk always a folk. But before

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

David died he had three visions peace, tranquility, and gangsta city. David became a peaceful king and gave ~~us~~ love, life, loyalty, wisdom, knowledge when he lived, and when he died we got understanding because the six point star was complete, David died December 24, 1968. Hoover started to write 33 books of knowledge. The first two pages was wrote in David's blood.

R  P. Peace FOLK

Thus FOLK became FOLKS when David died because Satan had David's soul and if we kill saton we can free Satan's hold on David's soul. F. O. T. K. S

o o I A
r u v L ~~2~~
e r e L T
v A.
e N
r

B. O. S + Lone



DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

166. King of kings? Hoover
167. King of many kings? David
168. Where is the castle located? behind the S.S
169. Who walks the yellow brick road? we do.
170. Which way do we travel? from north to east.
171. R. O. A? Rule Over All
172. Why was the G put in the star? because everything he did was gangsta style.
173. What's up with that Blue sea? that sky
174. Who controls the black sea? B.S.R
175. When did we stop fighting over colors? in 63
176. What kind of shoes do we wear? house shoes.
a size 6 the U's for unity.
177. What does the 3 point crown mean? love
178. Who sits on the 3 point crown? David,
Hoover, Sheba
179. What do Raiders stand for? Ruthless
Ass Insane Disciples eliminating
Red Slobs
180. Kings? K.illing Innocent Niggas
Gangsta Style.
181. What do you do if you see John?
show him love, because once folk always folk
182. What's the story of David? He was
born Sept 25, 1930. He was king until
he was set up by Vickie Lou. She

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

sent a A.T.s to kill David. He was killed in Manhattan playing Monopoly for money. He was shot 5 times, 2 in the head and 3 in the chest. He died Dec. 24, 1968.

He was 38 years old. He had on a black jacket, green shirt, and blue jeans.

He had 3 silver 38 bullets in his left pocket and 63 cents in his right.

183. Peace? peace is what you try to spread through the nation.

184. Love? love is what we show to all folks

185. Obedience? carrying out and following all orders by high rank.

186. Life? life is how long you're a disciple

187. Loyalty? loyalty is not betraying the nation.

188. Wisdom? wisdom is knowing the world and all that is around you.

189. Knowledge? knowledge is seeking the history of the nation.

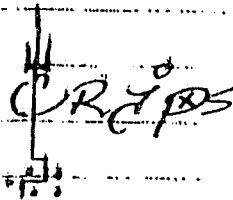
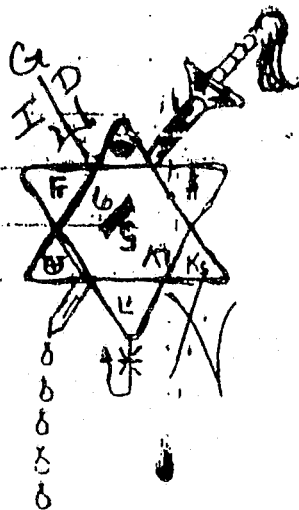
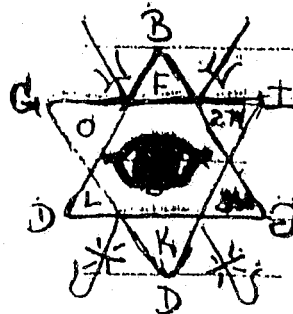
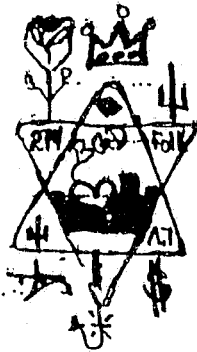
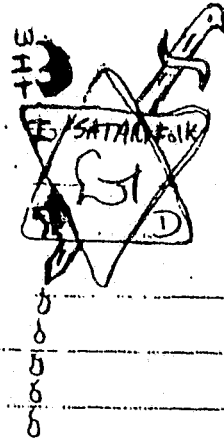
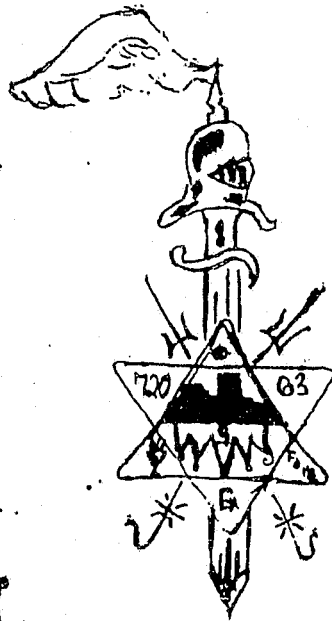
190. Understanding? understanding is a gift from God.

191. What's on Hoover's left arm? an upside down five 5

192. What's under your pillow? a 9 mm point to the left.

195. Who's over your bed? God

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE



DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

Foot Soldier through Chief Knowledge.

- 1 Who cracked the Yellow Brick Road?--David
- 2 What's the color of the pearls in the crown?--Green, Black, & Blue
- 3 SOS-Sons of Satan
- 4 How much does each point on the six-point star weigh?--60 Lb's
- 5 SUNC-Surrender under no circumstances
- 6 Name the colors--David, Hoover, & John
- 7 KISS-Kids in Satan's Service
- 8 Name of Black Panthers? Elrookin
- 9 What's up with that thing? --Pit Bull
- 10 What's up with those flies in Hell?--David, & Hoover
- 11 Which way did the kings travel?--North by David's Star
- 12 King who took on the V.L. Nation?--Don Killwill
- 13 Who's on the top of the mountain? David, Hoover, & Sheeba
- 14 Name the King that didn't kill his mother?--David
- 15 What's Sheeba doing?--Giving birth to the unknown King
- 16 Where is Chi Town?--Chicago
- 17 Who's David's right hand man?--Shorty Pimp
- 18 Who's eye is in the top of the pyramid?--Sheeba's
- 19 Who's Hoover's right hand man?--Bo Deah
- 20 Color of the pyramid?--Red, & Black
- 21 Where is Gangster City?--Chicago
- 22 What's under the pyramid?--Nation of V.L.
- 23 27B-PQ 41B-Love 412-Life 416-Loyalty
- 24 What's at the bottom of the pyramid?--2-18kt gold pitchforks
- 25 42B-Wisdom 5B-Knowledge
- 26 What's under your left foot?--Two dead V.L.
- 27 What's upside down in the pyramid?--2-18kt gold crown's upside down.
- 28 What's behind your left eye?--2-Dead V.L.
- 29 What's behind your right eye?--2-Live Folk
- 30 Why's the crown upside down?--It has five points.
- 31 D.O.G.--Disciple of God
- 32 What's in your right pocket?--My Rag
- 33 RAIDERS--Ruthless Ass insane Disciples Executing Red Slobs.
- 34 B.O.S.--Brother of Struggle
- 35 K-SWISS--Kill Slobs When I see some.
- 36 B.O.S.S.--Brother of Strong Struggle.
- 37 MIKE-Niger's insane Killing Everybody
- 38 What can't you see on Satan's body?--His Head.
- 39 What can you see?--His tail cuz it's shaped like a pitchfork.
- 40 LAKERS--Little Ass Kill Every Red Slob.
- 41 What's behind Satan's left eye?--2 Dead V.L.
- 42 What's behind Satan's right eye?--2 live FOLK
- 43 Who walked the Green line on the Yellow Brick Road?--David
- 44 Who walked the Blue line on the Yellow Brick Road?--Hoover
- 45 Who walked the Black line on the Yellow Brick Road?--John
- 46 Name the points of the pitchfork?--Money, Macking, & Murder
- 47 ADIDAS--All Disciple insane Destroy All Slobs.
- 48 Name the six-points of the six-point star?--Love, Life, Loyalty, Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, & Peace.
- 49 FILA-FOLK in Love Again

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

- 150 What's the fifth brick?-A pearl.
- 151 What color?-Black
- 152 What's on the right & left of the Yellow Brick Road?-David&Hoover
- 153 Why is the devil crying?-FOLK'S in his eyes.
- 154 What's Hoover's real name?-Larry Hoover
- 155 Who was John?-A king under David
- 156 Who's wearing a crown?-Hoover
- 157 How did Hoover die?-in jail
- 158 Who's sitting on the throne?-Hoover
- 159 How many saw Don De?-20
- 160 Who stole the crown?-V.L.
- 161 What's David's real name? David Banner Hand.
- 162 What did David have in his right hand when he died?-2 pitchforks
- 163 On his right arm?-Crossed Flags.
- 164 How many times do you shoot a gangster?-3 times
- 165 What's up with that skull?-it's David's
- 166 Why did Hoover jump off the mountain?-To show his love for his nation.
- 167 What kind of shoes do you wear?-Horseshoes.
- 168 What's on the main King David grave?-Gold pitchforks.
- 169 What's behind David's grave?-Hoover
- 170 Who's your grandfather?-Jesus
- 171 What's the last brick of the pyramid?-David's eye.
- 172 What's on the left side of the castle? 6 point star.
- 173 What did David do before he died?-Walked 6 crawled 3.
- 174 Who's the little man?-David
- 175 If someone says there Hoover what do you do?-Fight him to show him your down for years.
- 176 Who stands on the left side of David?-sheeba.
- 177 Who's the king of many KINGS?-Hoover
- 178 Who's the KING OF KINGS?-David
- 179 Who's the KING OF ALL KINGS?-GOD
- 180 Can you see the third eye?-No
- 181 Who stole the pearl from BGD?-IGD
- 182 When did they steal it?-In 1972
- 183 How much does the 6 point star weigh?-360 LB's
- 184 When are you a gangster?-When Hoover says so.
- 185 What you say about that 6 headed dragon?-David, Hoover, Shaw, Shan, Don De, Don Killwill.
- 186 What's at the end of Satan's tail?-A Pyramid
- 187 Who built the Yellow Brick Road?-David
- 188 How do you get to gangsta city?-Pitchfork to the North.
- 189 Who fell off the crown?-David
- 190 Who's on the crown?-Hoover
- 191 What's in the cactus?-David's blood
- 1 9 2 N a m e t h e s e v e n K i n g s - David, Hoover, Dondee, Killwill, Williams, Shorty pimp, & blackmon
- 193 Which way are you traveling?-North
- 194 What you be about?-I be about my business 247.
- 195 Who was the first king?-David
- 196 Who was the last king?-William
- 197 Who was a traitor to the FOLK?-Mony Mack Murder

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

360

IGD

- ① Who's your mother? Sheba
- ② Who's your Father? SATAN or DAVID
- ③ 7 kings? DAVID, Hoover, Don Hoover, Dunkillwill, Dundee, Killwill, BLACKMAN
- ④ BLACK- DAVID-Death
- ⑤ BLUE- Hoover- SKY
- ⑥ Green- BLACKMAN- Money
- ⑦ What under your pillow? 2 left stars and 357 pointed left
- ⑧ What's under your bed? water or SATAN
- ⑨ What's over your bed? left star
- ⑩ What's up with those 3m's? making money, macking Hoes, murder perpetrators
- ⑪ What color is your heart? BLACK
- ⑫ What color is your Blood? BLUE
- ⑬ What color is your veins? Green
- ⑭ King of All kings? SATAN?
- ⑮ Who is that one eyed man on the Raiders hat? Don Hoover
- ⑯ What happened to Don Hoovers eye? Killwill stuck him in the eye with a pitchfork
- ⑰ Who put the "G" in the star? Hoover
- ⑱ What does it stand for? Gangsta
- ⑲ Who put the backwards "B" in the star? Hoover
- ⑳ What does the backwards "B" stand

DISCIPLE KNOWLEDGE EXAMPLE

46. 63 - Sixth world third nation
47. 360 - pure black knowledge.
48. ~~525~~ - live or die. 5 2 5
49. 270 - Gangster Queen
50. ~~274~~ - Gangster disciple
51. 410 - love
52. B.O.S. - Boys of ~~destruction~~ - struggle
53. B.O.S.S. Boys of strong struggle.
54. R.A.I.D.C.R.S. - Ruthless ass Isare disciples eliminating red slobs.
55. Suns - Surrender under no circumstances.
56. P.O.L.L. - Peace obedience Love Life.
57. H.E.M.R.T. Hell Evil Always rule together
58. K.I.S.S. knights. in ~~secret~~, ~~service~~ ~~salon~~ Jennie
59. S.O.S. - Sons of Satin
60. F.O.T.K.S. - Forever our love ^{King} ~~this~~ ~~Satin~~
61. T.O.P. - taking out perpetrators.
62. R.O.A. Ruler over All
63. Every thing I do is Always Right over left
64. Never let anyone call me a ~~drunk~~, ~~player~~ or ~~47~~.
65. If someone says 7 dominick you would say? K
66. If someone says Hoover? you would say you know it
67. What does the pitch fork stand for? the strength of our nation.
68. What does the third eye do? watch over our nation
69. What does the horn mean? destruction.
70. What does the heart with wings mean? I'll nation will rise

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

The other symbols used by the Disciples and their meaning are the pitchfork which stands for the nations power in the struggle to overcome oppression. The sword is used to mean life and death within the nation and the struggle to survive and all costs. The devil's horn stands for the nations determination to overcome all obstacles. The devil's tail is the oppression that all non-white people suffer. The heart represents the love of their nation (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The Disciples wear certain types of clothing, such as hats, because of the meaning within their organization. The meanings are known to the southern region of the United States, however, may not apply to the region in which the reader lives. NIKE stands for: Niggers; Insane; Kicking Ass; Extremely. K-SWISS stands for: Killing Slobs When I See Some. Slobs is a derogatory term used against Bloods. FILA stands for: Folks in Love Again. RAIDERS stand for: Ruthless, Ass, Insane, Disciple, Eliminating, Red, Slob. KINGS stand for: Killing, Innocent, Niggers, Gangster, Style. MIAMI stand for: Making, Insane, Ass, More, Insane. SOX stand for: Slobs over exaggerating.

The Disciples also have a Black Gangster Disciple Code. The code represents numbers which equal a letter of the alphabet often used by the Disciples to communicate to one another such as Morse code. An example of the Black Gangster Code will be on page 39 (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Disciples, like other gangs, sends their members on "missions". A mission is another type of activity a gang member must perform either to gain rank or earn respect within the gang. The activities are illegal and usually ordered by a higher ranking member. Missions will include drive-by shootings, rapes, robberies, and property crimes. After each mission is completed the gang member will check off the accomplished item on his list. A list is provided on page 40. Failure to go on a mission could result in the member being "violated" or punished by their group.

Disciple graffiti will be displayed on pages 41 & 42. A

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

Black Gangster Disciples Code

1. A ALLAH, AS ALL, AND
2. B BE BORN, BROTHERS, BLACK
3. C SEE, COBRA CLUB
4. D DIVINE, DISCIPLES, DAUGHTER'S, DEATH, DISHONOR
5. E EQUALITY
6. F FATHER (HOOVER), FOLKS
7. G GOD, GANGSTER
8. H HE/HER, HOOVER
9. I ISLAM
10. J JUSTICE
11. K KINGDOM, KNOWLEDGE
12. L LOVE, LIFE
13. M MASTER, MUCH
14. N NATION
15. O OF ONE
16. P POWER
17. Q QUALITY
18. R RIGHT, RIGHTEOUS
19. S SELF, SAVIOR, SONS
20. T TRUE, TRUTH, TO THE
21. U UNIVERSE, UNITY, UNITE
22. V VICTORY
23. W WISDOM, WITH WE
24. X UNKNOWN
25. Y WHY, YOU
26. Z ZIG ZAG, MOVE OUT

EXAMPLE

2	7	4	9	7	4
Black-Gangster-Disciples			Insane-Gangster-Disciples		
7	7	4	2	11	
Ghost-Gangster-Disciple			Black Knowledge		

Taken from Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989

MISSION LIST EXAMPLE

1) Stereo system (car)

2) Money

3) Guns

4) Gold

5) Knives

6) Rings

7) Fake K.I.A.s

8) Car

9) Tapes / C.R.'s

10) Electronics

11) Reeper

12) Take a capt. gun

13) Clothes

14) Make girlfriend suck dick

15) Make girlfriend a D.G.

16) Radar Detector


17) Car Emblems (Avalanche Emblems)

18) Cellar Phone

19) Concert Tickets

20) Animals (snake)

21) S-Ball's

22) Depe / ed / sh... 

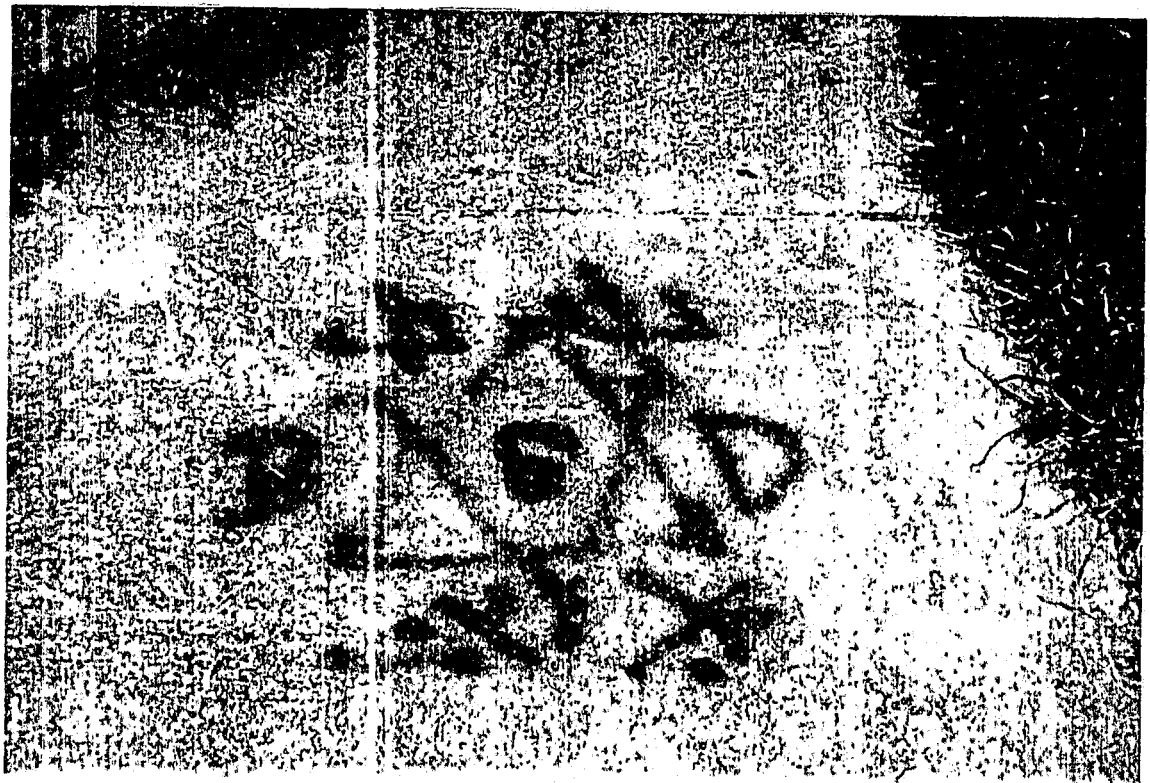
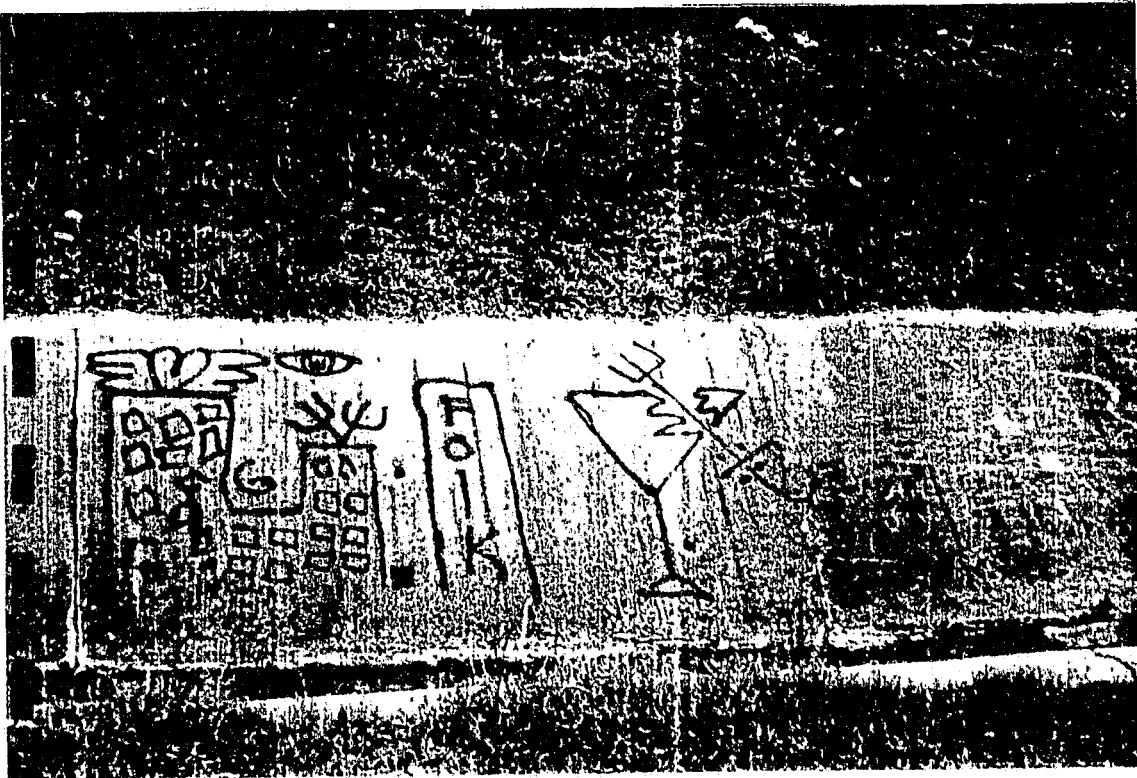
23) Cigarettes

24) Final S... / ...

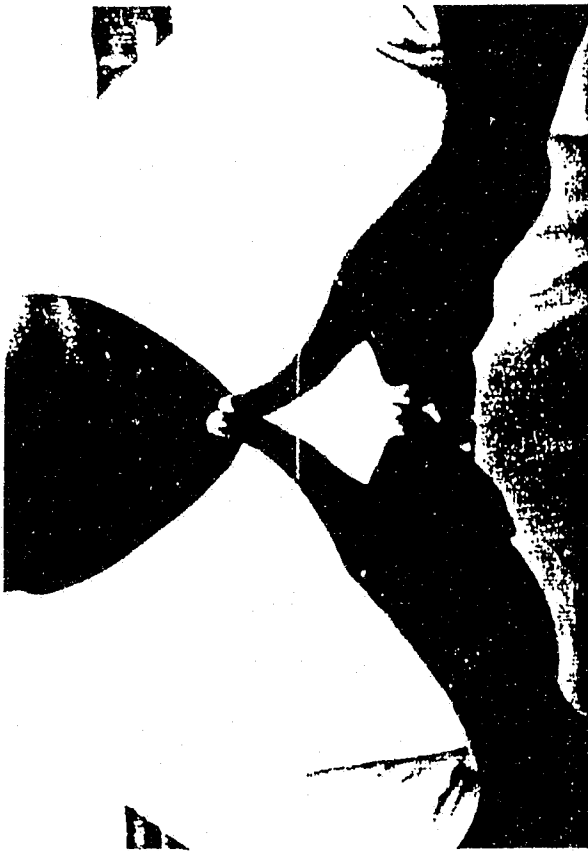
DISCIPLE GRAFFITI



DISCIPLE GRAFFITI



Disciple Hand Signs



Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

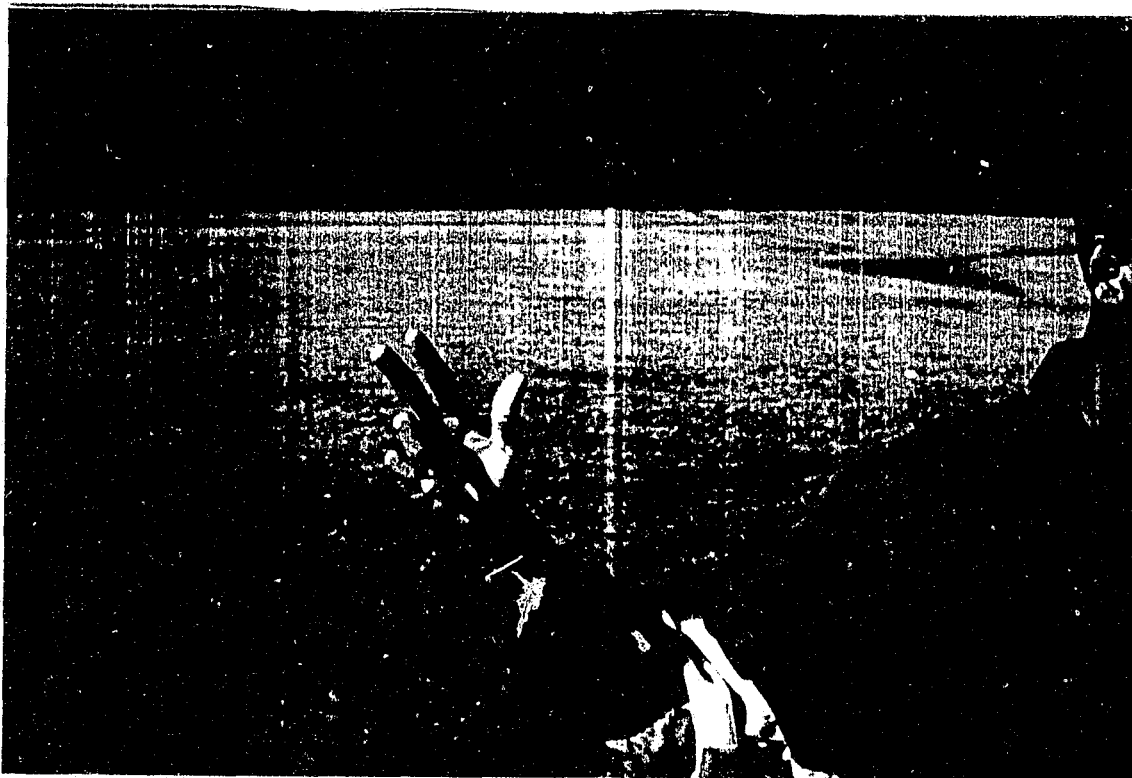
small number of hand signs that the Disciples used is displayed on page 43.

The next groups identifiers are those of the Vice Lord Nation. As the Disciples refer to themselves as Folks, Vice Lords entitle themselves as "People". They use a five-pointed star and wear items of clothing to the left. Vice Lord colors range from black/gold to black/red & green. Hats they prefer to wear would be the Pittsburgh Pirates because the "P" stands for people (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*). In some parts of the country they may wear the UNVL hat which would stand for a, faction or set of the Vice Lords, known as the Unknown Conservative Vice Lords. On their hats initials such as DK meaning "Disciple Killer" should be noted.

Vice Lords have a tendency to steal items as the Chrysler Corporation star because it is five pointed. Also Baskin Robins 31 Flavors which means 3rd world 1 nation (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*). A sample of their hand signs and graffiti will be viewed on page 45. On page 46 is a small representation of their knowledge. Vice Lords are known as the "King of All Knowledge". Finally on page 47 is a inspection of their alphabet.

Vice Lords, like the Disciples, have many symbols they use in their graffiti which has significance to the group. They employ a circle that means 360 degrees of knowledge that the black people ruled the world and they will rule again. Fire represents the black nations true knowledge of being suppressed and their inability to reach knowledge because of the heat caused by the fire. Darkness means that the black majority, not minority, rule the world. The crescent moon symbolizes the splitting of the black nation into two parts, one on the west and the other on the east. The five-pointed star represents the eye of Allah watching over his people. The pyramid, refers to the mystery of the construction of the pyramid, which was built by the black people. The three corners of the pyramid triangle depicts the physical, mental and spiritual knowledge. The sun means the

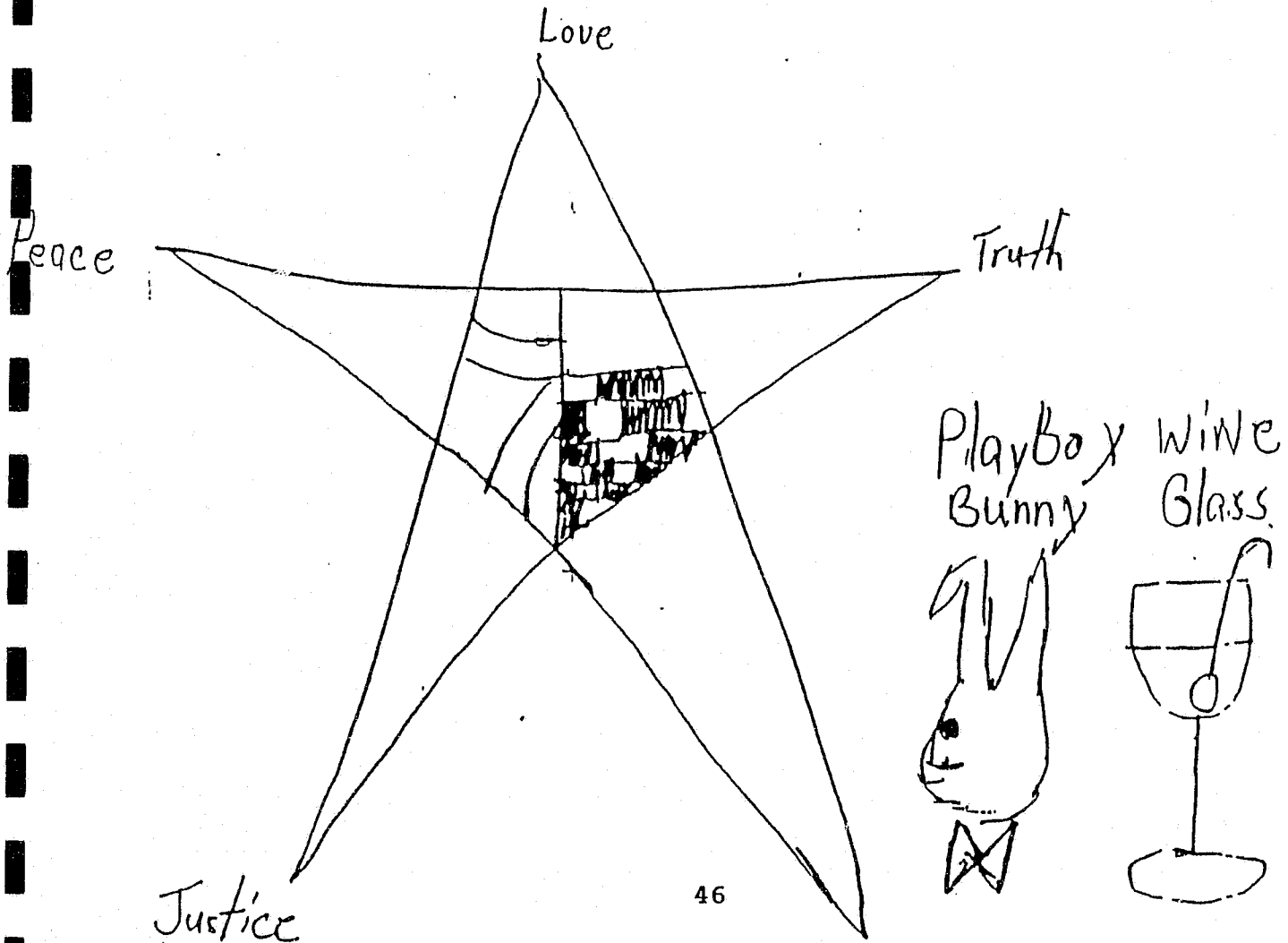
HAND SIGNS AND GRAFFITI



Vice Lords' Knowledge Examples

~~opening pray~~
As the gold may glow the world shall know
that were Vice Lords as it says in the holy bible
and those who follow the footsteps of the Lord
shall always receive salvation

~~opening pray~~ Vice Lords were started in
1963 Black Peace Stone (BPS) Jeff
fort lead (BPS) under the five point star.



VICE LORDS ALPHABET

A	of	N	V
B	e	O	
C) (P	— —
D	Xo	Q	S
E	~ ~	R	f
F	↑	T	"o"
G	X	U	^
H	=	V	?
I	• — •	W	→ •
J	.)	X	.T.
K	⌒	Y)))
L	(. .)	Z	H
M	^		

NOTE: There is no symbol for the letter 'S'.

The letter 'Z' is probably used in its place.

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

rising truth in the black nation. The hat represents shelter, the cane, the staff of strength and gloves symbolizes purity (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

The finale black groups to be examined are the Crips and the Bloods. Their identifiers are not as complex as the Chicago based gangs. The Crips call themselves Cuz which can be spelled either, CUZ, CUZZ, or KUZ. They used the initials B/K which represents "Blood Killer". For this reason they favor British Knight (B/K) tennis shoes. They will replace the letter "B" with a "C" when spelling words, to show hatred toward Bloods. They will also cross out the letters "B" and "P", "P" meaning Piru, in their graffiti to show hatred to the Bloods (*National Law Enforcement Institute, 1990*).

The reader should note, in any graffiti observed in their area, the numbers 187. This would indicate that a gang member from Los Angeles is in the region. This is due to the fact that 187 is the code for murder in California's state criminal penal code. Note these numbers on hats; clothing; school books or tattoos. A child who has never been within a 100 miles of Los Angeles would not know the meaning of the numbers, unless an original gangster from Los Angeles taught him.

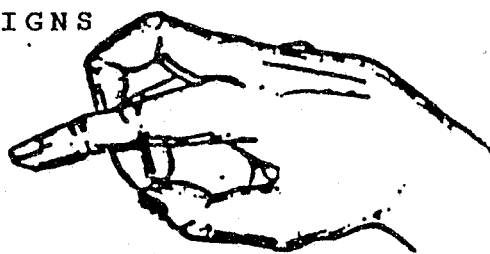
Pages 49-51 will display Crip hand signs from the different sets that operate in the L.A. area. On page 52 is Crip graffiti, for the readers viewing. On page 53 is Crip and Disciple graffiti together. In some regions of the United States, Crips and Disciples become mutually friends to fight other gangs in the area. They show this unity by exhibiting the sign of a 8 Ball, which stands for Crips and Disciples as "one".

To show that Crips will cross out the letters "B" and "P", a letter written on page 54, by an East Coast Crip to his Crip girlfriend, shows that they cross out the letters consciously or unconsciously when communicating. In conclusion on pages 55 & 56, there is a sample of some of the Crip sets that operate in the Los Angeles region.

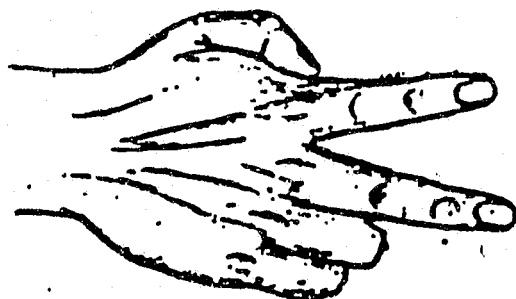
CRIP HAND SIGNS



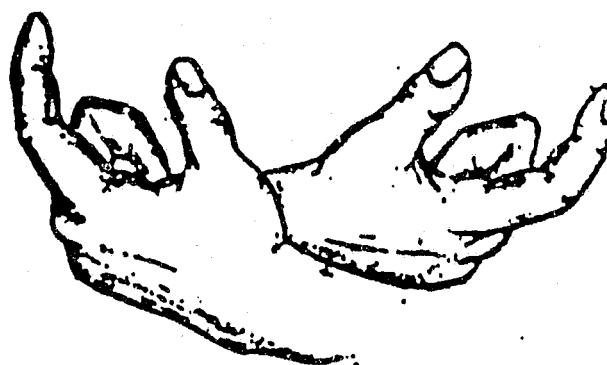
MAIN STREET CRIPS



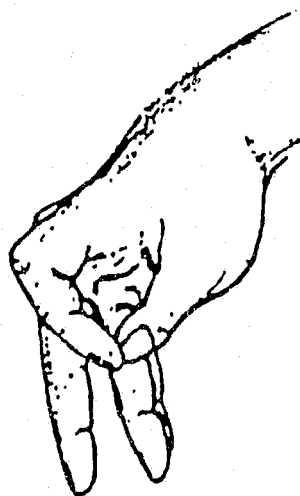
90 GANGSTER or WEST COAST CRIPS



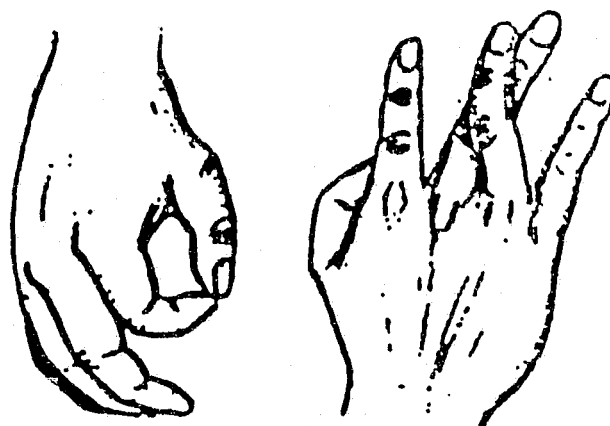
VENICE SHORE LINE CRIPS



COMPTON CRIPS

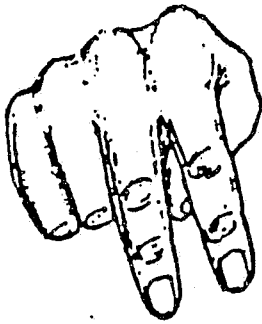


RAYMOND AVENUE CRIPS



49 WATTS GRAPE STREET CRIPS

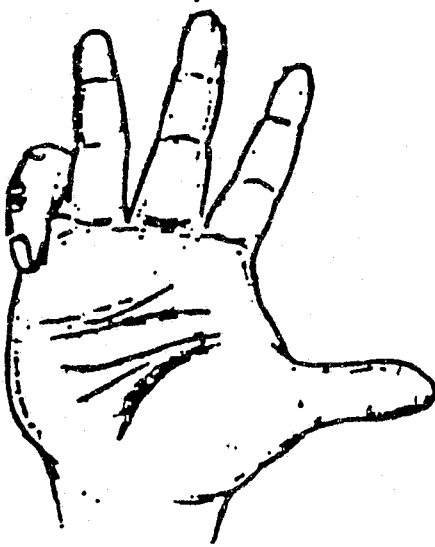
CRIP HAND SIGNS



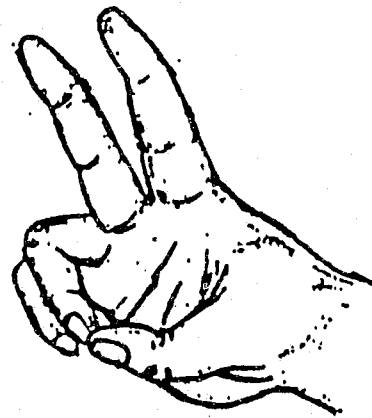
HOOVER CRIPS



EAST COAST CRIPS



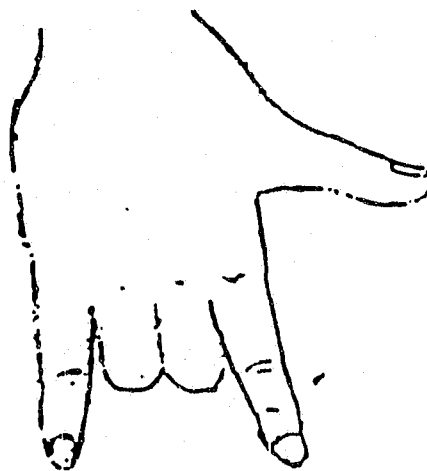
83 STREET GANGSTER CRIPS



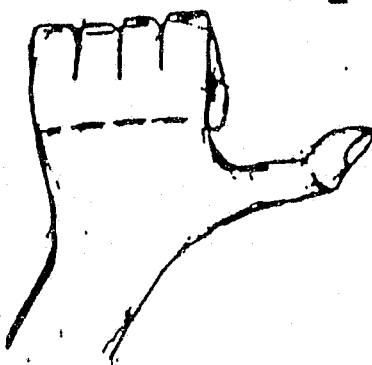
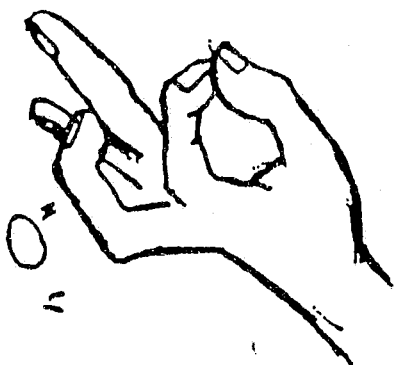
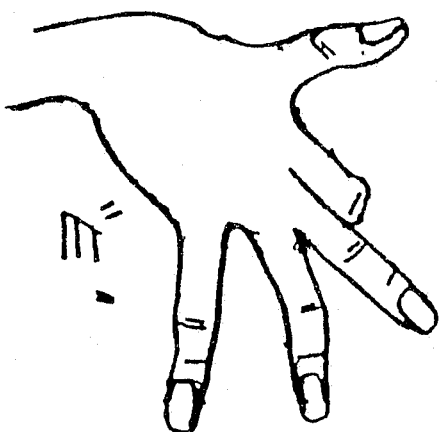
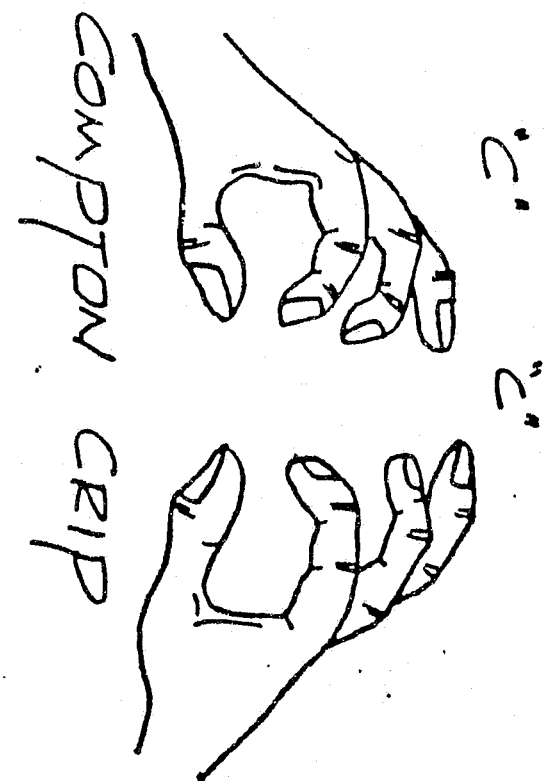
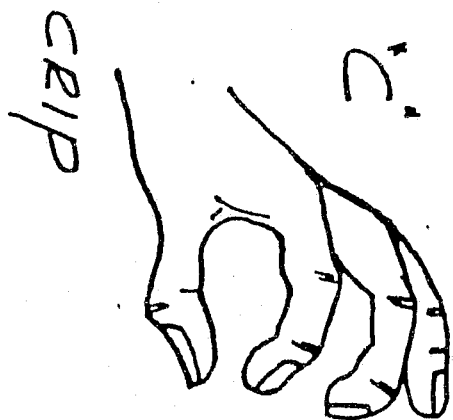
PLAYBOY GANGSTER CRIPS



AVALON GANGSTER CRIPS



BLACK-P-STONE BLOODS



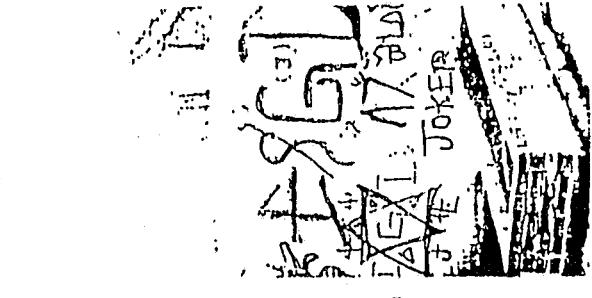
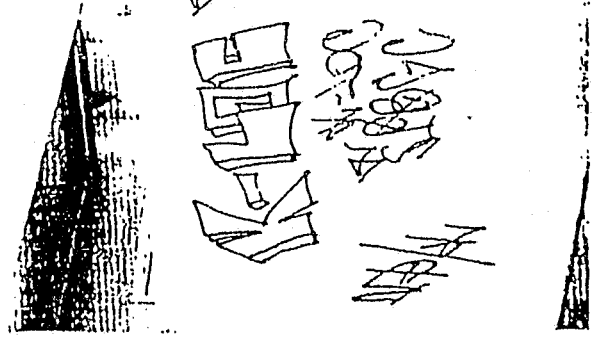
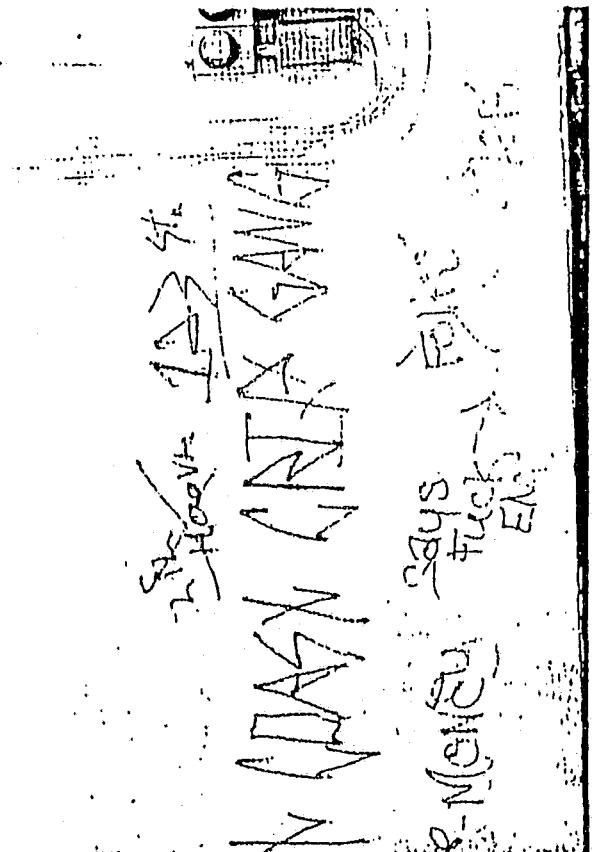
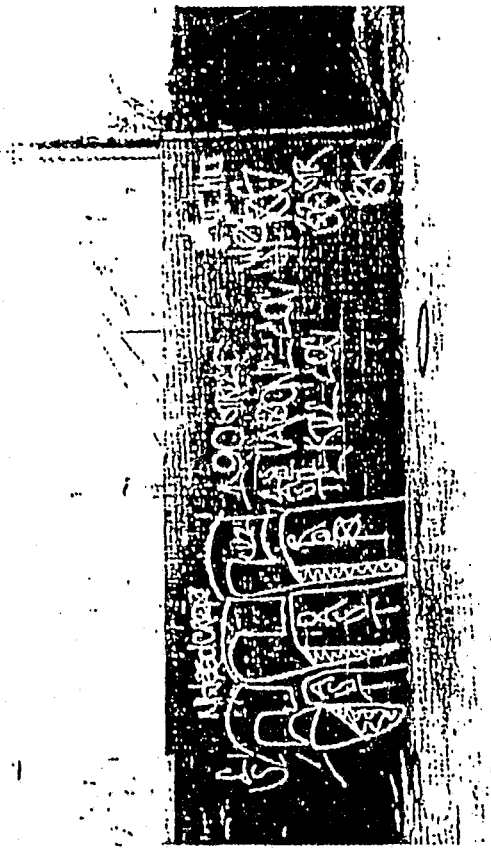
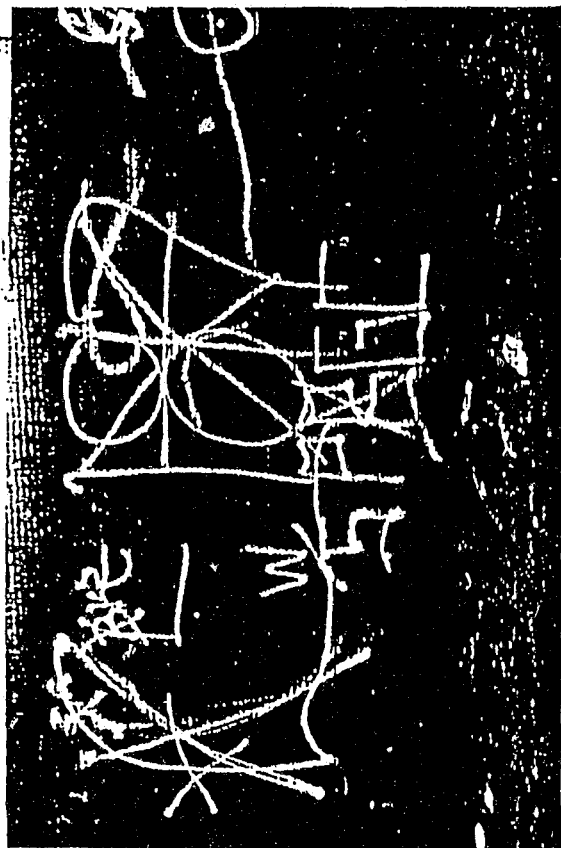
EAST

NO. ZERO

HARLEM CRIP

— J. K. RAY
IN SHIRAZ
GAMES

Crip Graffiti



DISCIPLE AND CRIP GRAFFITI

425
D



10:16 PM
July 30, 1990

WHATS UP CUZ,

I MISS YOU SINCE YOU LEFT. I HOPE YOU GET OUT SOON. A LOT OF STUFF BEEN HAPPENING SINCE YOU LEFT, BUT ILL TELL YOU GET OUT TO TELL YOU. A LOT OF YOUR FRIENDS BEEN SELLING OUT LEFT AND RIGHT, BUT ILL TELL YOU ABOUT IT WHEN YOU GET OUT. NEXT WEEK IM GOING BACK TO L.A. FOR A WHILE. WHILE IM OUT THERE I WILL WRITE AND CALL YOU. BUT MOST LIKELY ILL BE OUT HERE TO SEE YOU BEFORE I LEAVE.

WELL SORRY I HAVE TO END THIS LETTER BUT ILL WRITE YOU BACK REAL SOON. UNTIL THEN, I LOVE YA.
C YA.

AS CALL ME WHEN YOU GET OUT.
P.S. KEVIN AND STACY SAID "WHATS UP"

IDENTIFIED CRIP SETS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

CRIP SETS

<u>GANG NAME</u>	<u>JURISDICTION</u>
Acacia Crips	Compton P.D.
Altadena Block Crips	LASD Altadena
Atlantic Crips	Compton P.D.
Avalon Gangster Crip Sets	L.A.P.D.
A-Line	"
53 Street	"
88 Street	"
116 Street	"
Back Street Crips	"
Beach Town Mafia Crips	LASD Firestone
Bible Crips	Compton P.D.
Boulevard Crips	Long Beach P.D.
52 Broadway Gangster Crips	L.A.P.D.
Carver Park Crips	LASD Lynwood
Compton Crips	Compton P.D.
Compton Westside Crips	"
Corner Pocket Crips	LASD Lynwood
Dodge City Crips	L.A.P.D.
Durock (Doorah) Crips	Monrovia P.D./LASD Temple
East Coast Crips	L.A.P.D.
1st East Coast	"
43 "	"
59 "	"
62 "	"
66 "	"
68 "	"
69 "	"
76 "	"
89 "	"
94 "	"
97 "	"
102 "	"
118 "	"
190 "	"
Eight Tray Gangster Crips	LASD Lennox
Fronthood Crips	LASD Lynwood
Front Street Crips	L.A.P.D.
43 Gangster Crips	"
53 Gangster Crips	"
87 Gangster Crips	"
90 Gangster Crips (W/Side Crips)	"
Geer Street Crips (Geer Crips)	"
Ghost Town Crips	"
Grandee Crips	Compton P.D.
Grape Street Watts Crips	L.A.P.D.
Harbor City Crips	"
Harlem 30's Crips	"
Hat Gang Crips	LASD Firestone

GANG NAMEHoover Set Crips

43 Hoover

52 "

59 "

74 "

83 "

92 "

94 "

107 "

112 "

Imperial Village Crips

Insane Crips

Kitchen Crips

Lantana Block Crips

Long Beach Boulevard Mafia Crips

Main Street Crips

83 Main Street Crips

98 Main Street Crips

Marvin Gangster Crips

Menlo Gangster Crips

Mona Park Crips

Myrtle Street Crips

Neighborhood Crip Sets

Lynwood H-Hood

108 N-Hood

111 N-Hood

113 N-Hood

NBC (Neighborhood Block Crip)

Nut Hood Watts Crips

Original Valley Gangster Crips

Palmer Block Crips

Palmdale Gangster Crips

Park Village Crips

Payback Crips

P.J. Watts Crips

Playboy Gangster Crips

Raymond Crip Sets

Raymond Avenue Crips

Inglewood Raymond Crips

Pasadena Raymond Crips

Rollin 20's

Rollin 30's

Rollin 40's

Rollin 60's

Santana Block Crips

Schoolyard Crips

Shack Boys (76 East Coast Crips)

Shotgun Crips

Sintown Crips

Spooktown Crips

JURISDICTION

L.A.P.D.

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

LASD Lennox

"

Inglewood PD

Long Beach PD

LAPD

Compton P.D.

Long Beach PD

LAPD

"

"

"

"

LASD Lynwood

Inglewood PD

LASD Lynwood

"

LASD Lennox

LASD Lynwood

Compton PD

"

LAPD

Compton PD

LASD Antelope Valley

Compton PD

Gardena PD

LAPD

"

LASD Lennox

LASD Inglewood

Pasadena PD

Long Beach PD

LAPD

"

"

Compton PD

LAPD

LASD Firestone

Gardena PD

Pomona PD

Compton PD

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

Bloods characteristics are crossing out the letter "C" when writing their gang language and replace it with the letter "B". In their graffiti they also cross out the letter "C". Blood is a term used as a greeting, such as the Crips use the word "Cuzz". Bloods use the numbers 187 in the same way that a Crip would use these numbers.

On page 58 & 59 a small sample of Blood hand signs will be viewed. On page 60 will be their graffiti and on page 61 a minor selects of the different sets in Los Angeles.

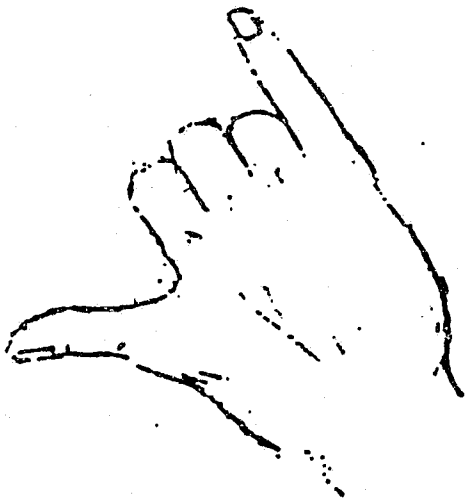
Skinheads identifiers are Levi or black paints, with a white T-Shirts. They could wear a black or dark green bomber jacket. Some type of boot (Combat) or steel towed may be worn by a Skinhead (*Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988*).

Tattoos are a large part of their tradition, as in any other gang. Their tattoos are swastika's, eagles, white power or the word W.A.R.. W.A.R. stands for White Aryan Racist. Graffiti and tattoos will be displayed on page 62 (*Gangs and Unconventional Groups, 1988*).

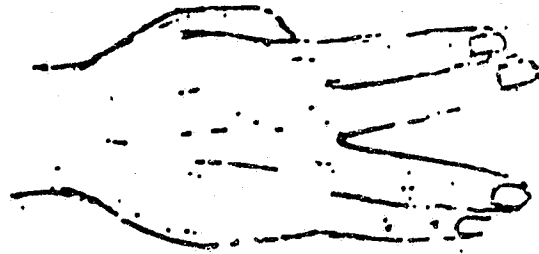
The final group to be examined is the Hispanic gangs and their identifiers. Hispanics, as previously stated, are more turf oriented than other groups. They also are very macho and like to elicited that image. Their graffiti is extremely artistic, to the point of looking upon their work as a waste of the artist talent.

The author will give brief identifiers to some of the different Hispanic gangs in the United States. The Almighty Insane Unknown Nation, out of Chicago, are made up of 95% Latins and 5% of other nationalities. Colors consist of black and white. Hand Signs may be revealed by placing their right hand over their chest, with the index and little finger up, to represent a "U" for Unknown, along with the utterance of the word "Insane". Their symbol includes a shield with a white sheeted unknown subject holding a shotgun (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Latin Kings are represented by the colors black and gold. Like the Vice Lords, the Latin Kings wear their identifiers to



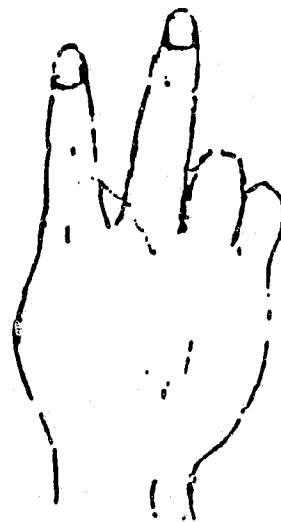
NEIGHBORHOOD BLOODS



VAN NESS GANGSTER BLOODS



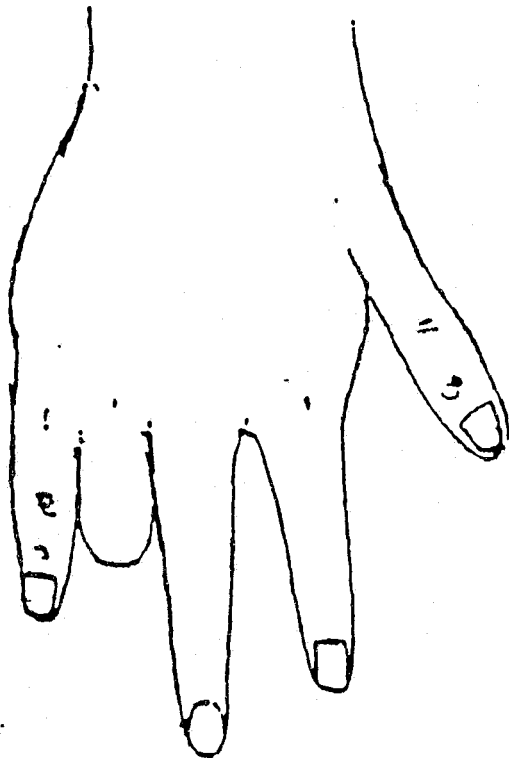
PIRU BLOODS



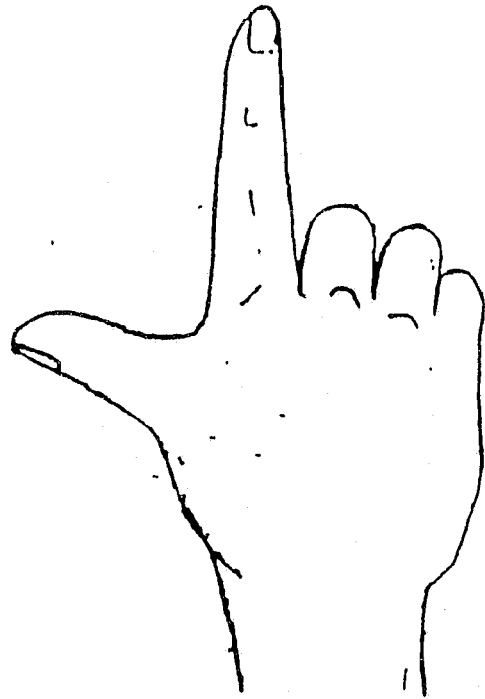
VILLIANS BLOODS

Blood Hand Signs

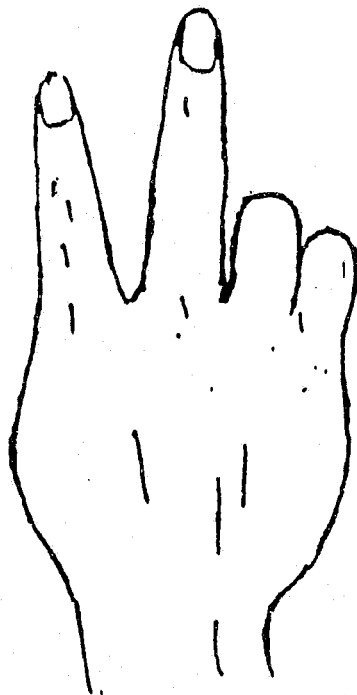
SWANS BLOODS



DENVER LANES BLOODS



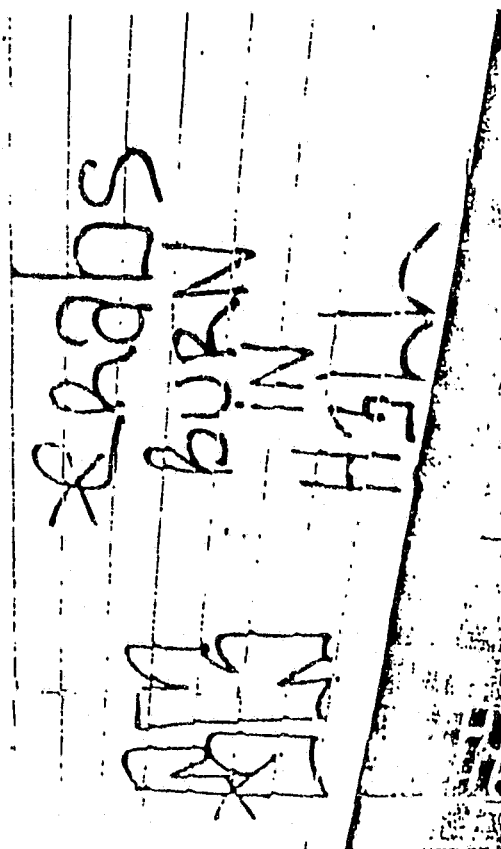
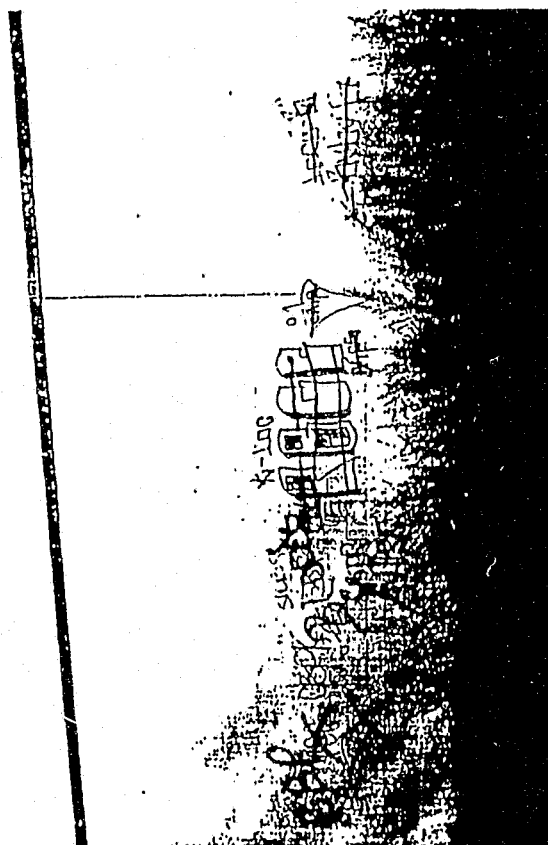
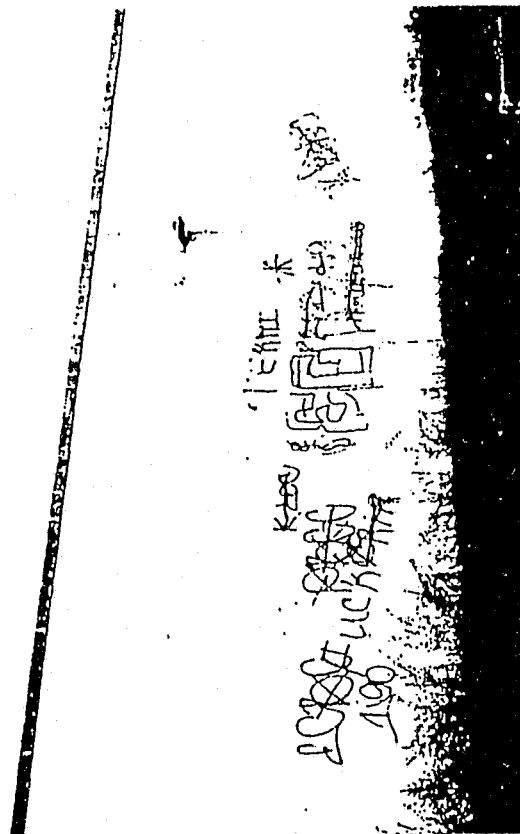
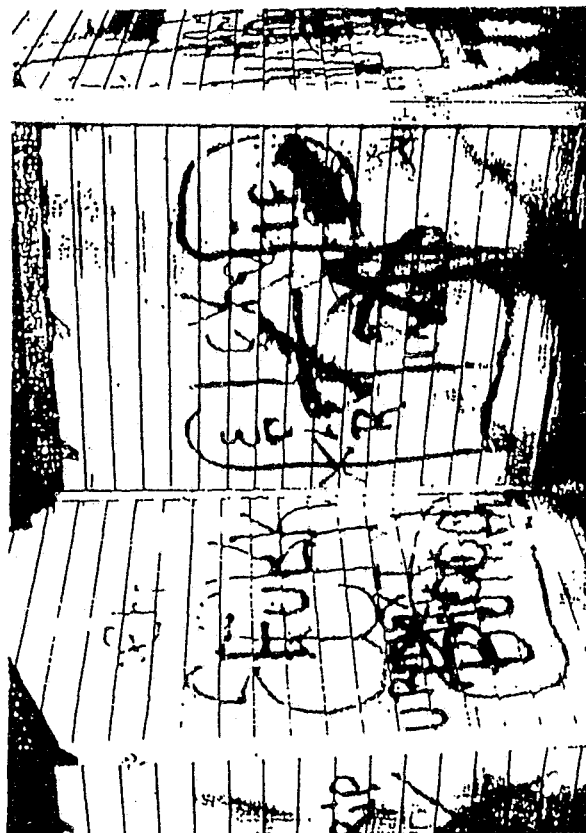
VILLIANS BLOODS



BRIMS BLOODS



Blood Graffiti

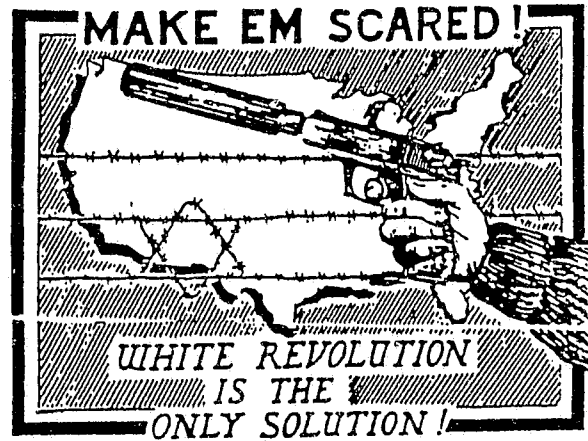


IDENTIFIED BLOOD SETS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

BLOODS

<u>GANG NAME</u>	<u>JURISDICTION</u>
Athens Park Boys	LASD Carson
Bishop Sets	
Elm Street Bishop	LAPD
Block Bishop	"
92 Bishop	"
Pueblo Bishop	"
Bounty Hunters	LASD Lynwood/LAPD
Bloodstone Villians	LAPD
Black-P-Stone	LAPD
Blood Fives	LASD Carson
Belhaven Bloods	LAPD
Brim Sets	
62 Brims	LAPD
Aliso Village Brims	"
59 Brims	"
Rollin 20's Brims	"
Carson Cabbage Patch	LASD Carson
Crenshaw Mafia Gang	LAPD
Denver Lane Sets	
Pasadena Denver Lanes	Pasadena PD
Pasadena Devil Lanes	"
Denver Lanes	LASD Lennox
89 Family Blood	LAPD
Harvard Park	"
Hacienda Village	"
Inglewood Family Blood	Inglewood PD
Miller Gangsters	LASD Carson/LAPD
Piru Sets	
Pomona Islands Piru	Pomona PD
Campancilla Park Piru	Compton PD
Cedar Block Piru	"
Centerview Piru	"
Cross Atlantic Piru	"
Compton Piru	"
Circle City Piru	LAPD
Fruit Town Piru	Compton PD
Holly Hood Piru	"
Leuder Park Piru	"
Lime Hood Piru	"
Nutty Block Piru	"
Swan Sets	
77 Swans	LAPD
79 "	"
80 "	"
83 "	"
Samoan Warriors	LASD Carson
Ujima Village Blood	"
Van Ness Gangsters	LAPD

Skinhead Stickers



ACT NOW!

WAR SKINS



WAR SKINS

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

left. They use a five-pointed star, along with a three and five-pointed crowns as identifiers (*Gang and Gang Awareness, 1989*).

Hispanic gangs are known for their dress, which is different from other groups. They like Khaki pants, plaid wool shirts with black shoes. Their clothing will be worn a size bigger than usually. Hispanic's are known to wear their pants in a "sagging" manner, this is wearing the pants below their waist causing them to drag (*Operation Safe Streets*).

Colors play an important part in the gangs philosophy. Hispanic gangs will deliberately use certain colored clothing to differentiate themselves (*Operation Safe Streets*).

Their tattoos, hand signs and logos depict a attitude and a way of live for the Hispanic gang member. Animals such as snakes; spiders; insects etc., are a few examples of Mexican-American tattoos. Human characters showing life in the barrio or jail may become a tattoo. Examples are: La Rana Frog (Frog Town), Westside Mouse (Westside Wilmas), or La Soma Shotgun gangsters (*Operation Safe Streets*).

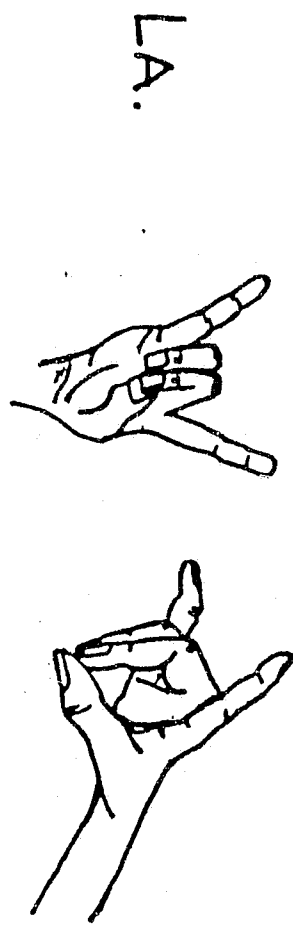
Monikers used in Hispanic gangs are girlfriends, their mother or a close family friend (*Operation Safe Streets*).

Hand signs are a significant part of the gang. It becomes a unspoken language with the display of the number of fingers used. Body positions also show a geographical location of there gang. If the member places their hands above there chest they are indicating that they are from the North Side of town. Below the waist is the south and to the left and right, West and East respectively (*Operation Safe Streets*).

On pages 64 & 65 will be some of their hand signs. On pages 66 & 67 are types of Hispanic writings. Pages 68-71 will display a portion of there talent to draw graffiti (*Operation Safe Streets*).

I hope these pages can introduce the reader to the complex world in which the gang members exists. Hand signs, tattoos, graffiti, knowledge and logos all play apart in distinguishing

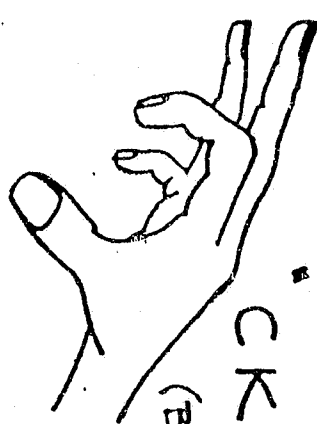
"SANTANAS"
"S" SIGN OF THE DEVIL



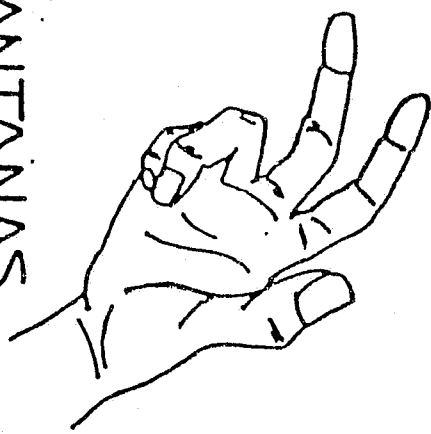
"G" SIGN
"SIGI"
"SIGMA"



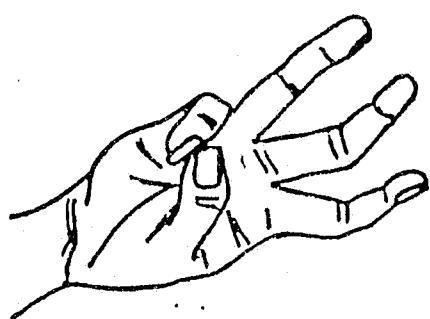
"CK" SIGN
(BACKWARD)



LB. SANTANAS
PITCHFORK

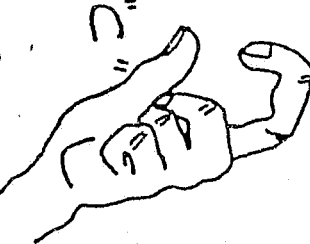


DEVILS PITCH FORK





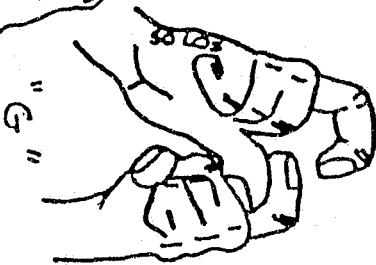
VARIO CARSON



"C"
CARSONE



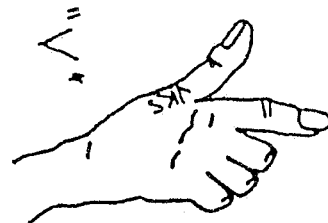
"S"



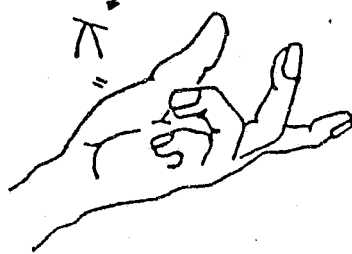
"G"

SOUTH LOS

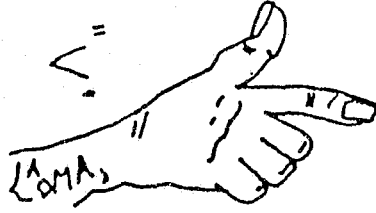
GARDENA



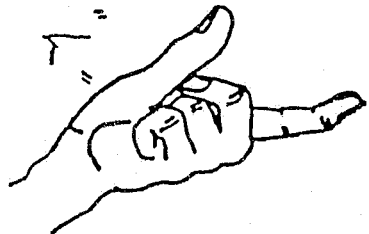
VARIO



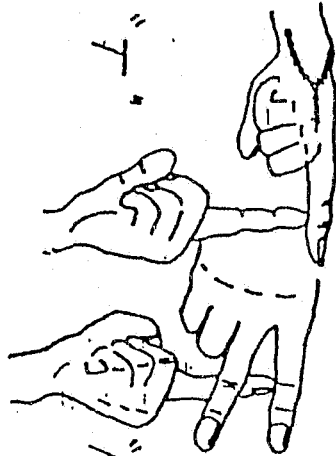
KEYSTONE



VARIO



LA LOMA



"T"



"F"

TORTILLA

FLATS

—Kano
LA Sheriff's
GARDIA

CIRCLE

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T
U V W X Y Z

SQUARE

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

HALF
DIAMOND

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

WAVE

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

BACKWARDS

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z


DIAMOND


A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

LOOP

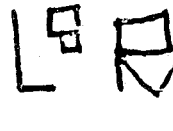
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

GRAFFITI

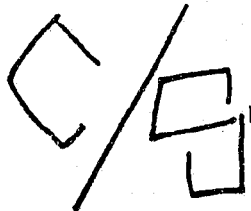
AQUI C IV 

 PERSUADERS

Challo George
de Lado Richard

CORONA 

NOMAS



TRANSLATION

"AQUI" meaning here, or
look at this

"C" meaning Corona, IV^s_t
meaning 4th Street gang

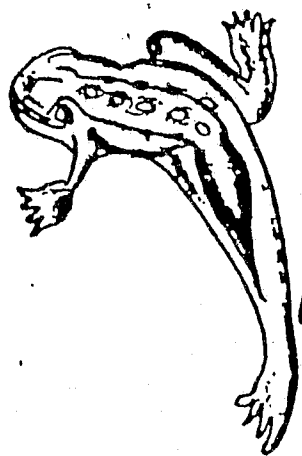
Los Persuaders, a sub-
group of the 4th Street
gang, responsible for
the graffiti

Names and monikers
of members of the
gang

Corona repeated,
Ls meaning Loco's
or crazy ones,
"R" meaning "we're
the best

"nomas" meaning "the
one and only"

C/S, a symbol meaning "Con
Safos," there is nothing you
can do about it, don't touch,
anything you do to this,
twice to you



LA
RANA

"FROG TOWN"

VLR's
LXR



LA RANA
"THE FROG"

JKAONO
LA SHERIFF
GANGS

LA
RANA

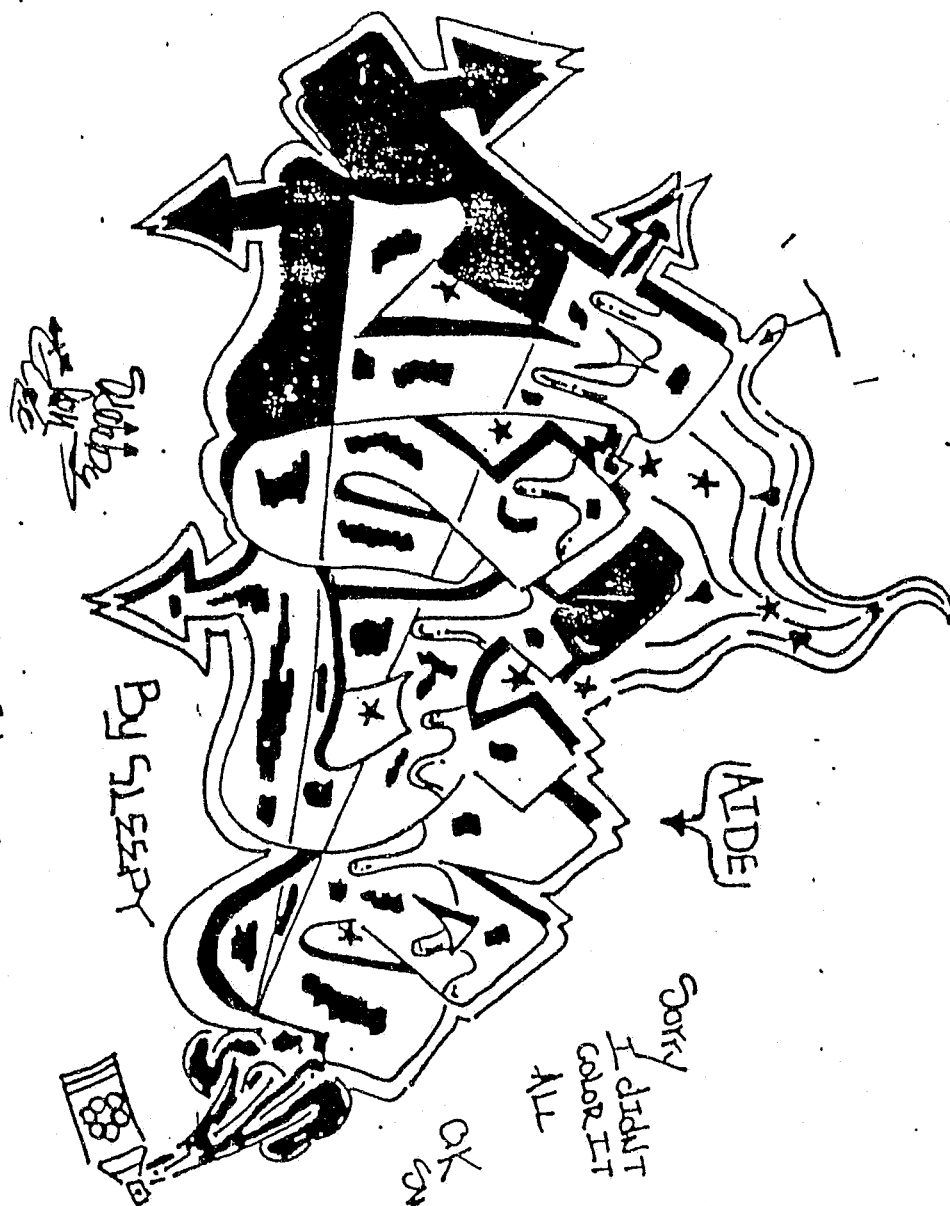
OVER
"THE HILL"
GANG



VLLR
LA LOMA

KAONO
LA SHERIFF
GANGS.

LA LOMA



—W5W—

THE "NORTH SIDE"
WILMAS

W5W

KAONO
LA SHERIFF
GANGS



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one gang from another. To the average individual these symbols may seem rather silly in nature, but to the gang member these symbols are their world's existences. Showing disrespect toward another gangs symbols will cause the lay person to the gang members rival their lives. To understand gang is to understand their symbols.

GANGS IN SCHOOLS

Gangs are no longer confined to the inner city schools. Schools have become a ripe area for the recruitment of new members into the gang. Once a gang has established themselves into the school, the gang can then designate certain areas as their turf. In Los Angeles a group claiming a telephone booth as their turf, would not let other students use it, and when a non-gang member attempted to make a call on the phone, he was killed. Thirty five students withdrew from school due to this incident (*School Safety*, 1991).

Drug selling, extortion along with recruitment make schools an outstanding arena for a gangs profits and membership. Schools are a intrinsic place that gang members can conduct their business. In a world with easy access to weapons, gangs have turned the school playground into a war zone (*School Safety*, 1991).

Bo Emerson, a staff writer for the Atlanta Constitution, revealed that on any given day over 90,000 weapons are carried onto school campuses, as reported by the Center for Disease Control, or CDC. This equates to one in every twenty students having a weapon. The report also noted that 50% of all households in the United States, owns a weapon (*Atlanta Constitution*, 1992).

Futurist journal reported that a pilot program which began in the New York City school district, using metal detectors contributed to no weapons on school campuses. However, it was learned that 200 weapons were found near the school, possibility dropped by students (*Futurist*, 1990).

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The issue of crime in the school is illustrated best by a survey conducted by the NIE, in 1978. The NIE conducted this safe school study by questioning 4,000 elementary and secondary schools. The study showed that 40% of all robberies and 36% of all assaults take place in school. Youths ages 12-15 are at the highest risk. The study further showed that 8% of the schools in the nation has a serious crime problem. Secondary schools show more of a crime problem than elementary schools. In any typical month one out of ten schools are burglarized. Vandalism to school property in 1978 was estimated around 200 million dollars (*Safe School Report, 1987*). These problems along with the gang influence makes it harder to learn for the average student.

The National School Safety News Letter attempted to correct some of the prevailing myths that people have about gangs. The first myth is that most individuals involved in gang activity are juveniles. The numbers revealed are that only 20% of person involved in gangs are juveniles with 80% being adults (*School Safety, 1991*).

This myth can also help cities determine how long they have had a gang problem. Because most areas as Chicago, New York City and Los Angeles have had gang problems for over 20 years the conclusion drawn by this numbers indicate that the longer a city has a gang problem the higher the adult to juvenile ratios will become.

Myth 2 is that gang members only injury rival members. The numbers reveal that over half of the individuals shot by gangs are innocent victims (*School Safety, 1991*). Gang members do not take courses in firing their weapons and in fact are extremely poor shots.

Myth 3 is that all street gangs are turf oriented. Usually black gangs are not turf oriented. Hispanic gangs on the other hand are territorial. Other gangs such as Asians attempt to divert any attention to their presents in a community (*School Safety, 1991*).

Myth 4 concerns female membership into the gang. People believe that females are not allow to join gangs or form their own gangs. This is a complete falsehood because most gangs have female members who provide a usefulness to the gang (*School Safety, 1991*).

Myth 5 deals with the weapons issue. Another false belief is that weapons used by gangs are chains, knives and tire irons. In the world of easy money, provided by drug profits, gangs have been able to obtain such weapons as AK 47's, M-16's and other automatic weapons of their choosing (*School Safety, 1991*).

Myth 6 concerns gang leadership and structure. Chapter 2 covered how gangs can be a "loosely knit" group to a highly structured gang with specific responsibilities and duties (*School Safety, 1991*).

Myth 7 confronts the issue of graffiti as just an art form. In Chapter 3 graffiti was examined and the different meanings that it may carry for a particular group (*School Safety, 1991*).

Myth 8 & 9 deals with the solution to the gang problem. The prevailing thought of the community, some in law enforcement, and politicians is to lock them up and throw away the key (*School Safety, 1991*). Studies show that this just adds to the problem and gives the member a higher status in his group. Prisons also provide three meals a day, visit from friends, and provides an atmosphere of control. Prisons have done nothing to curb gang membership. Other beliefs are that gangs are a law enforcement problem. People have very little understanding how gangs effected their communities and their lives. Only when law enforcement has community support can they fight gangs, drugs and violence associate with the problem.

On page 76 is a examination on how crime effects not only students but teachers too. Fear among the teachers has become very real in the past years. In this study one out of every 200 teachers were attack by a student, with 19% of them requiring medical attention (*Safe School Study, 1978*).

Exhibit 2-1

INCIDENCE OF VARIOUS CRIMES AND
OTHER FORMS OF MISBEHAVIOR

- In a typical month, secondary school students were the victims of a large number of offenses.
 - More than 2.4 million (11%) reported something worth more than one dollar stolen.
 - About 282,000 (1.3%) reported being attacked, and 4 percent of these required a doctor's attention.
 - About 112,000 (1 out of 200) were robbed, although the amount stolen was small and injuries were rare.
- Teachers were also victimized. In a typical month
 - 128,000 (12%) had something worth more than one dollar stolen.
 - 5,200 (1 out of 200) reported being physically attacked, with 19 percent of these requiring medical attention.
 - 6,000 (1 out of 170) were robbed.
- Other symptoms of school-based crime and misbehavior were found.
 - About 3 million secondary school students (16%) avoided at least three places at school out of fear. About a half million students (3%) were afraid of school most of the time.
 - Another 125,000 secondary school teachers (12%) were threatened with physical harm each month; about the same number reported being reluctant to confront misbehaving students for fear of harm.
 - Half the teachers surveyed reported that they experienced verbal abuse in a typical month.
 - While it is difficult to obtain good estimates of the actual use of drugs or alcohol at school, secondary students reported that controlled substances were widely available on campus.

Source: The Safe School Study

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

The controversy that entangles how a juvenile evolves into a troubled adolescent is an ongoing debate. Plato believed that heredity is the major determinant of behavior, while Aristotle taught that humans are a writing tablet on which, initially, nothing stands written (Zander, 1978). John Locke agreed with Aristotle when he referred to individuals as tabula rasa, or blank slate (Zander, 1978). These individuals, along with many others, saw the need to determine what makes a person engage in certain activities, hold various beliefs or deviate from society's norms.

To be able to better deal with the problem, we must find out what factors cause some youths to become gang members. The adolescents of today are the leaders, businessmen and tax-payers of the future. Failing to find answers to the gang problem will burden society by lost revenue, burgeoning crimes, and growing problem of prison overcrowding.

The U.S. Bureau and Census showed that from 1950 to 1970 there was a population shift from the rural to the urban areas. As this shift occurred, urban cities saw their crime rate skyrocket. Approximately 30% of all crime in that period was committed by juveniles. In recent years a 100% jump of juvenile crime has occurred. The rate of crimes committed by juveniles is 60%, with most of this rise in the inner-city (Moffat, 1983).

The question of identifying reasons for deviant behavior among adolescents is complex and is not always reflected in identifiable patterns. When faced with the complexities and pressure of today's society, some adolescents may sense a feeling of hopelessness. Sometimes this malaise is exhibited by inappropriate behavior, in which standard norms are violated, making adults feel uncomfortable and threatened (Merbaum and Stricker, 1977).

Behaviorists hold that all behavior is learned. John B. Watson, the father of American Behaviorism, stated that given

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

a dozen infants, and his own environment to raise them in, he would be able to condition them to be any specialist that he might select: doctor, lawyer, beggar-man or thief (Zander, 1978). Even though this may be considered a caustic statement, it illustrates his belief that individuals are a product of their environment. Therefore, it naturally follows that, the logical way to change a gang member's attitude is to change a gang member's environment.

In the early 70's a new theory emerged on behaviorism called Social Learning Theory. Albert Bandura stated that people learned by watching other people (Conger, 1977). Burgess and Akers (1966) stated that criminal behavior is learned and maintained in both social and non-social situations. Social learning postulates that attachment is the key to delinquency. Individual gang members may be exhibiting to the public how gangs actually form in their community. The younger, more easily influenced adolescents learn how to behave from older gang members. Even though each gang member possesses a different reason for being in a gang, a common threads appear to be fellowship and brotherhood, and the attachments that form from these relationships.

Another factor that emerges from juvenile delinquents and from gang families is the tragedy of broken families. A study of institutionalized delinquents done by Baker and Adams (1962) revealed that only one third of delinquents were being reared by both parents. Homes stricken by a lack of affection and understanding and numerous other negative environmental factors can produce stress in a child and substantially hurt his social growth (Turner and Helmes, 1979).

Many problems relate to the teen-age culture: gangs; drugs; abuse; and ineffective parenting. Most delinquents harbor feelings of rejection, hostility and have a negative self concept (Turner and Helmes, 1979). These feelings may contribute to decisions to choose gang membership. Gang members report feeling

a sense of power and a improved self image that the other members reinforce.

It appears that girls are becoming more of a factor in gang activity. They will be used for sex, hiding weapons and used for look outs. H. Charles Fisherman has concluded that crime in the past 40 years has shifted from male dominance to non-gender specific, when dealing with juvenile crime. It has become sadly apparent that criminal activity and juvenile delinquency are fields in which equal opportunity has become a reality. It is also visible that gender role has changed and has become more of a problem for all communities (Fisherman, 1988).

In the Journal of Social Forces it was concluded by Neal Shover that if girls maintained traditional roles, they will be less likely to commit criminal acts. Shover reported three intervening variables that could lessen delinquency in girls. They are opportunity, attachment to a significant other and a belief in rules and laws (Social Forces, 1986).

Miller (1975) revealed theories on the differences between male and female delinquency. While male delinquency stems from the males' need to show their manliness and rebellion against female authority, girls, he theorized are more likely to conform, and their need for close relationships could hinder delinquent behavior and steer them away from gang activity. Nye and Rittenhouse (1962) set forth in their study of 44,000 delinquents in facilities in Philadelphia that delinquent girls are more likely to come from broken homes (Social Forces, 1986).

Another contrast in adolescent behavior is that of responding to peer groups. Peers play an important part in gang activity. When an unguarded youth has few neighborhood peers other than gang members, he often has little choice in his actions. The major socializing agent during adolescence is often their peers. Peer pressure has become even a greater factor in gang membership over the past 30 years. The traditionally vertical

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family has become horizontal one with friends and teachers often having more behavioral influences (*Fisherman, 1988*). Research reveals that in recent years, with the breakdown of the family and family traditions, the delinquents equals have been exerting a controlling role over them.

Looking at how a youths find attraction to the world of gangs, their are ways that schools can provide a safe environment for their students. I will attempt to examine ways schools can make their surroundings safer, not only for their students, but for teachers as well.

In an article called "Combating Gang Activities in Schools", Dr. Alan McEvoy indicates several ways that educators can attempt to curb gang violence in schools. First, let us examine some of the methods that have failed in the past. Law Enforcement officials who belief that a "get tough" attitude toward gang members is the answer have been proven wrong. Dr. McEvoy reveals that this measure actual makes the problem worse. Gangs have a tendency to pull together becoming more cancerous and supreme when they feel threaten by the police (*Education Digest, 1990*).

There is no indication that police on school grounds reduce gang violence. Police presents may have other effects on gangs such as: schools are not impartial territories and that gangs have to be uniformly and function with silence to do there business (*Education Digest, 1990*).

Indication that a firm school suspension policy also does little in fighting gangs, on school campuses. Suspending students from schools who need it the most only helps fuel the gang members negative feeling about themselves. It will prevent them from having positive role models and place them further behind in their studies (*Education Digest, 1990*).

Other flaws in addressing gangs on school campuses are dress codes, refusing to confront gangs, and treating all gangs the same, without taking into account ethnic and social classes. The

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tactic with no hope of success is to have the members "just say no". When thinking a child can avoid the pitfalls by saying a phrase is crazy (*Education Digest*, 1990).

Dr. McEvoy sites some ways that may be helpful in fighting the gang problem in schools. One way is to create a neutral zone, making sure all gangs understand that school is for learning not for fighting. This is done by having the gangs and faculty have trust in one another (*Education Digest*, 1990).

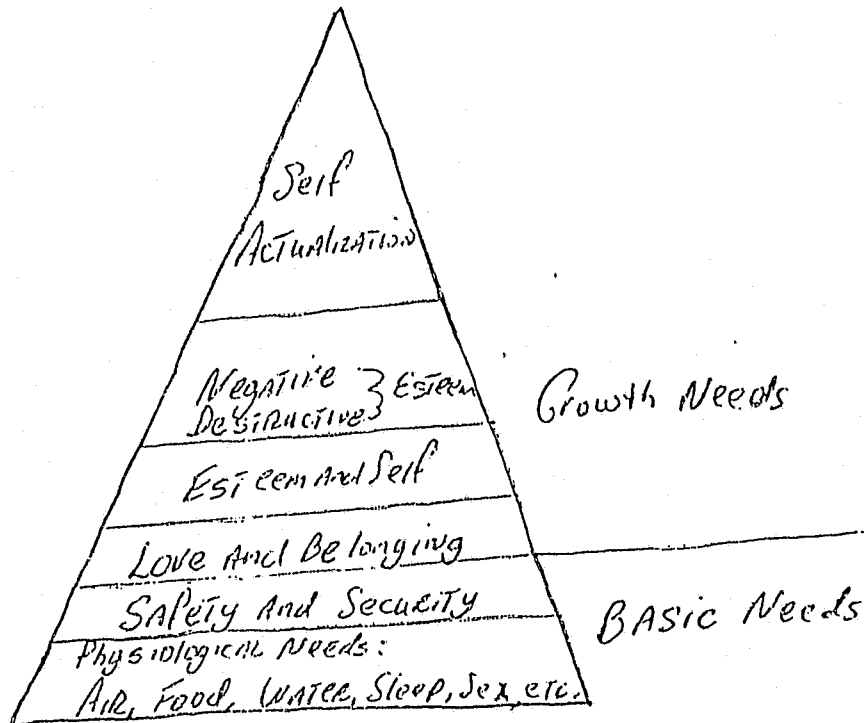
In attempts to use the school as tool of change for the gang member, it can promote the members to participate in approved school activities. Providing these and other alternatives which are positive, can not only help the individual who is thinking about joining a gang not to but those who are seeking a way out. Educators should develop good communications and trust from gang members, but they need not overlook any violent or illegal behavior promote by the gang (*Education Digest*, 1990).

CLINICAL INTERVIEW WITH GANG MEMBERS

The following pages will be the author's theory of gang development. It will address the issue of how I perceive gang members to develop and parents reaction to their child belonging to a gang. Before I lecture about the concept of gang develop let me speak on the issue which I dislike as much as "fingernails on a chalkboard". It is the term I feel only the most ignorant person in our society uses to describe gang members, that's calling them "wanna bees". Using this term to mean that they really don't want to become gang members, but are acting like gang members hoping someone would let them into there gang. Gangs do not operate in this fashion. Either the person is apart of a gang or there not. Gang members do not tell their secrets to another person unless they think they will join. Is any club, social acceptable or otherwise going to let strangers know about their secret world? Using this term only deludes the reality of what is happening to a young man who joins the gang. An attitude that develops is what I will be attempting to explore.

On page 83 is a diagram of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs and how it relates to the development of a gang members "attitude". In looking how one becomes a gang member, it can be concluded that gang members are not born but evolve behavioral. The gang takes care of all the basic needs as described by Maslow. The gang members progresses into his growth needs which includes a destructive self-esteem. There self-esteem grows by increasing there illegal activity thus increasing there status within the gang.

Hierarchy of Needs



- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Fringe | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Physiological Needs-Survival B. Higher needs arise only after lower need is satisfied C. Safety and Security provided <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Learning stage begins b. Role Identity is formed |
| Hard-core | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Love and Belonging begins (Family, Brotherhood, Caring, Fellowship) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Marginal Hard-core b. Internship B. Esteem and Self-Esteem (Recognition and Self Respect) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hard-core-Hrad-core |
| Leaders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Self-Actualization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Wholeness (Unity within the gang) b. Completion (Ending-Achieved highest gang status) c. Justices (Fairness-treats everyone the same) d. Goodness (Benevolence-sees the gang as good) e. Uniqueness (Part of the gang but sees members as individuals) f. Truth (Reality-understand who he is lives gang live 24-7) g. Meaningfulness (Valves-gangs laws are correct) |

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The author has developed a theory concerning gang membership and the stages they obtain before becoming a hard-core member. As previously stated there are three types of members: fringe; hard-core and leaders. The theory is based on the 150 interviews done by the author with Montgomery gang members. This is a small sample of the gang population in Montgomery. However, the research is continuing. The theory will be up-dated as new information develops. The theory that the author projects concerning parent involvement was done only with 50, with 90% coming from single parents. The theory should not in any way be linked to other gang members in other cities. Nevertheless, such generalizations could pertain in those cities. This is not a nationally recognized theory on gang development.

The research revealed that two stages emerged in becoming a fringe member. The first is a **Learning Stage**, which entails finding out about the rules and attending a few of the meetings. The major component of this stage is that the member finds out what the gang can do for him and what he has to do for the gang. During this stage the member will deny membership or knowledge about the gang.

The second stage of becoming a fringe member is called **Role Identity**. This is the most volatile because the fringe starts having a sense of belonging and the leader can either become a father-figure or role-model. The member starts losing identity within his natural family and becomes a more defined player in the gang. He attends meetings more regularly and has a tendency to become truant. He will take on a street name, which he may already have, and now will identify himself as part of the gang. At this stage he has made a conscious decision to join the gang. He will admit to knowing gang knowledge but will deny membership.

The hard-core also has three general stages. The first is referred to as **Marginal Hard-Core**. The Marginal Hard-Core

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will wear his gang color on a regular basis. His natural family may sense that they are losing control of the member. He often commits minor crimes, usually fighting type offenses. He may drop out of school or get a few days to permanently suspended from school. He attends almost all meetings and will start painting graffiti on walls, books or papers without his moniker. The member may initiate a few members, recite gang knowledge, but will still deny membership in the gang.

The second type of hard-core member is the Internship. He starts initiating and recruiting members on a regular basis. He may have his body tattooed with gang symbols and will wear gang colors all the time. He might commit property crimes and the money stolen be given to the nation or organization. He paints graffiti on walls and signs it with their moniker. The member will admit gang membership.

The third stage of the hard-core member is called the Hard-Core Hard-Core. They commit the more violent crimes, ie., rapes, robberies or drive-by shootings. They often have no regard for human life and live the gang life twenty-four hours a day seven days a week or what they call (24-7). They live for the gang family and the natural family has completely lost control. They will do anything for the gang and will defiantly admit membership.

The Leader is the final level a gang member can achieve. Since the author has not talked to many of the local leaders, a theory is not provided within this text. However, the nationally held concept deserves consideration. The Los Angeles Police and Sheriff's department stated that the leader acts like a father to the rest of his members. However, in Montgomery it appears that the leader plays more of a role model. The leader plans illegal activities, but does not usually participate in the crime. He is often well-mannered, with intentions to draw suspicion away from himself. The leader is always a hard-core member and is the most dangerous member of the group.

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The parents also go through what the author perceives are stages. The stages described come from Kubler-Ross's theory on death and dying. This is used because the parents die a slow mental death. The five stages that the gang parent goes through are denial, anger, acceptance, bargaining and depression with a sense of hopelessness. There have been no known studies on parents of gang members done on a national level.

The first stage, Denial, entails the parents total refusal to accept their child's gang membership. They become his enabler and will state that he never goes anywhere and has no friends. They refuse to cooperate and refuse to listen to the evidence presented.

The second stage, Anger, will evolve around parents blaming their problems onto other people that are involved. They realize that their child is involved in some sort of illicit activity, but will not admit it is gang related. They blame others for not helping their child and will get angry at the child. They may begin to cooperate with the helping individual.

The third stage, Acceptance, comes about when there is overwhelming evidence concerning his membership. By this time the child has committed crimes, gang members come to their homes, they find gang material in their child's room, and notice tattoos on his body. The child expresses a desire to wear certain brand name clothing and wishes only one color. The parent loses total control of the child. The child may admit gang membership to the parent.

The fourth stage, Bargaining, entails the parents attempting to get their child out of the gang. This means that they attempt to strike a deal with their child, by buying them material items or letting him do as he pleases. The parent may let the child live somewhere else at this time to appease him.

The fifth stage, Depression with a Sense of Hopelessness, will come about after the parent has attempted to bargain with the child and he still is involved in the gang. At this time

Gangs: A Nation in Crisis

the parent exhibits deep depression. They feel that there is nothing they can do to help their child. They often feel that their hands are tied and a sense of hopelessness filters through their attitude.

The following clinical interview is the expansion of this theory. The questions were developed so that the individual may determine the gang member's involvement. The amount of information able to be obtained will be determined by the stage of involvement. Even though the counselor may feel that the gang member is withholding information, every attempt should be made to fill out the form completely. The counselor should always have three goals in mind: (1) to have current and factual information about the gang in which the member is in at their disposal; (2) to establish rapport and respect for one another; and (3) to play on their ego and deadliness. Gang members will try to lie to the uneducated counselor about his activities.

Another section has been added to the clinical interview. This has to do with moral development and judgment. The author has no current theory on the gang members moral values. However, this is an important factor in the development of the gang mentality. The lack of moral values may cause the gang member to rationalize his behavior. A change from negative to positive thinking must be accomplished by the counselor. Also the counselor should help the gang member evaluate his moral dilemma. This must be changed within the gang member if one is to successfully help him change his behavior.

CLINICAL INTERVIEW WITH GANG MEMBERS

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ RACE/SEX _____

ADDRESS: _____

(CITY-STATE-ZIP)

DOB: _____ LEGAL STATUS: _____

PHONE: _____ SS# _____

GANG INVOLVEMENT

Do you belong to a Nation or Organization? _____

How long have you been a member of this group? _____

How did you find out about the group you belong to? _____

How were you initiated? _____

Have you initiated any members? _____ How many? _____

Are your parents aware that you may be involved in a gang? _____

DISCIPLES AND VICE LORDS-MALES

How are you classified in your Nation? _____

(BGD/IGD)

What rank do you currently hold? _____

How did you obtain this rank? _____

Are you currently studying any knowledge? _____ Have you passed
this knowledge onto other members and how? _____

When you were initiated into the Nation did you also have to
commit a crime? _____ Explain the crime. _____

How often do you carry any deadly weapon? _____

What types of weapons do you carry? _____

How often do you use a weapon in a crime? _____

Do you give money toward the Nation? _____ Explain how? (Drugs
or Crimes) _____

What set do you belong to? _____

Have you ever placed graffiti on walls and signed it with your moniker? _____ How many times? _____ Where in your community have you placed this graffiti? _____

Does this area which is marked become part of the gangs and protected by them? _____ How is it protected? _____

Do you have a street name? _____ What is it? _____ How often do you carry a rag and how do you wear it? _____

What type of clothing do you prefer to wear? (Include Brand Names and Hat Types) _____

Do you have any tattoos? _____ Show me what kind you have on your body? _____

(Write down what kind of tattoo and where it is on the body)

How long have those tattoo(s) been on your body? _____

Do you know any hand-signs? _____ Show me which ones and explain the sign? _____

Will you be a "folk" or "people" forever? _____

Tell me what you know about the Disciples or Vice Lord Nation? _____

DISCIPLE OR VICE LORDS-FEMALES

Are you a Queen (Q) or Gangster Queen (GQ)? _____

What rank do you currently hold? _____

What set do you belong to? _____

To become a gangster queen how many gang members did you have sex with in one night? _____

Are you still having sex with different gang members? _____

Are you studying any knowledge? _____ Have you passed this
knowledge onto other members and how? _____

How often do you carry a weapon? _____

What types of weapons do you carry? _____

How often do you use a weapon in a crime? _____

Do you hide weapons used by other gang members? _____ Where? _____

(Con't on Men's, Do you give money to the Nation)

CRIPS AND BLOODS

Are you an Original Gangster (OG), Baby Gangster (BG), Tiny
Gangster (TG), Gangster (G)? _____

How many people have you recruited? _____

What type of member are you? _____

(Leader-Hardcore-Marginal)

How many people do you control? _____

What are your gangs stated rules? _____

When you were initiated did you have to commit a crime? _____

What type of crime? _____

How often do you carry a weapon? _____

How often do you use a weapon when committing a crime? _____

Do you give money to your organization? (How) _____

Do you attend local meetings? _____ Day/Time/Where? _____

Have you placed graffiti on walls and signed it with your
moniker? _____ How many times? _____

Is this territory your gangs after it is marked? _____ How do
you protect it? _____

Do you have a street name? _____ What is it? _____

How often do you carry a rag and how do you wear it? _____

What type of clothing do you wear or don't wear? _____

Do you have any tattoos? _____

(Write the type of tattoos down and where placed on body)

How long have those tattoo(s) been on your body? _____

Do you know any hand signs? _____ Show me which ones and
tell me what they mean? _____

Tell me what you know about the Crips and Bloods from Los Angeles?

PARENTS KNOWLEDGE OF GANG INVOLVEMENT

Name: _____ Age: _____ Race/Sex _____

Single Parent or Family Unit: _____

What type of supervision do you give your child? _____

How do you know their whereabouts during the week and on weekend?

Do you know and approve of his/her friends? _____ Who are
they? _____

Do you know if your son or daughter is in a gang? _____

What type of clothing do they request you buy them? _____

Do they wear only one dominant color? _____ What color? _____

Does he wear a handkerchief on a regular basis? _____ What
does it look like and how does he wear it? _____

Do they have any tattoos on their body? _____

What type of hand signs have you seen them use? _____

Have you noticed graffiti on their bedroom walls or in their school books? _____ What did you do with it? _____

Have you found any unexplained papers that look like questions and answers? _____ What did you do with it? _____

How would you feel if your son or daughter were in a gang? _____

Since you know that they are involved in gang activity have you made a deal with them if they would get out of the gang? _____ What was the deal? _____

After you made them the deal did they continue in their gang activity? _____ How did this make you feel? _____

SCHOOL

Name of School: _____ Current grade: _____

How many grades have you failed? _____ Which grades? _____

Are you in SE? _____ (IQ) If known _____

Have you ever been approached at school concerning being in a gang? _____ How many times? _____ Were they classmates or outsiders? _____ Do you recruit in school? _____

How many members have you recruited? _____

COUNSELING

Have you ever attended any counseling sessions? _____

Who/When/Where? _____

How many times did you attend the counseling sessions? _____

Did you talk to the counselor about gangs? _____

If so what did you talk about concerning your gang activity?

Did you received any type of testing? _____ What type? _____

GANG FAMILY

How does being in a gang make you feel? _____

What do you expect the gang to do for you? _____

What are you willing to do for the gang? _____

Does your leader "fill-in" for your father? _____

If the leader do you feel like a father to your members?

(Explain) _____

How much pressure did the gang apply toward your membership?

Is your membership in the gang due to the area in which you live in? _____ Are you a gang member for this reason ? _____

How do you feel if the gang request that you do some illegal activity and you "back out" of it? _____

How much do you depend on the gang as your family? _____

How does this gang family relate to your natural family? _____

Which family do you prefer to spend time with on a daily basis?
(Gang or Natural Family) _____

Does being in a gang make you feel important? _____

Do you believe people fear you because of your membership? _____

Do you tell people that you are in a gang for this reason? _____

Do you ever think about going to prison or being shot? _____

Are you in the gang for the violence? _____ Described to
me how committing a violent act makes you feel? _____

Would you kill a member of your family for the gang? _____

Can you get out of your gang? _____ How? _____

Why must you leave in this manner? _____

How would you feel after you have left the gang? _____

After being a part of the gang family, would you still have
joined knowing how it is in a gang? _____ Why? (If still wants
to be part of the gang) (What would you have done differently
to avoid being part of the gang) _____

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

How often do you use drugs? _____ What type of drugs do
you use? _____

When you use drugs is it with other members? _____ Do you and the other members commit your crimes after using or before using drugs? (Both) _____

Do you also use alcohol with your members? _____ How often? _____

Do you sell drugs for the gang? _____ How did you get started? _____

What do you buy with the money? _____

Does some of the money help support your family? (Gang or Natural) _____

Do you feel that you have a drug problem? (Explain) _____

MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Who taught you the difference between right and wrong? _____

Do you feel that taking peoples property is wrong? _____

What type of system should we have for those who break the law? _____

Who's to blame when you break the law? _____

How do you feel when your rights are violated? _____

How do you feel when you violate someone else's rights? _____

How do you view society? _____

How do you view the world as a place to live? _____

Do you live by the law of the land or the jungle? _____

What circumstances do you feel would be alright to take another persons property? _____

_____ How about hurting another person? _____

DIAGNOSTIC AND EVALUATION OF GANG MEMBER

A conduct of disturbance lasting at least six months, during in which at least three of the following are present:

(Check each problem which applies)

- (1) _____ has stolen without confrontation of a victim on more than one occasion (including forgery)
- (2) _____ has runaway from home overnight at least twice while living in parental or parental surrogate home (or once without returning)
- (3) _____ often lies (other than to avoid physical or sexual abuse)
- (4) _____ has deliberately engaged in fire-setting
- (5) _____ is often truant from school (older person, absent from work)
- (6) _____ has broken into someone else's house, building, car
- (7) _____ has deliberately destroyed others' property (other than fire-setting)
- (8) _____ has been physically cruel to animals
- (9) _____ has forced someone into sexually activity with him or her
- (10) _____ has used a weapon in more than one fight
- (11) _____ often initiates physical fights
- (12) _____ has stolen with confrontation of a victim (e.g. mugging, purse-snatching, extortion, armed robbery)
- (13) _____ has been physically cruel to people

The above diagnosis is found in DSM-III-R. The diagnosis is listed as a Conduct Disorder. Conduct Disorders are listed as group, solitary, undifferentiated. Gang Members, for the most part commit their crimes as a group, which would then be a diagnosis of Conduct Disorder, Group Type: 312.20

A disturbance of a least six months during which at least five of the following are present: (Check each problem which applies)

- (1) _____ often loses temper
- (2) _____ often argues with adults
- (3) _____ often actively defies or refuse adults requests
of rules, e.g., refuse to do chores at home
- (4) _____ often deliberately does things that annoy other
people, e.g., grabs other children's hats
- (5) _____ often blames others for his/hers mistakes
- (6) _____ is often touchy or easily annoyed by others
- (7) _____ is often angry and resentful
- (8) _____ is often spiteful or vindictive
- (9) _____ often swears or uses obscene language

The above diagnosis is also found in DSM IIIR. The diagnosis is listed as Oppositional Defiant Disorder; 313.81. The person should fill out either diagnosis, not both.

Fredrick Vrgora, M.S.

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CHILDREN AT RISK FOR GANG ACTIVITY

As counselors we can only provide help for those that we can identify as needing our help. An individual may or may not be receptive to a counselor's assistance. The longer a client waits to get treatment the more challenging there case will be. This becomes more evident when providing services to gang members. At some point in their membership they will admit to belonging to a gang but that admission usually comes too late. When the gang member has developed a role of being a gang member, the harder it is break the gangs hold on the individual. A newly initiated gang member with no criminal record will take on the average of eight to ten months before someone will detect their criminal activity. Identifying these individuals early may help in diverting them from gangs and crime.

The following pages consist of a questionnaire designed to detect children at risk in the early stages of gang formation. With the questionnaire as a guide, counselor's can began to identify those most at risk at a time when their behavior can be shaped. Past and present behaviors should be considered in answering questions. Asking a gang member questions concerning activities such as studying knowledge, holding rank or committing crimes, history of the last 12 months should be considered. In filling out the form be as objective as possible without leaning toward personal prejudices. However, use insight to decipher obvious clues such as the type of clothing clients are wearing, indications of who they associate with on a daily basis and the reason that they are seeing a counselor. Detecting the truth is the hardest part of the counselors interview. If the individual scores ten or higher, professional help in the area of gang rehabilitation would be recommended.

Children at Risk for Gang Activity

Name: _____ Age: _____ Race/Sex: _____

Address: _____
(City-State-Zip)

Dob: _____ School: _____ Phone: _____

Place checks on all answers (Yes-No) that apply to the child at risk.

	Yes	No
1. Does the child admit membership in a Nation or Organization?	_____	_____
2. Does the child admit to being initiated into the gang?	_____	_____
3. Does the child admit to initiating other members into the gang?	_____	_____
4. Does the child admit to being present at an initiation?	_____	_____
5. Does the child admit to studying "knowledge" about the gang?	_____	_____
6. Does the child admit to holding rank (past/present) in the gang?	_____	_____
7. Does the child admit to committing any crime for the gang?	_____	_____
8. Does the child admit to carrying a weapon for safety?	_____	_____
9. Does the child admit to belonging to a set or faction?	_____	_____
10. Does the child admit to placing graffiti on any items?	_____	_____
11. Does the child admit to having a street name used by the gang?	_____	_____
12. Does the child admit to carrying a rag at any time?	_____	_____
13. Does the child admit to wearing only certain type of clothing?	_____	_____
14. Does the child state wearing a preferred color?	_____	_____
15. Does the child have gang related tattoos on his body?	_____	_____
16. Does the child admit to knowing gang hand signs at least 5?	_____	_____
17. Does the child admit that they associate with gang members?	_____	_____
18. Does the child admit to being pressured to be part of the gang?	_____	_____
19. Does the child admit the gang is part of his family?	_____	_____
20. Does the child admit that being a gang member is important?	_____	_____
21. Does the child admit that he is seeking brotherhood/protection?	_____	_____
22. Does the child admit to committing violent acts upon people?	_____	_____
23. Does the child admit to buying or selling drugs for the gang?	_____	_____
24. Does the child admit to using retaliation against other gang members?	_____	_____
25. Does the child admit that his/her parents have little knowledge about his/her activities?	_____	_____
26. Does the child admit to recruiting members for the gang?	_____	_____
27. Does the child state that they will be a gang member forever?	_____	_____
28. Does the child admit to ever being placed in the DYS system?	_____	_____
29. Does the child admit to associating with anyone who has been in the DYS system?	_____	_____
30. Does the child state a willingness to die for his gang?	_____	_____

1-5 Slight Risk for Gang Activity
 5-15 Moderate Risk for Gang Activity
 15-25 High Risk for Gang Activity
 26 + Gang Member

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COUNSELING APPROACH TO GANG MEMBER & SUBSTANCE ABUSERS

There are various approaches that a counselor may choose from when dealing with gang members and substance abusers. However, the author feels that the best approach for both problems would be Rational-Emotive Therapy (RET). This approach is often effective because of the links between negative and irrational behaviors such as gang membership and the use of illegal substances. However, the counselor should always use the method he or she feels most comfortable with. This is simply the method the author theorizes would be the most beneficial to these types of clients.

A brief overview in the RET technique is needed to understand how it may relate to the gang member and the abuser. RET states that individuals are born with both rational and irrational tendencies. Their disturbances or problems are caused by irrational thinking. From this illogical thinking emerge patterns of illogical learning. The person verbalizes irrational ideas and thoughts and his or her perception of the situation is internally negative. The irrational and self-defeating behavior should be challenged and changed to enhance rational thinking. A goal in this technique is to make one come to the realization that failure is a part of life and not the end of the world (George and Christiani, 1981)

The first aspect of this approach focuses on gang members and their irrational thinking that should be conditioned to change. One belief is that he must be accepted by significant others, which in this case are the other members of the gang. The gang member needs to come to the conclusion that love and acceptance of himself are the most important aspects of his life (George and Christiani, 1987).

Gang members need to accept failure in their lives. The gang member has failed at most of the conventional norms, ie., school, dating, jobs and socialization. He needs to realize that this is an inescapable part of growing up. Gang members

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feel the need to punish themselves and others for their plight in the world. They refuse to take responsibility for their actions. They rationalize their actions and attribute blame onto others (George and Christiani, 1987)

The basic goal of therapy is to acknowledge and challenge irrational and inappropriate behaviors, feelings and thoughts. The gang member needs to know that his negative thoughts and ideas can be challenged and changed to achieve positive accomplishments. The counselor needs to question the validity of the gang member's ideas about being a part of a gang, his future within the gang, and determine how he views society as a whole. The therapist's main goal should be to change self-defeating attitudes and behaviors (George and Christiani, 1987).

There are various techniques and procedures that a counselor can use to facilitate this change. Rapport is a must when dealing with gang members. Gang members have lost trust in many people, and it will take time for them to regain it. The frequent lack of progress may prove frustrating to the counselor. Books, tapes, and films that reflect the negative side of gang activity might be useful. Assigning homework projects for the youth to prepare on the effects that gang membership has on the individual and his family could also serve to gain more attention by active participation (George and Christiani, 1987).

Although a description is not included of the RET method, the author feels that it could also be an important part of the recovery process. Families should be brought into the situation so that the positive attitude is continued, controlled and maintained at home. Without the cooperation of the parents, it seems that there is often little hope for the rehabilitation of a gang member. Parents need to work to control several important aspects of their child's life: (1) discipline needs to be maintained on a consistent level, (2) dress codes need to be enforced in which no gang type clothing is worn, (3) a high state of positive reinforcement needs to be developed

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between parent and child, and (4) constant knowledge of the child's peers should be maintained.

Another aspects concerns substance abuse by the gang member. Gang members who use drugs are usually not the ones who sell it. This is due to the fact that drug users in the gang are often not trusted by their fellow members. .

An estimated 70 million Americans suffer some problem which can be traced back to a substance abuse (Franks, 1985). The economic cost of substance abuse is staggering in terms of health care, absentee employees and lost productivity is estimated at around \$70 billion annually (Quayle, 1983.)

Counselors need to understand why the gang member has become part of the gang. This is probably one of the most important parts of the treatment process. A two year study conducted by Ronald C. Huff (1989) concluded that there are three gang typologies that emerge. The first is hedonistic in which a gang member joins the gang simply for pleasure. The second type is a instrumental gang member who has a means to an end, such as selling or using drugs. The third is a predatory gang member who is in the gang for the violence (Crime and Delinquency, 1989).

RET theorizes that irrational beliefs leads to low frustration tolerance which is present in addicts. Ellis refers to this as discomfort anxiety or discomfort disturbance. The primary cause of an addicts problem according to Ellis is the blocking or abstinence of Low Frustration Tolerance (LFT). See Figure 1 on page 66 (Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989).

Ellis says that the LFT pattern can be easily understood but is overlooked by most therapists. He states that to understand LFT, one should image how he or she would feel about a vice or redaction they have and intentionally deprive to themselves. How would one describe the feeling of craving? This is what Ellis would term discomfort anxiety. The clients often have trouble labeling feelings about what is happening to them

Abstinence and LFT Pattern

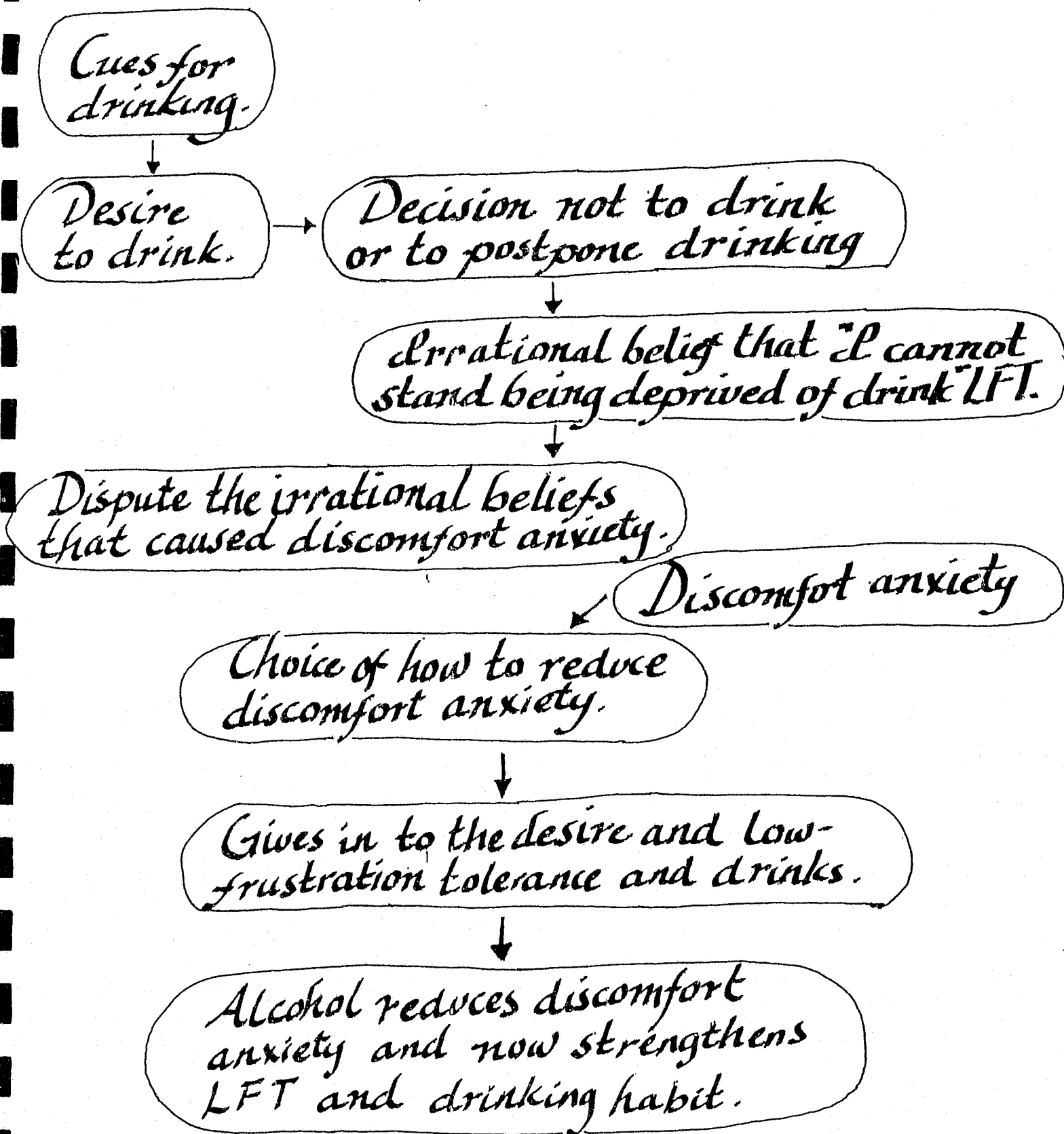


Figure 1
(Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989)

prior to escaping into their addiction. Therapists sometimes fails to recognize this pattern because they ask inappropriate questions. The therapist usually has seen the client before his LFT has come into full swing. The client will express guilt rather than LFT making the therapist look for the LFT pattern. This is often ineffectual because it does not address the real problem and can serve to make the client feel no remorse at all over the drinking episode (Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989).

Uncovering the LFT can be rather simple once the therapist knows what feelings he or she will be examining. Have the clients express how they feel when they deprive themselves of their addiction, or inquire how they feel when alcohol is unavailable to them. In doing so, the therapist tries to establish the clients' words for their discomfort anxiety. Once this is established the therapist can work on these irrational beliefs (Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989).

The second part of the process is using drugs and alcohol as a coping mechanism. See figure 2 on page 68. The coping problem can be identified using the ABC method of irrational beliefs. These include the activating event, the irrational belief about the event and how the clients chooses to resolve A. Their stress serves as a negative reinforcement, which will mean that the behavior will occur again. The reinforcing factor is the removal of pain (Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989). Clients denial of their addiction problem impedes the therapist attempts to uncover the coping pattern. Denial is maintained through the process of distorting reality, by which clients actually view themselves as having no problem. The enabler or co-dependent is often a family member who the individual seeks out to maintain their distortion of reality. These individuals help the addict avoid their problems and responsibilities. Therefore the client does not have to face the consequences of his or her actions. One effective way of

'Intoxication as Coping' Pattern

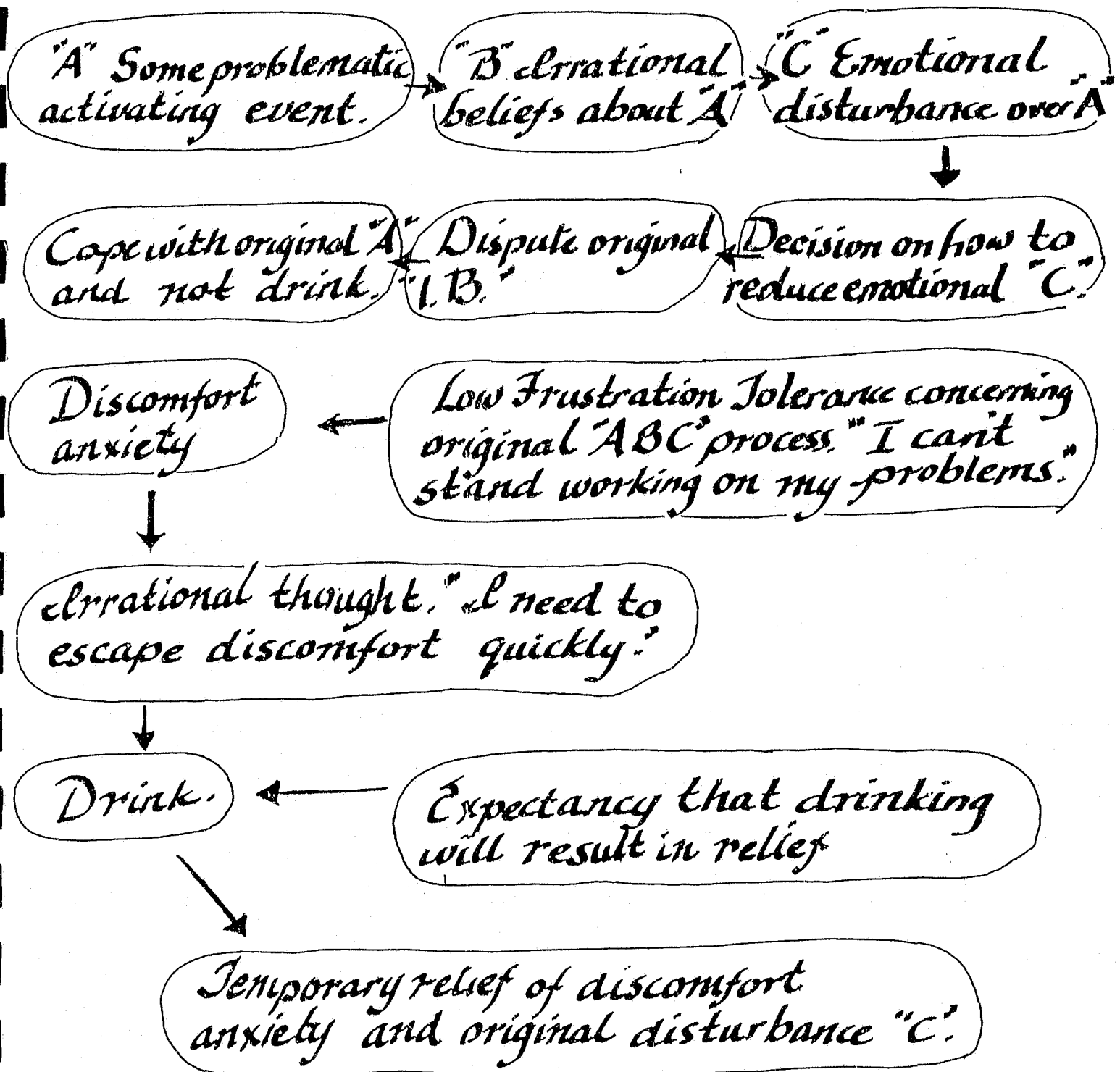


Figure 2
(Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989)

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having clients admit their failure and to cope with their problem is to have the enabler resign from the role. Once this happens, then a crisis will overtake the addict making them realize their inability to cope with the problem without their addiction. Focus should be on the activating event and the irrational belief the client holds about the event (Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989).

Many clients' alcoholism stems from an irrational inner feeling of worthlessness. A pattern of worthlessness emerges from these feelings and produces guilt and depression. See figure 3 on page 70. Once these individuals sober up from a drinking episode, they often realize the negative consequences to their actions. This can result in them condemning themselves for what they had done. In this guilt they place a demand on themselves insisting that they will never use drugs or alcohol again. When they fail to live up to this demand, the feeling of worthlessness recurs, often more intense. The second type of irrationality involves an individual who employs a rigid meaning on the terms users and non-users. They see any person who takes a drink, one snort, or a smoke from a marijuana cigarette as a user. Since they see themselves in this way they define themselves as addicts and abusers and unable to stop the behavior. Marlatt and Gordon (1985) concluded that once addicts have labeled themselves as users, a small relapse can result in them abusing their substance again. They termed this abstinence violation effect (AVE). This leads the addicts to a sense of hopelessness and an inability to escape their addiction (Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989.)

These three patterns can have a devastating effect on the client and a frustrating one on the therapist who is attempting to be an effective counselor. The therapist should understand that when a client is both a gang member and substance abuser, it is important to focus primarily on the abuse. Since these clients obviously have a negative self-esteem and image, it

'Intoxication Equals Worthlessness' Pattern



Figure 3
(Ellis, McInerney, DiGiuseppe, Yeager, 1989)

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is important to attempt to build on the positive aspects of the clients life and enhance their inner being. Although it is not possible to remove clients permanently from their environment, we must help them adapt to their environment as it is, thereby enhancing success. Therapists themselves should be cognizant of the fact that they can become enablers in the plight of the gang member/drug abuser. Instead, they must help these troubled individuals cope in a difficult world and above all, learn to face reality about themselves.

COMMUNITIES AND GANGS

The main reason for the gangs survival throughout the years, can be contributed to one factor, community tolerance. Gangs thrive because of the lack of public response to the problem. Most often people feel that it is the other persons issue, not there's. With this attitude lies the ability for the gangs to grow unchecked.

In this final chapter I will attempt to examined how different communities have made an effort to solve some of their gang problems. Actual programs that are used in the United States will be carefully thought about. The gang problem is a growing menace and the answer maybe found in formulating a solution to the dilemma early.

Ruth Horowitz relates how communities view the problem in an article called *Community Tolerance of Gang Violence*. She discusses areas as honor, etiquette, violence, and negative and positive tolerance (Horowitz, 1987).

Ms Horowitz discusses how parents compounds the problem by there lack of response. Parents like to see their child in a good light and will view their child as a "good boy", in there own home. However, parents are unaware of there child activities outside the home, and fails to view them in a negative manner. There reluctant to take action on the problem gives it life. People do not want to deal with individuals and situation they see as problematic (Horowitz, 1987).

Ms. Horowitz who conducted the study of gang members in Chicago found that culture plays an important role with the gang.

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This helps them set up a value system in which they all live by. Their honor is expressed by male dominance and independence. To preserve a man's honor proper etiquette is used not to offend. When one gang does not honor another gang through this etiquette violence ensues (Horowitz, 1987).

Horowitz states that there is positive and negative tolerance that exist in a community. Positive tolerance relates to how non-gang members view gang members. In the study it showed how gang and non-gang members grow through alliances and friendship without becoming apart of the others world. When gang members are acceptance as friends or protectors of the community a relationship can form (Horowitz, 1987).

Negative tolerance to gang activity, deals with the community maintained their denial of gang activities. A parent who views their child as no problem at home, tends to overlook activities that may be detrimental in nature. However, when the violence enters their households parents begin to observe the situation differently and may see their child as problematic. Horowitz points out if the honor and etiquette is controlled the violence will be limited. The community likes to maintain the status quo with no interference from people they considered outsiders (Horowitz, 1987).

Ronald C. Huff described in an article for Crime and Delinquency that communities usually do not admit a gang problem until a major tragedy occurs in their home towns. This can force the community into admission and away from denial. Huff concludes that after this tragedy happens the community begins to overreact to the problem which can then make it worst. Huff states that prevention measures, along with the community working with local authorities, can be a possible solution to the gang problem (Huff, 1988).

Dr Spergel and Mr. Chance conducted a survey using 45 cities, to determine what factors can be used in determining possible solutions to the problem. The survey showed that there

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was five ways that a community could handle this quandary. They were suppression, social intervention, social opportunities, community mobilization and organizational development. The areas above addresses the gang problem from doing surveillance and arrest to education and job opportunities (*OJJDP, 1990*).

The survey revealed that suppression was frequently employed by the respondent (44%), followed by social intervention (31.5%), organizational development (10.9%), community mobilization (8.9%), and social opportunities (4.8%). Police organization, to include the courts support suppression with social agencies choosing intervention (*OJJDP, 1990*).

The effectiveness of the strategies were hard to determine. However, most of the cities with chronic gang problems employed several of the methods stated towards the problem. They used community mobilization and social opportunities as a primary weapon against gangs, followed by a consensus of terms to be define such as gangs, gang members, and gang incident. Social organizations were used as a advisory board. In cities were gang problems were viewed in its beginning stages, community mobilization seemed to be the most effective (*OJJDP, 1990*).

Some communities have taken a proactive approach in solving their gang problem. I am going to mention a few of the programs available to the public to be used in there communities. CHANGE: Citizens Helping Austin Neighborhood Gang Environment was developed by the Austin Police Department and concern citizens to fight gang violence and graffiti. The program used community based organization, along with parents and juveniles in fighting the growing gang problem. One unique aspect of CHANGE is that they encourage gangs to call a truce among themselves to discuss their differences without using violence (*Benson, 1990*).

Since August of 1990 CHANGE has sponsored six such meetings without incident. CHANGE points out that these are not negotiation between the police and gang members, but police are the mediators of the talks. Gang members understand that if they

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break the law that they will receive full punishment. CHANGE objectives is to have the gangs work out there misunderstandings in appropriate ways, instead of killing one another (*Benson, 1990*).

Through this community based organization the police department has developed a good intelligent source for gangs activities. It also has lessen the amount of graffiti in the area, with some gangs making their members responsible for the cleaning of any graffiti that is done by the group. The use sports as a outlet to channel the aggressive behavior of the gang members (*Benson, 1990*).

Another proactive approached used in the fight against gangs and drugs was developed in Sacramento, California called (PIP) Parents in Prevention. The program started in October of 1989 in nine pilot schools in the Sacramento area. This program not only targeted gangs but also was a vehicle for drug prevention. To make the program work they wanted parents involvement and approval for the program, which they received (*Boyle and Gonzales, 1989*).

The PIP program targeted areas as self-esteem, decision making, dealing with peer pressure, and information about drugs and their effects on the body. This program received grant money for the following year to continue operation of the program. The community supported the program with volunteers (*Boyle and Gonzales, 1989*).

Lakewood Police Department in Colo. began to see an increase in gang activity in their city. In 1988 Lakewood P.D. reported 34 contacts with gang members, but in 1989 it jumped to 160 and in 1990 to 740 contacts. In 1990 the police department called in civic leaders, school personnel, business and community groups to work on gang reduction, awareness, prevention and educational projects. The team initiated an innovated program called (TNT) Teens Needing Teens (*Parker, 1991*).

The TNT project is designed to make students aware of the

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negative side of gang activity starting in the sixth grade. They also attack the problem in the middle and high school levels, through their junior Law Related Education (LRE) classes. They targeted the 12-14 year old who they believed can be turned around if offered alternatives (*Parker, 1991*).

The most innovated strategy to date to proactively fight the gang problem is called the Paramount Plan. This plan was initiated in Paramount, California. The main goal of the plan is to discourage youths from joining gangs (*Paramount Plan, 1982*). These pre-teen youths are most vulnerable to gang activity and are likely candidates to be pressure into joining a gang. Like a service recruiter who tells an individual all the positive aspects concerning military life, gang recruiters do the same with their particular gang. In telling them about the positive sides of gangs a young adult is lead down what he believes is a rosy path until he comes into contact with the thorns which begins to penetrate the soul.

The Paramount Plan success rest on three parts; the community, the school and the family. This is a long term approach to show parents and children alternatives to gang involvement. They show children who are in the program the negative side of gang activity. This entails prison life, tattoos, and the threat of death that constantly hangs over a gang members head (*Paramount Plan, 1982*).

The Paramount Plan is a fifteen week program aimed at pre-teen youths. The program is a proactive approach to gang membership. The core of the program deals with children avoiding gang membership. They understand it is a lot harder to get a child who is in a gang out of one, compare to getting a child never to join a gang. The program uses posters, puppets, coloring books and videos to teach child the negative side of gangs (*Paramount Plan, 1982*).

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In the fifteen week period some of the topics discussed is gangs and graffiti, violence within the gang and the impact that their gang membership has on other family members. Also discussed is tattoos, drugs and alcohol and crimes. This program also offers alternatives to gangs (*Paramount Plan, 1982*).

The Paramount Plan has undergone four separate studies. The studies used pre/post test results for their data. The studies showed that 50% of all students were unsure whether they should join a gang, however, after entering the program 90% of all participants viewed gangs negatively. Several years later a study conducted with the original program participants showed that 98% of the random sample revealed that they had stayed out of gangs (*Paramount Plan, 1982*).

Many other cities have taken from the Paramount program and developed their own program using the Paramount Plan as a foundation. In Hawaii they initiated the program (PAGE) which stands for Positive Alternatives to Gang Environment. In San Diego, California they had start a new program called (JOG) Juveniles Out of Gangs. There are many more programs that use a proactive approach against gangs.

In closing the author has started a new program in Montgomery, Alabama called (G.A.N.G.) Galvanized Attack on Neighborhood Gangs. This program initiated five months ago uses community leaders in the fight against gangs. Once the program fully starts it will be used in the family court as a way of getting young adults out of gangs. This will be done by the use of positive role models, educational opportunities and a literacy program. Along with introducing the Paramount Plan into the local schools for the 92-93 year, the community hopes that this approach will lead to reduction in gang activity.

The following page will have some of the programs mentioned along with their addresses and phone numbers to get in contact with the individuals involved in helping to start some of these programs in your area.

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Positive Alternative Gang Education

Honolulu Police Department; Juvenile Crime Prevention Division
1455 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 (School Based)

The Paramount Plan: Alternatives to Gang Membership

Human Services Department; City of Paramount
16400 Colorado Avenue
Paramount, CA. 90723 (School Based)

Dr. Irving A. Spergel, School of Social Service Administration

University of Chicago
969 East 60th Street
Chicago, Il 60637 Phone#(312) 702-5879 (School & Comm Base Prg)

School Administrator's Handbook on Gangs and Campus Violence

Puget Sound Educational Service District
Seattle, WA 98178

Targeting Programs for Delinquency Intervention with an Emphasis
on Gang Prevention/Intervention (Community Based)

Boys Clubs of America
New York, N.Y. 10017

STREET GANG GLOSSARY

**BLACK STREET GANG LANGUAGE
HISPANIC STREET GANG LANGUAGE
MOTORCYCLE GANG LANGUAGE**

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BLACK STREET GANG LANGUAGE

<u>TERM</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
ACE KOOL	BEST FRIEND/BACKUP
BASE HEAD	PERSON HOOKED ON COCAINE
BEEMER	BMW VEHICLE
BENZO	A MERCEDES BENZ
BLOB	CRIP NICKNAME FOR BLOOD MEMBER
BLOOD	PIRU NON CRIP
BO	MARIJUANA
BONED OUT	QUIT CHICKEN OUT
BOOK	RUNAWAY
BREAK	RUNAWAY
BREAKDOWN	SHOTGUN
BUCKET	OLD RAGGEDY CAR
BUD	MARIJUANA
BULLET	ONE YEAR IN CUSTODY
BUMPER KIT	GIRL S BUTT
BUMPING TITTIES	FIGHTING
BUSTED POPPED A CAP	SHOT AT SOMEONE
BUSTER	FAKE GANG MEMBER
CABBAGE PATCH	POPULAR DANCE
CHECK IT OUT	LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY
CHILL OUT	STOP IT
COMMERICAL	COLUMBIAN MARIJUANA
COLUM	COLUMBIAN MARIJUANA
CRAB	BLOOD NICKNAME FOR CRIP MEMBER
CRAGARED DOWN	LOW RIDER TYPE CAR
CUZZ	CRIP
DEAD RAG	RED RAG
DEFT	LOOKING GOOD
DIS	NO RESPECT
DO A GHOST	LEAVE THE SCENE
DOUBLE DUCE	.22 CALIBER GUN

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BLACK STREET GANG LANGUAGE

<u>TERM</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
DOWN FOR MINE	ABLE TO PROTECT SELF
DRAG, MACK, RUSH	ABILITY TO SWEET TALK GIRLS
DUECE AND A QUARTER	BUICK 225 VEHICLE
DURAG	RAG WRAPPED AROUND THE HEAD
EASTLY	VERY UGLY PERSON
8-TRACK	2½ GRAMS OF COCAINE
ESSEYS	MEXICANS
FEDERATED	CRIP DISRESPECTING RED
5.0	1988 MUSTANG
500	BMW
FLUE FLAG	BLUR RAG
FLY	GOOD LOOKING
FREAK	GOOD LOOKING GIRL
FROG	GIRL WITH LOW MORALS
G-RIDE	GANGSTER RIDE STOLEN CAR
GEEK	SOMEONE WHOSE LOADED
GET DOWN	FIGHT
GIG	GATHERING
GLASS HOUSE	77-78 CHEVY
GOT IT GOING ON	SUCCESSFUL PERSON OR FUNCTION
HEAD HUNTER STRAWBERRY	GIRL WHO DOES SEXUAL ACTS FOR COCAINE
HOLDING DOWN	CONTROLLING AREA OR TURF
HOMY HOME BOY	FELLOW GANG MEMBER
HOOD	NEIGHBORHOOD
HOOK	PHONEY
HOOPTY	CAR
HUSTLER PLAYER	NON GANG MEMBER INTO MAKING MONEY
ILLING	MAKING MENTAL MISTAKES
JACKED UP	BEAT UP

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BLACK STREET GANG LANGUAGE

<u>TERM</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
JAMMED	CONFRONTED
JIM JONES	MARIJUANA JOINT LACED WITH COCAINE AND DIPPED IN PCP
JUICED LIFTS	VEHICLE HAS HYDRAULICS TO RAISE AND LOWER CAR
KICK YOU DOWN	GIVE YOU SOMETHING, SET YOU UP IN THE DRUG TRADE
KIBBLES AND BITS	CRUMBS OF COCAINE
KOOL	ITS ALRIGHT
LADY	GIRLFRIEND
LIZARD BUTT	UGLY GIRL
LOC	DARK SUN GLASSES
MAN	COP
MARK	WANT TO BE GANG MEMBER
MOBILE	PROPER NICE LOOKING
MOLDED SCRATCH	EMBARRASSED
MONTE C	MONTE CARLO VEHICLE
MUD DUCK	UGLY GIRL
NUT UP	ANGRY
OG	ORIGINAL GANGSTER
ON THE PIPE	FREE BASING COCAINE
ON THE STRENGTH	BASED ON THESE FACTS
ONE TIME	POLICE
PACKING	GANG MEMBER WITH GUN
PEANUT BUTTER	CRIP DISRESPECT TOWARD BLOODS
POSSE	EAST COAST TERM FOR GANG
PUT THAT ON THE SET	TELLING THE TRUTH
RAG	COLOR OF GANG
RECRUITING	LOOKING FOR GOOD LOOKING GIRL
RED EYE	HARD STARE
RELATIVE	BLOOD TERM FOR HOME BOY

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BLACK STREET GANG LANGUAGE

<u>TERM</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
RIDE ON	GO TO ANOTHER RIVAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN VEHICLES TO ATTACK OTHER GANG MEMBERS
ROAD DOG	CLOSE FRIEND
ROBO COP	POPULAR DANCE
ROCK	CRYSTALLIZED COCAINE
ROLLIN	DOING WELL
RU	PIRU
SET	NEIGHBORHOOD
SLING OR SLANG	DEALS OR SELLS COCAINE
SLOB	CRIP NICKNAME FOR BLOODS
SMOKER	PERSON WHO SMOKES COCAINE
SNOW BUNNY	A WHITE GIRL
SPRUNG	A PERSON ADDICTED TO COCAINE
TALKING HEAD	A PERSON WHO WANTS TO FIGHT
TO THE CURB	BAD POSITION TO BE IN
TURKISH	A TERM TO DESCRIBE HEAVY ORNAMENTAL GOLD
20 CENTS	\$20 WORTH OF COCAINE
UP ON IT	HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF DRUG SCENE
WHAT IT "B" LIKE	BLOOD GREETING
WHAT IT "C" LIKE	CRIP GREETING
YO	HEY

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BLACK STREET GANG LANGUAGE

<u>TERM</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
DYS	DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
BGD	BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES
IGD	INSANE GANGSTER DISCIPLES
KNOWLEDGE	DISCIPLES QUESTION AND ANSWERS
DQ	DISCIPLE QUEENS
GQ	GANGSTER QUEENS
YGD	YOUNG GANGSTER DISCIPLES
RAIDERS	RUTHLESS ASS INSANE DISCIPLES
	ELIMINATE RED SLOB
KINGS	KILLING INNOCENT NIGGERS
	GANGSTER STYLE
FOLKS	NICKNAME FOR DISCIPLE MEMBERS
PEOPLE	NICKNAME FOR VICE LORD MEMBERS
GGD	GHOST GANGSTER DISCIPLES
DK	DISCIPLE KILLER
BK	BLOOD KILLER
CK	CRIP KILLER
G	GANGSTER
BG	BABY GANGSTER
TG	TINY GANGSTER
187	PENAL CODE FOR MURDER IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
JUVENILE	PERSON UNDER AGE 18
DELINQUENT	PERSON UNDER 18 WHO COMMITS ILLEGAL ACTIVITY
DISCIPLE	GANG THAT STARTED IN CHICAGO
VICE LORD	GANG THAT STARTED IN CHICAGO
CRIP	GANG THAT STARTED IN LOS ANGELES
BLOOD	GANG THAT STARTED IN LOS ANGELES
MIAMI	MAKING INSANE ASS MORE INSANE
K SWISS	KILLING SLOBS WHEN I SEE SOME

MEXICAN STREET SLANG

PUNTAS, AGUJA, CLAVO	NEEDLE
RIATA, PISIOLA	OUTFIT
BIRRIA, PISTO	BEER, DRINK (REFERRING TO ALCOHOL)
CHOLO	MODERN PACHUCO
CHUCO	VETERANOS (VETERANS OF THE GANG)
LA MIGRA	IMMIGRATION
REFIN, PIPIRIN	FOOD
REFINAR	TO EAT
PENDEJO	STUPID
TONTO	DUMMY
MENSO	IDIOT
HUEVON	LAZY
AGUITADO	MAD, FURIOUS
LA CHINGA	THE DAMN ACTIVITY (REFERS TO WORK)
EL CONDADO	THE COUNTY (JAIL)
CALMATE CULO (CULERO)	CALM DOWN ASSHOLE
SANCHO	WIFE'S BOYFRIEND, JODY
CHINGARON	FUCK THEM UP OR SCREWED HIM UP
AZTLAN	OCCUPIED MEXICO (CALIF., NEW MEXICO, TEXAS, ARIZONA, COLORADO, TREATY OF GUADALUPE)
CHANSA	CHANCE
PINCHIS	BASTARDS! CHICKEN-SHIT DUDES
FIRME	GOOD, STRAIGHT PERSON
GANGA	GANG
GAVACHOS	ANGLOS
HUEROS	ANGLOS

MEXICAN STREET SLANG

LA TROLA	THE MATCH
MECHA	MATCH
BORREGO	SMALL BAG
CHUPAR, DORAR	TO SMOKE (SUCK, COOK TO BROWN)
BLANCAS	WHITE
POLVO	DUST
HOMEBOY, HOMIE	ONE OF THE BOYS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD
RELAJE	SNITCH, TURNCOAT
RATA	RAT, SNITCH
PUTO SNIZZLE	SNITCH, INFORMANT
COMPS, COMPAS, COMPADRES	REFERS TO THE PERSON CHOSEN BY THE PARENTS OF A CHILD FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEING THAT CHILD'S GODFATHER, OR CO-FATHER
PLACA	NAME, PLAQUE
CACA	DRUGS, SHIT
MOSA, MOSCA	PEST, (FLY)
SABES QUE ESE?	YOU KNOW WHAT MAN?
PILDORAS, PASTILLAS	PILLS
PISTLAR	TO DRINK (REFERS TO ALCOHOL)
YA BASTA	ENOUGH (NOT SLANG)
TALCO	COCAINE, POWDER
MOTA, DURA, CONCENTRADA, ACHI (H)	HASHISH
HEROINA, CHIVA, CARGA	HEROIN
CARCEL, BOTE, TANQUE	JAIL
GRIFA, YESCA, MOTA, YIERBA, SACATE	MARIJUANA

MEXICAN STREET SLANG

HORALE	ALRIGHT, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
LAMBION	KISS ASS
LA RAZA	THE RACE
MAYATE, TINTO, CHANATE	BLACK PERSON
NADA	NOTHING
ORALE	IKAY, STOP FOOLING AROUND
PINTO	EX-CON
PISTO	BOOZE
PRIMO	COUSIN
PURO CACA/PEDO	PURE BULLSHIT
QUE GACHO	BUMMER, BAD SCENE, BAD EXPERIENCE
TORCIDO	TWISTED, TO BE ARRESTED, BUSTED
VENDIDOS	ONE WHO HAS SOLD OUT, A TURN COAT USUALLY APPLIED TO CHICANOS WORKING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
VETERANO	AN OLDER GUY WHO HAS "BEEN AROUND"
VIDA LOCA	CRAZY LIFE (SCENE ON TATOOS)
WACHA (r)	TO DIG, LOOK AT, WATCH OUT
YA STUVO	IT'S OVER WITH
CHUNTAROS, MOJADOS	REFERING TO MEXICAN NATIONALS IN U.S.
RIFA, RIFAN, RIFAMOS	RULE, WE RULE
SEMPRE	ALWAYS, FOREVER
TOTAL	ALL THE WAY
CON	WITH
POR VIDA	FOR LIFE
# 13	"M"
CONTROLAMOS	WE CONTROL
DEDO	TO FINGER SOMEONE

1%ers	The 1% symbol is derived from a statement by the American Motorcycle Association (AMA) that 99% of the country's motorcyclists belong to the AMA and are law-abiding individuals. The 1% symbol has thus become the mark of the outlaw bike rider and they display it on their colors, and many have it tattooed on their person.
13	Patch worn on an outlaw member's colors, symbolizing that the biker either smokes marijuana, deals in it, or has contacts for methamphetamine.
666	Patch worn on an outlaw member's colors, or tattoo, symbolizing the mark of Satan.
69	Patch worn on an outlaw member's colors, or tattoo, symbolizing that the wearer has committed cunnilingus or fellatio with witnesses present.
22	Having been in prison.
A.M.A.	American Motorcycle Association. It's composed of average people who like motorcycles and the companionship of club activity. They are seldom intentionally a problem to police and are usually willing to cooperate with law enforcement. According to the A.M.A., they constitute 99% of the nation's cyclists.
Angel Dust	Terminology for P.C.P.
Angels' Bible	Harley-Davidson motorcycle manual. Frequently used for their private weddings and torn up for divorce proceedings.
Ape-hangers	High rising handlebars on motorcycles. Derived from the fact that bikers dangle their arms over them in ape fashion.
A.F.F.A.	Angels Forever Forever Angels
A.F.F.L.	Angels Forever Forever Loaded
Back Pack	Full colors tattooed on member's back.
B.F.F.B.	Bandidos Forever Forever Brothers
B.F.F.P.	Brothers Forever Forever Pagan
Bible	Harley-Davidson repair manual
B.T.B.F.	Bikers Together Bikers Forever
Catwalk	Drive with front wheel off the ground. Also known as wheelie.
Chopper	Chopped or cut down motorcycle. All unnecessary equipment stripped with only the bare essentials left on the bike. Usually the front brake and fender removed, wheel fork extended forward and the handlebars set high.
Citizen	A cyclist who belongs to the A.M.A., not a member of the 1% club.
Class	To do something out of the ordinary, usually an act which is violent and/or shocking to the public.
Colors	The official uniform of all outlaw motorcycle gangs. The colors consist of a sleeveless levi or leather jacket, with club patch on the back, and various other patches, pins, and Nazi metals attached to the front. Colors belong to the club, are worn only by male members, and are always held sacred by outlaw gang members.
Crash Truck	A van, panel truck, or converted school bus that follows the motorcycle gangs runs, and picks up broken down bikes. Also known to carry the club's weapons, drugs, supplies, and camping gear. Usually driven by one of the females.
Cross	An emblem worn by 1%ers, either as an earring, patch or pin attached to the colors. White cross—Earned when a person digs open a grave, removes an article from the deceased with witnesses present, and wears it on his colors. Red cross—Earned by committing homosexual fellatio with witnesses present.

Cutie	A female picked up off the street and taken to the clubhouse or other place for a party. She is the victim of a gang bang, rape and beating. Later, she is released with threats on her life and family if she talks to police.
D.F.F.L.	Dope Forever Forever Loaded
Dresser	Large Harley-davidson motorcycle with custom trim, saddle bags; used in bike shows.
Eightball	Patch worn on colors, earned by committing homosexual sodomy with witnesses present.
Fash Truck	Same as crash truck. This term comes from Canada.
Fly Colors	To ride on a motorcycle wearing colors.
Free Rider	An individual who shares the same values and enjoys the same life-style as outlaw gang members but who prefers to keep a degree of freedom of choice by not formally belonging to one specific club.
F.T.W.	Standing for "Fuck the World," these initials are found on membership cards, as tattoos, and are patches or pins on colors.
Garbage Wagon	A stock motorcycle with standard parts intact, loaded with saddlebags and chrome, as distinct from a chopper.
Hardtail	A rigid motorcycle frame with no shock absorbing device on the rear.
Heat	Law enforcement officer, also known as The Man.
Hog	Harley-Davidson motorcycle.
Jap-Scrap	Japanese motorcycles or foreign made bikes.
Knucklehead	A type of Harley-Davidson engine manufactured prior to 1948, which was characterized by large nuts on the right side of engine above the cylinders. Appearance is somewhat similar to knuckles.
Legal Name	Most outlaw motorcycle club members have nicknames or club names which are called "Legal Names" by club members. They are also called "Street Names."
Loner	See "Free Rider."
Mama	A girl available to all club members, usually sexually.
M.C.	Patch on colors, meaning motorcycle club.
Nomad	They are members of a motorcycle gang and will wear the club's colors. The bottom rocker will read "Nomad." In some clubs they are the enforcers. They do not belong to any one chapter. He will attend club meetings and pay required dues to different chapters, depending on his travels.
O.F.F.O.	Outlaws Forever Forever Outlaws
Old Lady	Wife or steady girlfriend of a club member.
Originals	A member's first set of colors which are never to be cleaned.
Participate	To aid a member in a fight by ganging up on the opponent.
P.O.B.O.B.	Pissed Off Bastards of Bloomington—the original gang that later developed into the Hell's Angels.
P.P.D.S.P.E.- M.F.O.B.B.T.	"Pill Popping Dope Smoking Pussy Eating Mother Fuckin' Outlaw Brothers Bikin' Together" found on tattoos, colors, and business cards.
Probate	Club membership hopefuls, who ride with the gang during their probationary period. After this time a unanimous vote must be cast by the membership for acceptance, initiation, and awarding of colors.
Prospect	A prospective member.

Pull a Train	For a girl to have sexual intercourse with each man in the group, any way he would like it, one after another.
Run	A club sanctioned outing for a day, weekend, or week, to a certain location for a party, camping, or special event. Sometimes with other chapters and/or clubs.
Sheep	Same as "Mama."
Sissy Bars	Bars, often high bars, on the rear of a motorcycle used as a back-rest for a passenger.
Static	Trouble or harassment from law enforcement authorities or other members of motorcycle clubs.
Striker	A prospective member; term normally used by Canadian clubs.
Suck to the Bulls	Talk or act friendly towards policemen.
The Man	Police or Law Enforcement Officer
Turn Out	When all members come together in the case of an initiation for a new member, or for a girl to pull a train for the first time.
War Wagon	A vehicle used to transport the club's arsenal during an outing when trouble is expected from other clubs.
White Power Fist	Patch worn on colors which displays the gang's racial ideals and philosophies of White supremacy.
Wings	An emblem worn by 1%ers, as a pin or patch (cloth) attached to the colors. All wing earning must be witnessed. Black Wings—Earned when the wearer performs cunnilingus on a Black woman. Black on Red—Background wings—earned when the wearer performs cunnilingus on a menstruating Black woman. Brown Wings—Earned when the wearer performs oral sex with a woman's anus. Golden Wings—Earned when the wearer performs sexual relations with a woman during a gang splash of more than 15 persons. Green Wings—Earned when the wearer performs cunnilingus on a venereally diseased woman. Purple Wings—Earned when the wearer performs oral sex with a dead woman. Red Wings—Earned when the wearer performs cunnilingus on a menstruating White woman. White Wings—Earned when the wearer performs cunnilingus on a White woman. Yellow Wings—Earned when the wearer performs cunnilingus on a Asiatic or Chinese woman.

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