



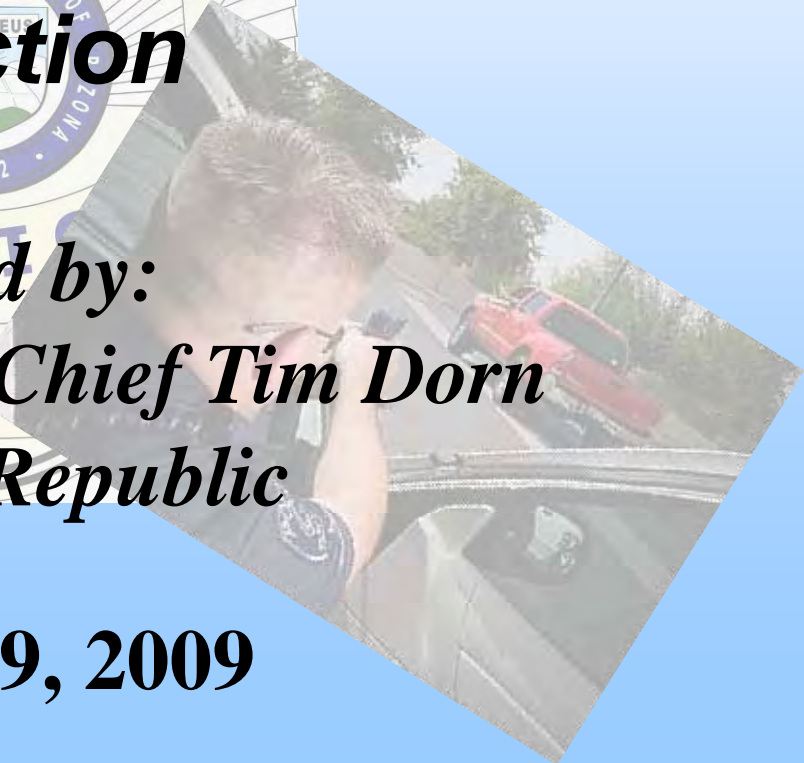
Gangs & Drugs
What Every Parent and Teacher
NEEDS TO KNOW

Gang Section

Presented by:

The Gilbert Police: Chief Tim Dorn
The Gilbert Republic

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Resources

Gilbert Police Department's
Youth and Adult Resources
(480)635-7701



<http://www.gilbertaz.gov/police/yar.cfm>



www.communitybridgesaz.org

Central City ARC	602-273-9999*
East Valley ARC	480-962-7711*
AZ Bridge to Recovery	480-649-1141*
	866-910-1141*
Admin/Prevention	480-831-7566
Journey – A New Beginning	480-962-7922
Center for Hope	480-461-1711
Center for Excellence	602-861-2255
Day Resource Center	602-393-9930
Steele Commons	602-258-3876

* Open 24 hours



Drug Slang

- 4:20
- “Vitamin R”
- “Bagging”
- “Stacking”
- “Ice”
- “Acid”
- “Sid”
- “Lucy”
- Bump
- “Smack”
- “Angel Dust”
- “Robo-tripping”
- “Hug Drug”
- “Grievous Bodily Harm”

Source: notMYkid.org



WHAT IS A GANG?

- An on – going formal or informal association of persons whos members or associates individually or collectively engage in the commission, or attempted commision, facilitation or sollicitation of any felony act and who has at least one individual who is a criminal street gang member.

ARS 13-105.7



WHAT IS A GANG?

- Gangs vary composition and activities.
- They are usually a group of juvenile and young adults who may or may not claim control of a certain “turf.”
 - Turf is described as the control of a physical territory, a criminal enterprise, or both.
 - A gang’s defense of their turf can lead to extreme violence.
 - Turf lines are normally drawn in the neighborhoods, but gang rivalries also have a devastating impact on schools and community.



WHAT IS A GANG?

- Most gang members advertise their membership by distinctive dress and behaviors
 - handkerchiefs and shoelaces of specific colors.
 - Specific jewelry, tattoos, jargon, and hand gestures.
 - They mark their territory and challenge other gangs with spray painted graffiti or gang symbols.
 - Their main concerns are to be recognized for their criminal activity and to establish a reputation.



Types of Gangs

- Social Gangs—
 - This group of youth who band together because they find their individual goals of social belonging can only be achieved through the gang system.
 - School cliques, “wanna be’s”, and posers who dress like gang members but may not necessarily be active in serious gang activity.
 - Often this group causes minor social problems in schools and can be recruited by larger gangs to support major school violence.
 - They do, however, prefer to remain outside the circle of hard-core involvement.
 - **Parents need to be aware that peer pressure recruitment is common in this group.**



Types of Gangs

- Delinquent Gangs-
 - This group is characterized by overt illegal behavior.
 - The fact that many members have had frequent police contact does not prevent them from wreaking havoc
 - The behavior encompasses graffiti, assaults on weaker, less experienced students, acts of defiance, vandalism, extortion, and drug dealing.



Types of Gangs

- Violent Gangs-
- This group has frequent, and more serious, police contact and is more dangerous on school campuses.
- Members are often several years behind in school, see no relevance in what is being taught and thus feel justified in disrupting the learning process.
- They are very dangerous.



Types of Gangs

- Retreatist Gangs-
 - The groups are predominantly white and characterized as a working class counter-movement.
 - They are a mix of racial and religious bigotry that leads to violence. They have been linked with white supremacist and neo-Nazi groups.



Types of Gangs

- Retreatist Gangs-
 - They have retreated from anything mainstream and are involved in anti socially motivated crimes.
 - Members of these groups have failed socially and feel justified in hating society in general, as well as racial and religious groups in particular.
 - This is a dangerous group because they can easily incite racial and social dissension on a broad scale.



Types of Gangs

- Cult Gangs-
 - Cult gangs have been a fact of life in the 1990s.
 - All cults have several common characteristics;
 - charismatic leaders,
 - recruiting of vulnerable people,
 - anti social behavior and /or criminal behavior.



Types of Gangs

- Cult Gangs-
 - Satanic cults date back to 354 A.D.
 - » Drugs and drug usage are prevalent.
 - » Members are taught not to listen to people who have different views.
 - » It is important to watch for satanic symbols in graffiti.
 - » Graffiti marks what the ritual is to be about, location, and other important information for cult members.



Types of Gangs

- Taggers and Tagger Crews—
 - Tagger is a term used to describe a person who creates graffiti.
 - Through the use of spray paint, markers, stickers or other items.



Types of Gangs

- Taggers and Tagger Crews=
 - A group of taggers is referred to as a Tagger Crew.
 - Tagger Crews and the graffiti they produce have increased in most communities over the past few years.
 - Tagger crews use public places to display their graffiti in an attempt to make a name for themselves among their peers.
 - Taggers also will practice their graffiti in notebooks and their bedrooms.



Types of Gangs

- Taggers and Tagger Crews—
 - A group of taggers is referred to as a Tagger Crew.
 - Parents are encouraged to check their child's room and any notebooks for "practice" graffiti.
 - Graffiti can look similar to "doodling" however most graffiti will have a name or letters indicating the name of the tagger crew.



Types of Gangs

- None of the above descriptions are set in stone.
- Youth can move in and out of these gangs and can come from different backgrounds than are mentioned above.



Tagger Graffiti VS Gang Graffiti

- Graffiti is not exclusive to tagger crews, and is common with other gangs as well.
- Tagger graffiti is characterized by multiple colors and designs
- Gang graffiti is usually a single color without styles or designs



Tagger Graffiti



Taggers Tag for Respect and Notoriety

Notice the Name(s)



Gang Graffiti



Gang Graffiti claims territory, what gangs are in what area as well as allies and rivals

Gang graffiti also creates notoriety and attention



Gang Graffiti



It claims territory, what gangs are in what area as well as allies and rivals





Gang Graffiti

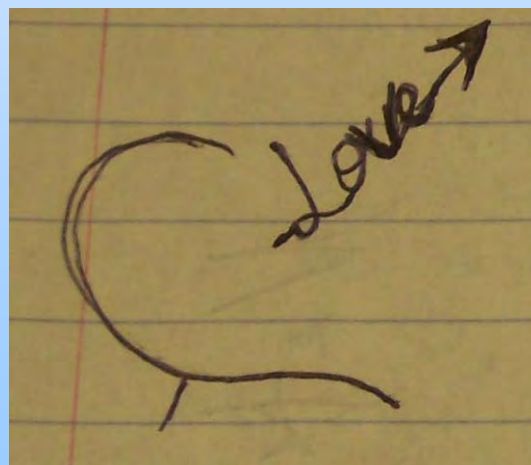
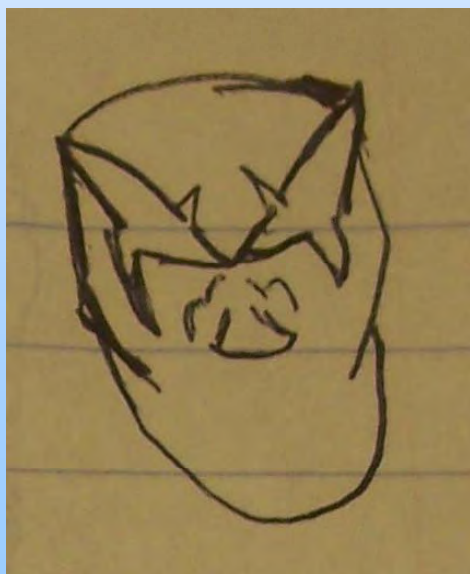
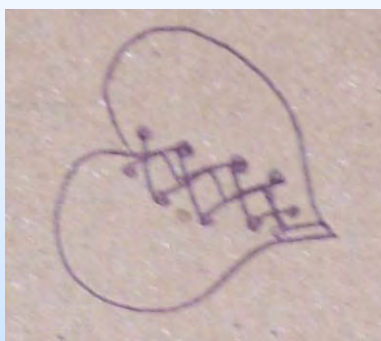


It claims territory, what gangs are in what area as well as allies and rivals



Doodling

Some is done
out of boredom





Doodling



**Done to Display Their Artwork
Rarely Signed or Claimed**





Doodling



- **Most of the time the “art” is done with spray paint**
- **Is it ART or DAMAGE?**
- **Is it your property or are you driving by ?**



Why Kids Join Gangs

- To gain a sense of belonging and attachment
- To escape intolerable situations at home
- To emulate admired persons (Siblings, friends)
- Forced into membership
- To become “Rich and Powerful”



Why Kids Join Gangs

- To “Get back” at society
- To experience adventure and excitement
- To be “Somebody” or gain respect
- Environmental survival



Early Warning Signs of Gang Activity

- Poor Progress or achievement in school
- Low self-esteem
- Truancy from school
- Lack of hobbies or something to do with leisure time
- Perception of little caring/acceptance on the part of school staff
- Early aggressive/ angry behavior



Early Warning Signs of Gang Activity

- Withdraws from family or friends
- Associates with undesirables
- Stays out later than usual
- Develops major attitude problems with parents, teachers or those in authority
- Liberal or favorable attitude toward gangs
- Wants to buy excessive amounts of red or blue clothing



Early Warning Signs of Gang Activity

- Resentfulness to authority
- Frequent negative contacts with police
- Drawing of gang insignias or graffiti
- Dress in traditional gang style clothing (Specific colors, sagging baggy clothes)
- Uses hand signs
- Wants to wear work boots, shaved head, wears suspenders of specific color



Questions to ask yourself:

- Has my child shown recent change or poor progress or achievement in school?
- Does my child have low self-esteem?
- Is my child truant from school?
- Does my child have changes of interest in hobbies?
- Does my child have difficulty finding something to do or have trouble with leisure time (too much)?
- Has my child's sleeping habits changed?



Questions to ask yourself:

- Has my child withdrawn from family or friends?
- Does my child associate with undesirable kids?
- Has my child began to stay out later than usual?
- Has my child developed major attitude problems with parents, teachers or those in authority?
- Does my child have a liberal or favorable attitude toward drugs and drug use?
- Does my child have the perception that there is little caring or acceptance on the part of school staff?
- Is my child acting aggressive or angry behavior?³³



Suggestions For Parents

- Communicate openly with your children and their friends about drugs and drug awareness
- Communicate with parents of your child's friends
- Establish and enforce home rules
- Participate in family activities
- Involve children in sports, scouts, clubs, dance, etc.
- Spend quality time with your children
- Start neighborhood block watches and block parties
- Share your values and beliefs with your children to help them establish their own



Suggestions for Parents

- Discourage your children from hanging around with gang members
- Occupy your children's free time
- Develop good communications with your children
- Spend time with your children
- Do not buy or allow your children to dress in gang style clothing



Suggestions for Parents

- Set limits for your children and enforce those limits
- Do not allow your children to stay out late and spend a lot of unsupervised time away from home
- Do not allow your children to write or practice gang names, symbols, or other gang graffiti
- Know your child's friends and communicate with their parents