



JERSEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY RELATION UNIT

PARENTS TIPS ON GANGS



The following identifiers are for your use as a guideline only. Exercise caution in assuming that your child is involved in gang activity if one or more of the signs are present.

WARNING SIGNS

You should be concerned if your child:

Admits to gang involvement.

Is obsessed with one particular color of clothing or shows a desire for a particular logo.

Wears excessive jewelry with distinctive designs and may wear it only on either the left or right side of their body.

Is obsessed with gangster-influenced music, videos and movies to the point of imitation.

Withdraws from family with an accompanying change in demeanor.

Associates with undesirables and breaks parental rules consistently.

Develops an unusual desire for privacy and secrecy and may completely rearrange living quarters to create more privacy.

Uses hands signs with friends and practices them at home.

Physical injury (such as being beaten) and then child lies about the events surrounding the injury.

ADVISE YOUR CHILDREN THEY SHOULD NOT:

Associate with gang members or “wannabe-gonnabe” gang members.

Identify or communicate with gangs.

Hang out near or where gang congregate.

Approach strangers in cars who appear to want information.

Wear gang-related clothing such as BK: British Knights – a.k.a. Blood Killer, in high crime areas.

Attend parties or social event sponsored by gangs or their associates.

Take part in any graffiti activity or hang around where graffiti is present.

Explore web sites frequently monitored by gang members.

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Impress upon your child the importance of an education.
- Spend quality time with your children.
- Get involved with your child’s school activities.
- Establish rules, set limits and be consistent, firm and fair punishment.
- Respect your child’s feeling and help them develop self-esteem.
- Watch closely the negative influences.
- Improve your own self-esteem, so your child can model themselves after the most important role model YOU.