



Gang Awareness Badge



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada



Royal Canadian
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale
du Canada



Topics

- What is a gang?
- What you need to do to earn your badge





What Is a Gang?

- A gang is a group of 3 or more people that come together for the purposes of doing crime
- Gangs mark their “territory” with graffiti
- Gang members often wear items of clothing to show they belong to a certain gang





Who Joins Gangs?

- Boys and Girls
- All races and ethnic origins
- Not restricted to any one socio-economic group (Poor vs. Rich)
- Often people looking for a “second” family
- May have relatives in a gang
- Often dealing with drug and/or alcohol problems





Why would someone want to join a gang?

- To feel they belong to a group
- Peer pressure
- Boredom
- Rebel against parents
- For friendship
- For money, food or shelter





How gangs recruit members

- Look for people at schools or at common hangouts such as parks or malls
- Invite you to hang out with them
- Make you feel important and wanted
- They may take you with them and commit a crime to see your reaction





Signs of Gang Involvement





What You Might See...

- Bandanas
- Ball hats with logos or writing
- Specific styles of dress or clothing
- Tattoos
- Hand signs
- Weapons
- Graffiti





Hats & Bandanas



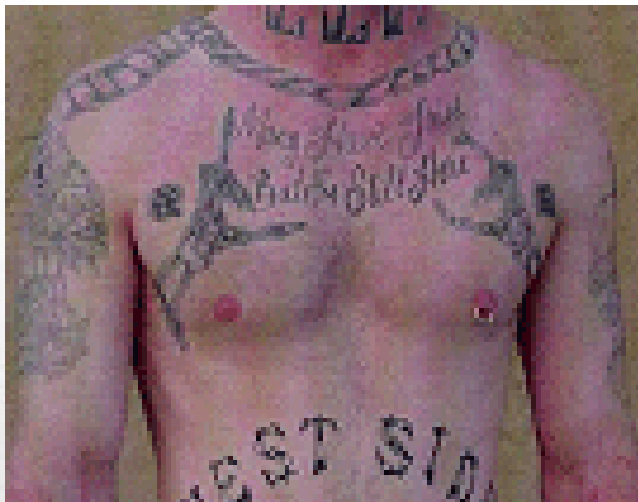


Clothing





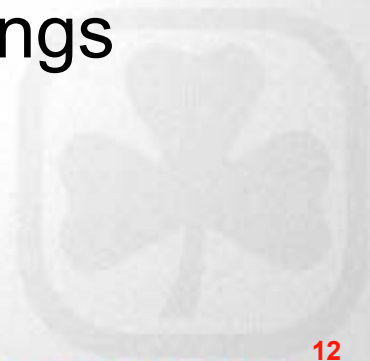
Tattoos





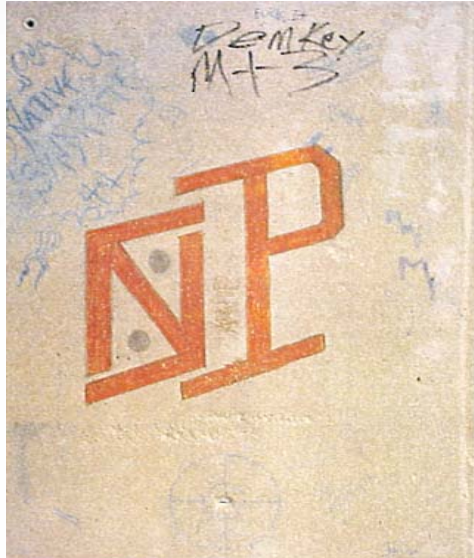
Graffiti

- Are often in block letters
- Often contain gang name
- Often in gang color
- May contain list of nicknames
- May be found in areas where gang activity is common
- May be crossed out by rival gangs





Graffiti



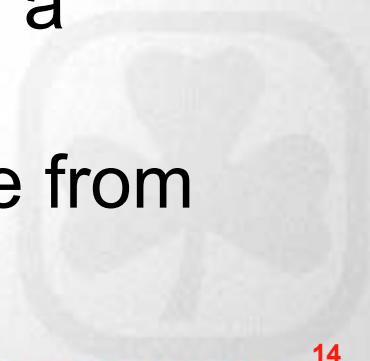


Choices (Activity)

- There are numerous choices in life. One is whether to be in a gang or not.

Break into groups and come up with answers to the following two questions:

- What are some other alternatives you can choose other than being in a gang?
- What would keep young people from joining a gang?





The Gang Awareness Badge

- Promote awareness of gangs and why they are bad.
- Promote good activities that groups can do to help their community.





What You Must Do...

- Remove (as a group) graffiti from a building or object in your community
- OR as a group, paint a park bench
- OR as a group, clean up a playground
- OR as a group do a skit, movie, play on a gang related theme (i.e. why gangs are bad)





Safety First!

- Graffiti removal and playground clean up must be supervised by a police officer.
- Get permission from the property owner before doing anything.





Any Questions?



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