Violence is in every community, whether it’s bullying, fighting, gang related shootings or even getting pushed to the ground. These are all considered as violence, and it affects each community differently. Like decision making and peer pressure.

Violence has affected my life a lot. I was raised in Boston knowing that violence is something that I’d see growing up, whether it’s in school or the outside world. As the violence and shooting rates raised, I wasn’t able to hang out with my friends very late like I used to, knowing that certain thing could happen. Even in school things have changed. Mainly in the kids, if you call someone a name, push them accidentally, or even have an argument with a friend then they could be able to fight you or even start bullying you. Violence has also affected my life because it took the life of one of my family members. It took my cousin Rogerson’s life; he was a good person and never was involved in gangs. He just seemed to be at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Violence in youth can be as simple as bullying. But now, bullying has grown to become a very serious crime in Massachusetts. To stop bullying I’d tell a teacher or stand up for the victim because they are lonely and who knows what could be going on through the victims mind. Youth violence can also mean that young teens could be getting into gangs or even starting trouble. One thing I’d do to avoid them from doing this is set up a program in schools where they tell you the dangers or gangs and how they are negatively affecting their own community and setting a bad example for others. Violence in youth happens probably because kids need to find a way of letting go anger or because they have different, much more difficult lifestyle than other kids. I understand where they are coming from but I believe there are other ways of expressing or letting go, otherwise violence.