How has violence affected my life? Well violence affects my life because in my opinion violence happens because people don't have answers. Sometimes, I think people in desperate situations feel they don't have anywhere to turn for help and they give up. I think people who can't find the answer turn to violence in frustration. My second grade teacher, Mrs. Murphy, once said, "Violence is not the answer. Getting help is." I agree. As a teenager I know that we need to have a sense of identity and we need attention. It could be that people who feel lost and forgotten may turn to violence. I heard on TV that "A child will get the attention he or she needs, be it good or bad attention." If a kid feels that no one cares about him and he's not getting the attention he needs, he may do stupid things, not really thinking of the consequences until it's too late. And drugs can be a dangerous part of violence because they create a false sense of reality. Most teenagers say that they turned to drugs because it made them forget about problems for which they did not have answers.

If I have a friend who needs help or a shoulder to lean on, then I need to be there. If a friend tells me that she is going to commit a crime or an act of violence, then I should try to talk her out of it and see that she gets help. I should try to help her get the answers she seeks and show her that I care. The biggest way that we can all help is by talking to our friends about how violence affects us. Then they can tell their friends and soon the whole world will be talking about how violence affects us all.

What are the causes of youth violence? There are many different causes of youth violence. The main ones being violence on television, movies, video games, substance abuse, poverty, and witnessing violence in the home and surrounding areas. I heard in UK and around the world that organizations and communities are looking at how they can give support to young people by providing a range of programs and services. America can and should do the same.

What would I do about youth violence? I would tell somebody about it and report it to the government. I would tell the police about it to see what they could do about it. I would volunteer anywhere I can to help and so should all of us who care about making our community a better place.