Do you see a lot of violence? Do you see it around your neighborhood? Well let me tell you what I see in my neighborhood. In my neighborhood, a lot of youngsters like to be cool and have their pants sagging down and start fights. Youngsters like to have weapons and rob stores when they could have a great life. These kids should be more educated and in school. They should be studying for tests and for the MCAS instead of wasting time stealing other people’s education. They should not be wasting time sitting there when they could be in college. That is what happens in my neighborhood.

Violence affects me because my mom won’t let me walk anywhere. I can’t even walk in my own neighborhood because of guns and violence. It affects me because we are losing important people in our lives. I want to be able to go places without being shot or something. Kids should be able to walk to the playground without people being around and watching them. They should be able to have fun without being scared or frightened because of youngsters doing things they shouldn’t be doing. I want to be able to walk around just looking outside but I can’t because of youngsters doing the most unpredictable things. That is what causes youth violence.

What causes youth violence is kids watching rated R movies with cursing and guns and people being killed. Kids try to copy what they see people doing out on the streets and in the movies. Their little brother or sister watches them and then their little brothers or sisters will grow up into something they are not. I am thirteen and I do things, not bad things, but good things so I can be rewarded. I would like to see good people get rewarded for something they did and not see people go to jail. That is what causes youth violence.

What we can do for youngsters ages 13-18 is have them go to jail and see what it feels like to be a prisoner to help them not become a criminal. These youngsters should be ready for college and be ready to get a job and have maybe a wife and kids. When they have kids they can tell them what happens to people on the streets and tell them to stay away for them because they are a bad influence. That is what I would tell my kids if I had some. That is what I think we should do for youngsters out on the streets!