This act of violence was when my dad almost got killed. He was in Haiti at the time and he was coming home from work. He was driving home and there was a lot of traffic around the area. There were these people in a gang that decided to take advantage of that opportunity and each of them went around one side of his car and pulled out guns on him. They motioned him to get out of the car and he did as they said. They told him to give them anything he had in his pockets and he ended up giving them one Sim card and he had to give them a phone because the Sim card would not have come out of that one, the money for the rent of the house we live in now and almost his life. Later that day he called my house and he told my mom the whole story about what happened to him, she started crying.

My mom was devastated when she heard the story from my dad. She didn’t think anything like that could ever happen to ever happen to any of us in the family. Losing someone like that to her could change her life forever. My brother felt almost the same way except he did not talk to anyone and never addressed it to anyone. He just moved on and never thought about it. He knows that if he keeps thinking about it, it will probably make him go crazy since he is so close to him. My mom was crying about for a whole week or so. That really shows that she has a lot of care for my dad since she cried about it. I have never seen my mom cry about something like that before and she just kept asking herself what she would do if something bad was to happen to anyone else. She has a lot of care for our family and herself.

The first time my mom told me about it, I didn’t have any emotions toward it. I did not know what my mom was talking about when she said it, only after a little bit did I realized that my dad almost got killed. I realized that something like this can happen to anyone in my family especially me because I am the youngest and my mom still has to take care of me for a little while longer until I grow up enough to have a job and take care of myself and my new family in the near future. All I can do now think about the ways you can solve these problems.

How you handle these acts of violence is the most difficult part. Sometimes you don’t know who the person is that is doing the act of violence and what they are actually going after. If what they are going after is something major for example, needing money to help pay bills. You
have to understand what the person’s situation may be. Like in the book *To Kill a Mockingbird* by *Harper Lee Atticus*, Atticus says "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view - until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." This ties in with what I wanted to say. Also you have to consider how heavy the circumstances are. For example if the person is just stealing candy or minor things. I’m not saying you can just let anyone get away with stealing things like these, but the charges shouldn’t be tough on them and that person doesn’t have to deal a lot of time in prison. We can set up programs to teach these people that what they are doing is bad and they shouldn’t continue doing them if they don’t want to be in prison. After, if they have changed there should be someone to follow-up on them so that they know someone is there for them, helping get through life and getting jobs and helping their family. I believe that the only reason these things happens is that the people don’t have anyone helping them, and these programs will help them.