Do the right thing: Youth Violence

Violence affected my life a few years ago. I lived in a community where the poverty level was high. Local criminals acted as role models for the youth. The adults recruited boys as young as thirteen from gangs or from those who wanted to join, provided them with guns. Sometimes I can’t go to sleep remembering how kids die by a shooting. I don’t go outside as much as I use too because a shooting happen right down the street. Ever since the shooting I’ve been careful where I go and if I’m alone. Violence affected my life a lot. Now I stay more indoors than outdoors. Sometimes I stay away from kids when they get angry because I get scared that they might hurt someone. Gangs have changed our society, and neighborhoods that once were safe are now terrorize. Violence has escalated to a point that walking to the corner store is not even safe. When I ask my parents to go outside they say no because they don’t want anything bad to happen to me.

Some causes of youth violence start with criminal intent, the willed or conscious desire to commit an act that violates the law. For example: fighting or even a simple game can lead to a disastrous situation. A broken home structure leads to delinquency in the youth. Many youth commit homicides for example: shooting a person not thinking of the consequences, thinking that they won’t kill anyone but it does. Youth learn motives and techniques for breaking the law from many sources, including the general culture, the community, the peer group, the media, and pornography. Learning about crime is easier when there are close ties and frequent interaction among people of different ages within a community where breaking the law is common. Interaction between teenagers and adult criminals, as well as between teenage gang members and juvenile nonmembers, provides opportunities to engage in criminal activities under supervision of more experienced offenders. The poverty level in some neighborhoods are a factor in youth violence which also gets associated with drug use, drug distribution, and violence. Many youth run away each year because of violence in their own home. Sometimes it’s by bullying or by the internet. Sometimes some kids feel lonely and depressed and they try to hurt them self’s.
Their parents might say I hate you to his or her child and the child tries to hurt themselves. Some might take drugs or commit suicide.

I will reduce violence by not playing fighting with my friends. Choosing my friends carefully and always having a positive attitude. Learning to achieve in school academically. Tell my friends not to go outside that much to have a strong bond with their parents. Youth are less likely to violate the law if their parents have a close relationship with them. Tell my friends to say no to drugs. Tell my friends to stay less off the internet. Not to bully others because you don’t know what he or she is going through. Always respect one another. Talk to my friends to be careful while there on the street.