Do the Right Thing

Youth violence has grown a lot in the past few years. It is caused by people who may not know that violence is not a good thing. Youth violence causes people to become worried, scared, nervous and insecure. It can physically and mentally hurt people. In the past, youth violence has caused people to get badly hurt or die. Nobody should ever participate in youth violence. At some time in our life youth violence affects us all in some way. It has not affected me very much physically, youth violence can be is caused by many feeling and situations and everyone should try to stop youth violence.

How has violence affected my life?

Fortunately, violence has not affected my life very much. But, it has made me more cautious. It has also made me see that I am very lucky to be safe. I have not physically experienced much violence but have heard about many violent incidents and seen some violence on T.V. There is violence all around me every day. I am fortunate enough to be safe from this all the time. I don’t like to see violence; when I do it makes me sad and sometimes causes me to worry. Violence shows me that the world we live in is changing a lot. It also shows me that people around the world are becoming less and less peaceful all the time. And any kind of violence is frightening.

What are the causes of youth violence?

Youth violence can be caused by a lot of things, such as jealousy, embarrassment, fear, poverty, loneliness, and other situations. For example, if someone is jealous of another person then he might try to bully that person to make that person feel worse and he feel better. Or maybe somebody is embarrassed and is being teased or bullied then she might try to fight back. If a young person is scared he will want to fight back against what is frightening him. And, if that is another human then the child may start to fight that person. Youth may also fight someone if a person they are scared of forces them to. If a young person lives in poverty and has
no food or money at the time she might fight someone to get the kids money from them and buy themselves some food.

While some youth violence is caused by what I listed above some youth violence may occur if kids are lonely and want friends. They may try to be strong and get in fights for "friends". Many kids will start fights if they want to be popular or if they want attention. For example, if you are strong and can beat up anyone you want then people may think you are cool and want to hang out with you. Many feelings or situations can cause kids to start to fight and become involved in youth violence. But most people don't fight for just any reason. Whatever the reason for youth violence, we should all try to stop it.

Kids may also start youth violence if they do not like the situation they are in. For example, if two people who do not get along very well are at the same table, they may start to fight. Some kids also start fights at school to get out of class.

**What can I do about youth violence?**

Youth violence can and should be stopped. If you ever see someone being violent then you should stand up against them and tell them to stop. If you are being hurt, you should seek support or advice from an adult that you trust. Explain the situation to the adult, and let them help you handle what you experienced or witnessed. One thing that I can do to stop youth violence is I can tell people that violence is not acceptable. I can try to convince my peers not to offend or hurt each other. The more people being nonviolent, the better everyone will feel. I can be nonviolent and be a role model for other people and encourage others to be role models.

A final thing that you or I can do is tell teachers or adults if someone you know is being hurt. If we all work together to stop youth violence, it can be stopped. We cannot wait for someone else to stop youth violence, because we do not know if or when they will stop youth violence.