Violence has affected my life before when I was in another school. It was where I lived, bullying, and gangs. The school I went to wasn’t a good school. The bullying in which I had experience in when I was in kindergarten was a very big issue which wasn’t taken very seriously when I was much younger. Where I lived was pretty bad too. There were always shootings and I saw gangs and men carrying guns. As I entered my building they stared at my mom and I. gangs were very popular in my life from kindergarten to 2nd grade.

Even the older kids in my school had gangs. In the cafeteria the older kids would bully the younger kids stealing their lunches and pushing them. Kids would often swear at teachers and
steal things from their desks. Violence did affect my life in specific ways but everything is much better now that I moved and switched schools. When I was younger I used to see this and think it was okay until I saw the consequences.

Causes of youth violence are bullying, peer pressure, and friends (who you hang out with). Bullying is very serious it’s when your feelings get the best of you. The time when you’re scared the most when you feel like you have no power. Bullies get the satisfaction maybe because at home they are being ignored or abused. They want to feel like the bigger person. Being bullied at home can affect your life outside. There are the victims who just feel hopeless and confused, and the bully feels
great and empowered. The victims don’t know what goes on in another person’s life because a kid who makes it seem like they have it all may not have as much as everyone thinks. Another factor is your friends. Who you hang out with is a big impact on you. If you hang out with someone well behaved and kind chances are you will be that type of person too. If you hang out with someone mean and misbehaved you will soon start acting that way. It’s being under the influence. Influence is a big thing as you begin to grow and your mind is maturing. There are certain periods of time where you feel untouchable like nothing in this world can hurt you, but there are other times where you feel as though you’re weak and vulnerable. Hanging out with people who are connected with gangs isn’t a very smart choice. Chose your friends carefully and make good decisions. Peer
pressure can be a pretty serious cause. Especially because most of the time kids between the ages of 12 to 18 don’t tell others how they feel that’s why it’s something to worry about. Anyone can face the day with a smile and hide their feelings. Peer pressure is when you’re feeling like people count on you or rely on you or expect too much from you. This can drive some people up the wall. It’s important to ask yourself is this making me happy or am I just trying to please others? Peer pressure can easily pin you down and make you feel like you need to be Ms. or Mr. Perfect.

A way I can stop youth violence is to start with myself. I can talk to others about how it affects the community and the people around. I know that I have to behave and earn the things I
want. Starting with my community first is a good step before going big. Being kind to the people around me and being a good influence on others. The way kids are today will affect the future greatly because we are the future.