"Do the write thing" essay

by Jennifer Williamson

Joey was a young boy who had a problem with youth violence. If you said anything sort of rude or mean to him, he would run at you with a knife or gun. You had to be careful when you hung out with him. Violence affected his life because he had to have therapy in order to help calm him down. He never had any friends because of this. His parents were affected too because they had to deal with him and his craziness. His teachers had trouble with this also because it was very hard to teach him things if he just gets upset and out of control.

Some people just made him want to get violent. One day his parents took him to a hospital. They walked in and said “Help my son. He gets way too violent and no one can stop him.” The doctors thought it over and decided to have a talk about the causes of youth violence to see if any of them could be a possibility. Joey went to reach into his pocket for a knife but luckily both his parents stopped him and calmed him down.

The list the doctors gave Joey’s parents was long. Some things included were: lack of money, guilt, alcohol/addiction, drugs, angry/depressed, self-esteem, where you live, and peer pressure. Joey and his parents thought it over and thought that maybe his problem was he had very low self-esteem. They thought maybe he wasn’t very confident in himself. Which might have been cause in his violence. He never had a good feeling about himself and they thought that was really the only possible answer.

Joey and his parents wanted him to improve his self-esteem, so they asked the doctors about ways to improve it. The doctors recommended he get involved with daily activities to interact with
people his age. They decided to do track because Joey also needed to get in shape. His parents thought, as long as long as no one is mean or rude to him they were good. They went the first day and tried it out. It mostly worked because he didn’t threaten to kill anyone all day. He almost did but his parents held him back and he calmed down. But towards the end he was getting tempted to become violent. Joey continued to participate in track for the next week and it seemed to work. His parents were relived and Joey was sort of too. He felt calmer and relaxed without violence affecting his life.

This story makes me think one way people are violent is because of self-esteem. Other people should make the violent person feel better about them self. If a person is violent and self-esteem does not appear to be the problem, they should try and diagnose the problem right away. That will help stop the violence from happening. This story also helps me understand people are violent for a reason. One way to help people who are affected by violence is to help them by figuring out why they become crazy and out of control. I will try my hardest never to be violent because I learned that violence does not only affect your life but also the people around you too.

Note: this story is fiction; none of this material is real. I made everything up; expect the last paragraph which is my opinion.