YOUTH VIOLENCE
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There are causes for youth violence. Some may be peer pressure, family problems, or even a mental illness. Of course there are more, but these are just some of them. Peer pressure is when your friends, or maybe even family push you to do something that you don’t want to do. You might be pressured into joining a gang and when you’re in the gang, they could have you do something violent like fighting, stealing or using guns. Family problems can cause youth violence because some children witness domestic violence (domestic violence is when a father is abusing the mother and vice versa). Also, if a child lives with his/her parents who use drugs or drink alcohol, they may be violent because they are angry their parents don’t tell them that it’s wrong. If you have a mental illness, you may not be able to control your violence at all. You might not even know you are being violent. You may know it too, but you got so frustrated that you couldn’t help it.
Youth violence has affected my life based on where I live. Youth violence makes me more aware when I am outside. I make sure that my surroundings are safe. I pay attention to to see if any strangers are around and if there is fighting or yelling, I go home. Once I’ve heard about a hostage of a teenager, down near Newtown, which is in Charlestown, MA. Some of the teenagers in Charlestown even do drugs, smoke or even drink alcohol. This can lead to fights, and I mean like swear fights and maybe even fist fights. I’ve also heard about a man who would walk around Charlestown and turn people’s house door knobs to try to rob them. All of the shootings in Boston, too. This hasn’t made me violent at all. This hasn’t increased my violence or even decreased it. I don’t follow other people. I lead people.

The things I can do to stop or reduce youth violence is to be less violent. This can help because people will see that less and less people aren’t being violent so it encourages them to stop being violent. I can also tell other people like my friends, family, classmates or even my very own teachers. These people can tell their friends and family, too. This can now create a chain. People can also stop having bad attitudes because this
can start word fights and fist fights, too. That is another example of youth violence. Another way I can stop or even reduce violence is to not take violence part in any violent activities like wrestling. My friends, family, classmates and other kids in my entire school can help make posters to put up in school and community places. Community places would include other local schools, clubhouses, churches and many more.

I think youth violence affects most people’s lives. I think this because everyone has seen violence whether the violence was in a movie, video game or even in their neighborhood. These are the causes of youth violence, how it affects my life, and what I can do to stop it.