## **Ashley Le Conte**

## **How Has Violence Affected My Life?**

Roxbury

Red Sirens, blue sirens

One after another

**BOOM!** Gun shot

**BOOM!** Another one

Kids running, neighbors screaming, mom crying

Found on the floor a boy lying

Beaten to death with blood on the floor

Dogs with barking and running

Heads out the window with fear and tears

"Get on your knees!" Police would yell

Left to right hands cuffed and cars leaving

The next day everyone talking about it

Asking me if I heard or seen any of it

Walking to the bus stop with my friends

A group of people coming up

My heart is pumping like crazy

Giving us a dirty look.

I knew something was going to happen.

And I had to watch out for it

For any other child this would be unnormal

But this is normal for me

## **Causes of Youth Violence:**

Pitch black outside, clear white moon
Mom yelling, Dad yelling.
Arguing as always and he's tired of it
Years pass and he's a grown man in the street
Dropped out of school and no college
Wants his mom and dad but can't see them
Now he's married and same thing again
He's yelling, his wife is yelling
Kids are crying and screaming "stop"
It's an over and over thing for them

Just in a few years they will be doing the same.

## What can I do about youth violence?

If it was me I would be probably scared
Scared to avoid, scared to leave
Never know what will be coming if I do
You know it's right but you then think it's wrong
"what if they want to rob a bank?"
"What if they want to shoot someone?"
"Or what if they want me to fight someone?"

Thinking what ifs when may happen Scared like crazy and sweating like crazy "Just tell them!" Telling myself to do it Everyone is getting ready to leave I'm confused and don't know what to do "Go where" My heart is beating really fast "You're going to fight that kid" My "what if" came true and I want to avoid Meeting up face to face she's ready to fight Everyone is cheering for me Strangers are calling the police I get ready to punch but I stop I turn around "I can't do this. I'm out." I am proud of myself and I just walk away