Teen violence has affected my life and so many others because of the choices we make. I think if we come together as a community and try to put an end to teen violence, maybe it would bring the numbers down. It's not going to be easy but we could try. Teen violence is happening everyday involving money, gangs, fighting, bullying etc. I think everybody has had an experience with violence or teen violence. Whether it's in your home, your school, or your neighborhood it's violence. I think if more schools bring up teen violence and make sure every student is loved and okay that could save one student from joining a gang because they feel nobody loves them and save one life. Like if your young and watching people cut at home fight or watch violent things, you're most likely to get influenced and try to copy what they are doing. On the other hand, experiences is not just being involved, it could be you seeing someone get bullied or you watching fights that's violence. I've experienced violence, example: When I was walking to school, everybody was in the back, so me and my friends went to go see what was going on. And there was a fight. I was wrong but next time I'll try to speak up. Teen violence has affected the way I live and I'm going to give my thoughts and opinions on what causes youth violence and what can I do to reduce teen violence.

First, teen violence has affected my life in millions of ways. The gangs, the fighting, the guns, bullying all of these bring fear to my life on a everyday basis. What I choose to wear, yeah! puts my life in danger. And you might be saying how does wearing colors or clothing put my life in danger? Well one day my friend laid on her blue beret, because it matched her outfit. When we went into stop & shop a man threatened us, and pulled his shirt up with a gun, smoke, and he said be aren't feeling our color, because blue stands for cool. And I guess he was going to hurt us there. So we told him that we just
like the colors. Ste! my point is made clearly. The violence in gangs have gone to the point where we can't even wear the colors we like without being stopped by a gang member if we aren't wearing something. Violence has affected my life by the choices I make. So if I choose to hang out with the wrong crew or person I should be ready for the bad outcome. And if I hang out with the right crew, people I would be ready and happy for the good consequences. Because I made a good choice.

With violence in my mind, sometimes people wonder why I care some of the things that cause violence. I think I mention before gangs, fighting, trash talking, drugs, money, bullying, and not having positive role figures in young boys' lives. I think when people join gangs, most of the times they don't have role figures in their lives or if they do the men are not positive. And they might not feel loved at home or have nobody to look up to. So some teens turn to gangs because they feel like their family and look up to the gang members. On other times teens might turn to drugs and just ruin their whole life.

And fighting, wow! That's a big thing in high school. Like fighting is mostly common with gangs. If you talk you get your stuff sucked I guess. That's what most teens say when or before fighting.

I as an individual could reduce youth violence in our community by being a role model to young and even sometimes older kids. Maybe me listening, being respectful and kind they would not turn to bad things. A way that I could reduce violence when seeing someone getting bullied, I would help them stand up to the bully, because you never know that could be one life you save from committing suicide because of bullying. I could also make like a group of kids and have kids stand up to to the violence, like kids having trouble could have somebody to talk to without any violence. I think people should go into bad, bad neighborhoods and try to help. Because I'm sure there are
Young kids about 4 to 10 years old being influenced the wrong way, and this needs to stop. Teen violence numbers are too high. =/

In conclusion on teen violence, I've given my reasons and some unfair opinions, and looking forward, I hope teen violence numbers would drop and teens would stop and think before they do something. To look in time on the consequences. As a teenager myself, I would try to reduce teen violence by being a role model, looking out for not only I, but my classmates and others, making the right choices and try to make a difference. Teen violence has affected my life and many others, and we need to stop the violence. If more schools talk about teen violence to their students at younger ages, teen violence population will go down. Teen violence needs to stop! N.O.W!! By we need to change.