Two years ago my cousin got killed in front of my eyes. My whole family and I were celebrating “EL dia de los Santos.” Where I used to live my town used to have problems with other towns. Some people that our town didn’t get along with were there. If they see us they could kill us or start problems. My cousin and I started to walk around and one of them seen me. I told my cousin that one of them seen me, but he didn’t pay attention at all. When he took me to the bathroom and I finished I hadn’t seen him so I went to look for him all over the street. When I finally found him a man was taking out a gun and I screamed no and my cousin turned around and there he got shot 2 times in the stomach and fell to the floor. This experience made me feel dangerous and also felt desperate. The reason why I felt dangerous is because I felt that I was going to get killed too. Also I felt unsafe. The reason why I felt desperate was because he was one of those cousins that understand me so good. He was like a father to me.

I don’t know why this happen to me at all. But I think this happen because of they think they are better than each other. If they continue like this these situations like mines could get worst. I also think this happens because of drugs. The reason why I say drugs is because drugs is something that you could be addicted or that may make them do things they are not supposed to. The reason why violent things happen in my neighborhood are because of the people and because because of ignorance. They shouldn’t care about what other people think of them. If they think that of you, you don’t have to believe it. It is ignorance because if you don’t know something you should ask, not spread rumors about it just because you don’t know nothing about it. Some people aren’t really nice people and some are.

My community could have done so many things differently to avoid my violent experience. One thing that they could of done to avoid my situation differently is that they could of got along. That would’ve been differently by not causing a death. I could stop violence from young people by helping them when they are in a situation like these. What I would do when I see or hear about something violent is get information about it and share it with my friends and family so that they could be aware. This is what I will say to young people that solve their problems with violence is that violence doesn't solve
anything. I could stop violence between young people by many ways. One way is by a blog about violence and share them out. I could do a t.v show about it, and I could also tell them that if they got any problems to go see a counselor to talk about their problems so that they could make changes in their lives.