February 27, 2013

Youth Violence.

People dying.
Children crying.
Criminal acts against people.
People like you and people like me.

Not only are adults victims of crime
even children are victims of criminal acts.
Crime against children has gotten out of control.
It comes to the point where children can't even go to school
without having fear.
Innocent kids, innocent men and women are
dying
because of gang violence.

Parents afraid to take their eyes off of their children
because they don't know what might happen
if they lose focus for one second.

Not only is violence affecting their lives,
your lives,
but it's also affecting my life.

My mom was shot before,
she was affected by violence and that's
why
my parents are afraid to let me out after dark
because they don't know if something is going to happen
to me.
Not because they're scared of me growing up
but because of the fact they don't know
if it will be the last time they see me.

I lost an aunt because of violence
she was just going to the store when a gang came and shot her from a car.
It was a drive-by and she;
the innocent bystander
was the one that suffered the consequence.

My parents aren't the only ones fearful of my every movement,
I'm also fearful of my every movement.
I promised myself that I won't have fear in anything
if I did I would overcome it.
My fear of heights?
Overcame it.
My fear of the dark?  
I overcame it.  
But death and staring down a barrel of a gun, is something  
I WONT overcome.  
something I'll never even think about overcoming.

Why is there youth violence? Why does youth violence even happen?  
Honestly, the causes of youth violence to me are the "streets",  
how you were raised,  
and where you were raised.  
Walking to the store you see groups of teenage boys and teenage girls posted on a block.  
Saying they rep "h-block" or "cp"  
People on other blocks wearing red or blue,  
indicating that they're apart of the "bloods"  
or the "crips".  
Young boys/girls getting sucked into the gang violence  
because maybe a relative or their friends is apart of a gang,  
and they get "recruited".  
Teenage boys/girls now branded to show that they're apart of that gang forever.  
You can't turn your back on your gang.  
Some actually wanting to change their lives  
but can't  
because they're branded,  
and the loyalty of the gang.  
You try to leave?  
The whole gang is now after you.  
Ready to kill you.

I even think parents are the causes of youth violence.  
Parents whom not just physically  
but mentally  
abuse their kids.  
Making their kids not care.  
Making their kids wanting to act out.  
Making their kids go out to the "streets" wanting to be apart of the gang.  
Some of them being naive  
and thinking the gang is actually apart of their family.  
But since their parents abused them,  
ignored them,  
the gang is all they got now.

Another reason for gang violence is where you were raised.  
If you were raised in the bad part of town,  
the "ghetto".  
Growing up that's all you were accustomed to.
Seeing gangs on the corners, drug dealers etc.

As an individual there's not much I can do to stop youth violence, but I can stay in school. Get a good education, go to college, try to be a role model to everyone else.