Violence in my life.

Violence has really affected my life. Violence sometimes makes me scared to go outside. My neighborhood is dangerous, with people being shot and killed. I loved going outside, until I realized all of the danger. It also gives me nightmares. Violence seriously affected and changed my life.

One night, my aunt took me, my cousin, my friend with her little sister, and my little brother, out to a restaurant. We were leaving, so we walked down the street. It started to smell weird. My aunt says it's gun powder. My friend gets nervous, my cousin has no worries. He stopped, across the street from the people arguing. He waited for the T-bus. We looked across the street. A girl was hanging out the window, arguing at a boy who stood on the sidewalk, looking up at her. His friend stood with him. He gave the arguing boy something. He held it up, pointing at the girl, and fired four times. The girl fell back, and the two boys came across to the side we were. My friend started to cry, so did her sister. My brother hid behind me. The two shooters ran down a church alley. When they were off scene, we all fled to my house. They dropped me and my brother off, and left. Eventually, my cousin sent me a text that read, "Mini, I just saw the two people who were shooting!" I was petrified. I had a lot of questions, like are they going to be okay? Are they gonna try to escape the area? How are they gonna deal with the situation? The thoughts scared me. I called my cousin and stayed on the phone with her until she was home safe and sound. I was hoping that the shooters get arrested. The same night, I dreamed about the shooters.

We need to stop violence. If we don't stop, then things will get out of line. More and more people are dying. We can
Stop violence by cutting off drugs and weapons. Also, by not allowing kids to go to certain places alone, like the projects. There's a lot of bad people to influence children. Now, kids are becoming more and more violent. They're beginning to think that when they're "bad," they're "cool." It's not like that. Kids need to be stay healthy minded, instead of cruel minded. Another way to stop violence is to stop bullying. If we stop bullying, then kids won't be affected by violence. They won't be driven to doing unnecessary things, like hurting themselves. There's violence everywhere, and there's plenty we can do to stop it. Violence really changed my life.