Youth Violence

How has violence affected my life....?

Violence is everywhere. Youth violence is everywhere. Around the corner, here and there.

People are screaming out in pain. Even from the little things.

Violence is something you can't escape. It's like you're in a sea without a raft to float you to shore.

People being hurt for no reason. Crimes being committed around the clock. Don't you wish it all would stop?

Can't walk down the street without second thoughts questioning whether or not you are going to be safe.

And worst of all young people have witnessed with their own eyes terrible things scaring them for life.

And instead of saying, I won't be a part of this, not today. Let me make a change.

They are violent themselves.

What do you think causes youth violence....?

I think youth violence is caused by things that may have happened to them, like bullying, witnessing a terrible event or even being a part of one, and low self-esteem.

These things can change a person and make them the more violent. Maybe because they never got the chance to tell their story or voice how they feel.
Having that anger build up and fill the inside of you, like a pot about to boil over, or a volcano ready to erupt because their feelings were never thought of.

So they take their anger out on everybody else, anybody else.

What would I do to help....?

I would start a program that allowed youths to speak their mind about something that may have caused them to be violent or have thoughts about being violent towards people.

My program would be used to encourage kids that it’s okay to voice their opinion or tell their story and know that they will be heard.

I think that it will help them while they’re in their youth and when they’re adults to become people who will talk when they have a problem instead of being violent towards one another.

It will also show youths that there is someone who they can trust with the events that happened in their life.

Everything will be kept confidentially and they will get help based on their situation.

This will help them to make new friends with people who may have been in a similar situation as them too.

That would be a way to give back to my community and help others who deal with issues with violence.