

WHAT

SHOULD

I DO?

The choices you make now will affect you for the rest of your life. Don't let it be an injury, jail or Death. Make the right choice of

NOT GETTING INVOLVED WITH GANGS or DRUGS!!!

Don't keep it to yourself. Let parents, teachers or other adults you trust help you. Talk to them about the problems and difficulties you face. They need to know about them to help you.

• Parenting Tips to discourage gang participation.

- Occupy your child's free time with responsibilities at home or after school activities.
- Develop good two way communication with your children.
- Spend time with your children.
- Don't buy or allow your child to buy gang related clothing.
- Set limits for your child.
- Teach them to respect others property.
- Learn about gang and drug activity in your community.
- Be an informed parent.

Additional resources:

www.helpingamericasyouth.org

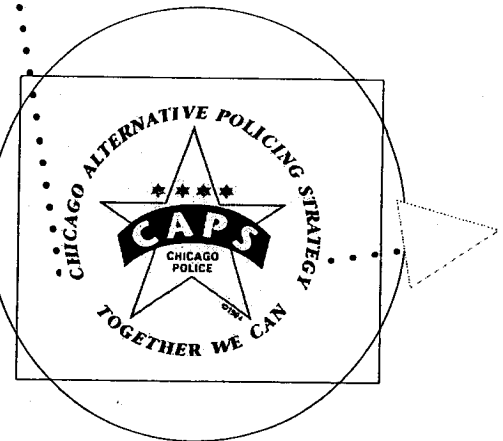
www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org

www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

www.ymca.com

www.bgcc.org

Youth Alternatives To Gangs and Drugs



Provided by the
Chicago Police Department
Neighborhood Relations Division
Preventive Programs Section
3510 S. Michigan
Chicago, IL 60653
312-745-5838

Avoid Gangs And Drugs

- Avoid the "problem" areas
- Stay home inside after dark
- Hang with those who don't want to do gangs and/or drugs
- Study hard to get good grades
- Get involved in organized park, school, and church activities
- Watch what you wear and how you wear it when it come to Clothing (colors), Jewelry, and Baseball caps
- Don't joke around with hand signs, emblems, or symbols

You must be prepared to answer when asked to try drugs or join in a gang. Let them know you "appreciate" them asking but say "NO THANKS" and WALK AWAY.

Other ways to say NO...

- Give a reason or excuse, "I don't like the taste"
- Just say "NO" and walk away
- Change the subject, let's play a video game or other game

CHOOSING FRIENDS

Qualities to look for in your friends...

They...

- Share similar interests I have?
- Are honest with me?
- Tell me if something is wrong without hurting my feelings?
- Share their feelings with me?
- Can be counted on to help me?
- Try to help me with my problem?
- Care about me and others?
- Try to do their best?
- Do things with me?
- Are sharing, not selfish?
- Are friends who won't get me into trouble?
- Are not bossy over me?
- Don't pick fights?

The future Depends on You

You must weigh the consequences of everything you do. If you know it is wrong or your instincts indicate that it may get you into trouble. **DON'T DO IT !!**

BE CONFIDENT IN YOURSELF

- Declare your own rights
- Respect the rights of others
- Don't let others push you into something you don't want to do.
- Follow through with your own responsibilities
- Stand up straight and make good eye contact while talking to peers.

**CONSIDER THE RISKS
AND THE RESULTS**