

Resources

Arlington Police Gang Unit

Boy's and Girl's clubs

Arlington Independent
School District

Your local Church

Web

www.myspace.com

www.gangsorus.com

www.streetgangs.com

GANG AWARENESS



Arlington Police Department
Gang Unit
817-459-5628

www.arlingtonpd.org



City of Arlington
Police Department
GANG UNIT

Gang Awareness

Gang activity and gang violence is a critical issue facing many juveniles and young adults. It is important for parents to have the ability to recognize any gang involvement concerning their children. Gang activity will lead to gang violence.

Additionally, gang members will try to hide their gang involvement from parents or other adults. They may claim the gang is actually a social club, sports club, dance team or rap group in an attempt to avoid being labeled as a gang.

Parents should be aware of the following indicators and know their relationship to gang activity.



gang-related graffiti

Gang Indicators

- Wearing Mardi Gras beads or beads in hair.
 - ✗ Gang members will use beads (in the particular gang's colors) to show membership.
- Shaved slits in eyebrows.
 - ✗ Gang members will shave slits in their eyebrows to represent any numerical designation related to their gang.
- Graffiti on book covers, bags or clothing.
 - ✗ Gang members will place gang slogans, symbols and drawings on personal items.
- Use of strange hand signs.
 - ✗ Gang members will use hand signs as a way to communicate with each other.
- Bandannas, hats, or wave caps hanging from pockets.
 - ✗ Gang members will use hats, bandannas and wave caps to show membership.
- Always wears the same type of clothing
 - ✗ Gang members will wear work-style clothing or certain colored clothing.
- Discipline problems at school or home
 - ✗ Gang members will be involved in fights and other offenses with family members and others.
- Unexplained income
 - ✗ Gang members will have money from criminal activity.
- Use of strange nicknames or street language
 - ✗ Gang members use strange nicknames and street language in an effort to conceal their gang activity.
- New group of friends
 - ✗ Gang members often hang out with other members of their gang.



Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their children's lives. You should make an effort to know your child's whereabouts and your child's friends.

Parents should also periodically inspect your child's room, closets, clothing, e-mail, text messages and any internet websites such as MYSPACE for any gang activity involving your children.