



Definition of a Gang

Three or more people with common interests, bonds, & activities characterized by criminal or delinquent conduct engaged in collectively or individually.

Did You Know?

The majority of gang affiliates/members in our community are adults (18 years of age and older). They constitute about 89% of the total gang population identified in the Colorado Springs area. Juveniles (under the age of 18) hold approximately 11% of the gang affiliation/membership.

Of that 11% :

Males constitute approximately 90% of the juveniles in gangs, while females make up about 10%.

Identifying Gang Behavior

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for **multiple** signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support for the child who may be gang involved.

Where to Look for

Signs of Gang

Involvement:

- ◆ **CLOTHING** (worn in an unusual way, colors, logos, numbers, symbols, initials)
 - hats, wrist bands, neck bands, shirts, belts, buckles, lanyards, dew rags, pants, shoes, shoe laces, shoe tongues
- ◆ **JEWELRY**
 - symbols, initials, logos
- ◆ **TATTOOS**
 - names, symbols, numbers, abbreviations
- ◆ **GRAFFITI**
 - names, symbols, colors, numbers, abbreviations, area codes

Other Gang Identifiers

- ◆ Whistles
- ◆ Gestures
- ◆ Hand Signs
- ◆ Staring (Mad Doggin')

What Parents Should

Know

Why do kids join gangs?

- For adventure & excitement
- For a sense of belonging and attachment
- To gain respect or to attract girl/boy friends
- To feel powerful
- For monetary gain & to escape poverty
- To retaliate against home or society
- To emulate family members

GANG VS TAGGER GRAFFITI

GANG GRAFFITI:

- TERRITORIAL
- OFTEN THREATENING MESSAGE
- NOT USUALLY ARTISTIC
- IDENTIFIES:
 - GANG NAME
 - GANG SET
 - STREET NAME



TAGGER GRAFFITI:

- NOT USUALLY TERRITORIAL
- NOT USUALLY A THREATENING MESSAGE
- USUALLY ARTISTIC
- IDENTIFIES:
 - TAGGER CREW
 - STREET NAME





Statistics

- 90% of gang members will be arrested by the age of 18
- 75% of gang members will be arrested **twice** by the age of 18
- 95% will not finish high school
- 60% will be dead or in prison by the age of 20

Did You Know?

Gang names:

1. Crip
2. Blood
3. Hispanic
4. Folk
5. People
6. White Supremacist
7. Tagger

Gang Sets :

These typically are the “neighborhoods” that the gang members are currently living in, or a neighborhood they lived in prior to moving here.

Street Names:

Usually a “nick name” given to a gang member representing/identifying an aspect (often negative) of the members appearance, personality, or physical/mental capabilities/limitations.



Gang Name: **SUR 13**
 Neighborhood: **SPMV**
 Street Name: **SMILEY**

Where to Look for Signs of Gang Involvement:



Surenos 13 belt buckle



Norteno 14 in Roman Numerals

Clothing can be **one** identifier of gang affiliation. Look for **multiple** identifiers.



Tattoos:
 May be located anywhere on the body.

Gang Graffiti: Often seen on student notebooks



Tagger Graffiti: Also found on student notebooks



What Parents Should Know

Protect children from gang influence:

- Spend time with your children
- Supervise their activities
- Help them get involved in after school activities/sports
- Talk about values/good decision making
- Teach what to do if approached by gang member
- Be on lookout for signs of gang involvement
- Notice patterns/get help

Signs of Possible Pre-Gang Behavior:

(look for multiple signs)

- Sudden change in friendships
- Parents uneasy around new friends
- Attitude change-uninterested in family activities and values
- Spending more time alone-withdrawal
- Poor grades at school - cutting classes



(Blood Graffiti- "Dis" on Crip gang)
Crossed out letter "C" on multiple choice test

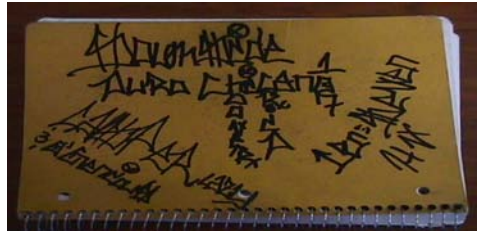
- Angry or bullying attitude
- Impatient, intolerant, aggressive
- Disrespectful and demanding
- Resents authority figures
- In trouble with the police
- Dressing regularly in a particular color



Red is the common color for "Blood" gang
(alternate color is green)

- Radical body piercing, hair styles, jewelry, or clothing.

- Drawing symbols or strange words on notebooks, clothing, or walls of bedroom



(Hispanic Gang Graffiti)

- Uses spray cans or felt markers to mark on others' property
- Stays out after being asked to be home at a certain time
- Uses an unfamiliar nickname for self



(Street Name "Shaggy")

- Strange words in their vocabulary
- Unexplained possessions or money
- Carrying items that could be used as a weapon



(spikes bought separately and screwed into wristband)

- Tattoos on body



(Mi Vida Loco) "My Crazy Life"



ICP (Insane Clown Posse)
"Hatchet Man"

What Parents Should Know

Discourage Children From Joining Gangs:

- Encourage your children to participate in supervised, responsible activities to fill their free time.
- Know where your children are and who they are spending time with.
- Teach children acceptable and responsible behavior .
- Encourage children to talk about what is going on in their lives at school & in the community.
- Develop a no-tolerance policy for gang clothing, gang writing, or hanging out with gang members.
- Be a positive active role model.



IDENTIFIERS OF POSSIBLE DRUG INVOLVEMENT BY STUDENTS



School backpack with dollar sign attached



Dollar sign earrings



Marijuana leaf attached to purse



Necklace with dollar sign (\$)



"Dollar Bills" dew rag

JEWELRY TO WATCH FOR:



Rings being worn by some students



Barbed wire necklace



Die with "SIX" showing (often
used as one identifier for Folk
gang affiliation)



Spiked bracelet

INSANE CLOWN POSSE AFFILIATION

ICP is a rock band who's music is promoted by Psychopathic Records & has over one million followers who call themselves Juggalos. Joe Bruce gave Insane Clown Posse its name, and the band members began developing their "wicked clown" alter egos soon after. They also began painting their faces like clowns which became their trademark.

Things to look for that show possible
affiliation with ICP, their music,
and the group's message:



Self drawn tattoo & notebook
graffiti



ICP Clown T-Shirt



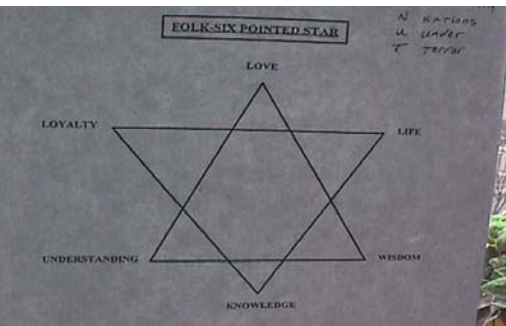
Another version of the ICP logo on a
sweat shirt



In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

FOLK GANG

- **CHICAGO BASED**
- **HIGHLY ORGANIZED**
- **COLORS (BLACK & BLUE)**
- **IDENTIFY WITH NUMBER SIX (6)**



Six Pointed Star (above)



Dice with Six (6) on it

ALSO IDENTIFY WITH:

- **Six Point Crown**
- **Upside Down 5 as a “Disrespect” (referred to as “dis”) on Rival (People) Gang**
- **187 (California’s Homicide Code)**
- **Rabbit’s Head With One Ear Bent**



RIGHT SIDE RULE

Earrings: In “right” ear only



Hats: Tipped to the “right”

Glove: On “right” hand

Belt buckles: Shifted to the “right” on hips

Bandanas: Hanging from “right” pocket or tied around right leg

Pant leg: “Right” pant leg pulled up

Shirt sleeve: “Right” sleeve rolled up

Shoe tongue: Tongue of “right” shoe up

Shoe laces: “Right” shoe laced up; left shoe laced 1/2 way

FOLK GRAFFITI



BGD= BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE

PITCHFORK (“Upright” is a Folk Symbol)

B.O.S.= BROTHERS OF THE STRUGGLE

187= HOMICIDE CODE

STAFF/CANE (Upside Down) = DIS’ ON “PEOPLE” (Rival Gang)



HEART= HEART OF THE FOLK NATION

WINGS= SPREADING OF THE NATION

HORNS= DEFENSE OF THE NATION (Replaced with Upright Pitch Forks above)

5 POINTED CROWN (Upside Down)= Dis’ on Rival (People) Gang



BACKWARD SWASTIKA (Folk Symbol)
LA RAZA (Folk Set)



HEART= The Heart of the Nation

HORNS= The Defense of the Nation
UPRIGHT PITCHFORKS (Folk Symbols)

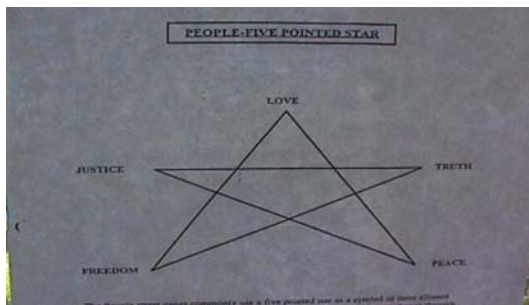
MLD= MANIC LATIN DISCIPLES (Folk Set)



In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

PEOPLE GANG

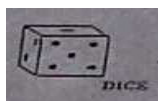
- CHICAGO BASED
- HIGHLY ORGANIZED
- COLORS (BLACK & Yellow or Gold)
- IDENTIFY WITH NUMBER FIVE (5)



Five pointed star (above)

ALSO IDENTIFY WITH:

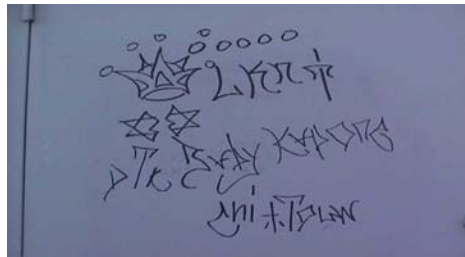
- Five Point Crown
- Upside Down 6 to “Disrespect” (“Dis”) Rival (Folk) Gang
- 187 (California’s Homicide Code)
- Rabbit’s Head (both ears up)
- Dice with Five Appearing on Face
- Pyramid
- Staff/Cane



LEFT SIDE RULE

Earrings: In “Left” ear only
Hats: Tipped to the “Left”
Glove: On “Left” hand
Belt buckles: Shifted to the “Left” on hips
Bandanas: Hanging from “Left” pocket or tied around “Left” leg
Pant leg: “Left” pant leg pulled up
Shirt sleeve: “Left” sleeve rolled up
Shoe tongue: Tongue of “Left” shoe up
Shoe laces: “Left” shoe laced up; right shoe laced 1/2 way

PEOPLE GRAFFITI



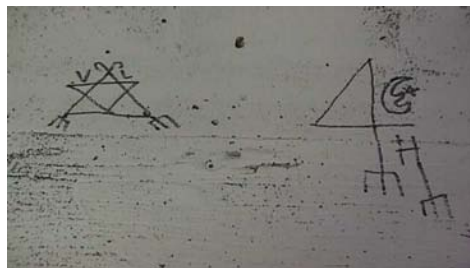
LKN= LATIN KING NATION (People Set)

UPSIDE DOWN PITCHFORKS = Dis’ on Rival Gang (Folk)

FIVE POINT CROWN (People Symbol)

DK= Disciple (Folk) Killa

TORN 6 POINT STAR= Dis’ on Folk Gang

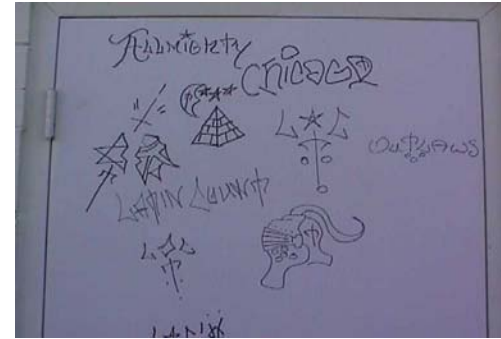


VL=VICE LORDS (People Set)

UPRIGHT STAFF/CANE= (People Symbols)

UPSIDE DOWN PITCHFORKS= Dis’ on Folk Gang

4CH=FOUR CORNER HUSTLERS= (People Set)



ALMIGHTY CHICAGO= “Home Base” for People Gang

PYRAMID= People Symbol

L.C.= Latin Count (People Set)

UPSIDE DOWN PITCHFORK= Dis’ on Folk Gang)

TORN 6 POINT STAR & UPSIDE DOWN CROWN= (Dis’ on Folk Gang)



\$= The use of the dollar sign in graffiti implies the use, distribution/sale, and/or the manufacturing of drugs by the person and/or the gang.

UPSIDE DOWN PITCHFORKS= Dis’ on Folk Gang by People Gang

UPRIGHT STAFF/CANE = (People Symbol)



In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

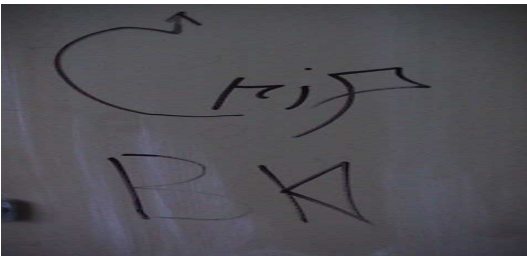
CRIP GANG

- **LOS ANGELES BASED**
- **HIGHLY ORGANIZED**
- **COLORS (blue or purple)**
- **IDENTIFY WITH NUMBERS:**
187 (Homicide Code in California)
3-3 (Tre-Tre Crip)
XXX= Rollin’ 30’s Crip

Rivals:

- **Blood Gang**
- **Anyone aligned with Bloods**

Crip Graffiti



“B.K.” (Blood Killa)
(found in middle school restroom)



“Slob” (dis’ on the Blood Gang)

Graffiti located in a drainage ditch near a middle school



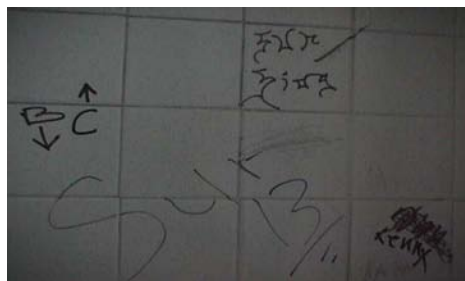
S/S= South Side
3= Tres
G= Gangsta
C= Crip



Tre-Tre Crip



XXX = Rollin’ 30’s Crip Gang
Sleepy = street name
Dollar sign in street name= indicates drug involvement (buying, selling, using, and/or manufacturing of drugs.)



Up with the Crips
Down with the Bloods
Surenos 13 (Southern California)
(found in middle school restroom)

Jewelry to watch for when concerned about possible gang involvement:



L.A.= Los Angeles (home base for the Crip Gang)

(This by itself does not indicate gang affiliation, however a closer look at how this student dresses, who he’s hanging with, graffiti on his notebooks, tattoos, and if he’s claiming a particular gang or street name can be important information for insuring the safety of all students.)



Possible gang affiliation if a student is dressing entirely in **blue** on a regular basis, and refuses to wear red, or use the color red for any reason.



Blue dew rag indicates gang affiliation.



In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

BLOOD GANG

- LOS ANGELES BASED
- HIGHLY ORGANIZED
- COLORS (red or green)
- IDENTIFY WITH NUMBERS:
213 (Area Code for L.A.)
187 (Homicide Code in California)
45 (Blood Set)
3-11 (crip killa)



Los Angeles= Home Base for Bloods
213= Area Code for L.A. (bottom right of sweatshirt)



187= (California's Homicide Code)
BHW= West Side Hustler Blood
(Blood Gang Set)

Blood Gang Rivals:

- Crip Gang
- Any gang aligned with Crips

Blood Graffiti



“C.K.”= Crip Killa
PIRU = Blood Gang Set



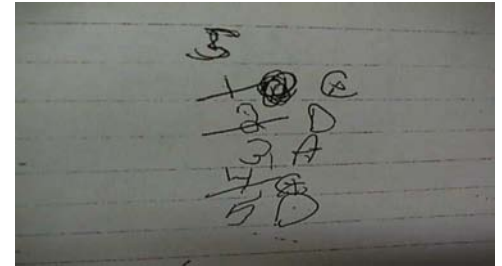
NHB= Neighborhood Blood Gang
(Blood Gang Set)



Blood hand sign in green paint :
C= Crip
K= Killa



“Crab” (dis’ on the Crip Gang)



Multiple choice test given to Blood Gang member. Every time he chose the answer “C”, he marked it with an “x” to disrespect rival Crip Gang members.



Possible gang affiliation if a student is dressing entirely in red on a regular basis, and refuses to wear blue, or use the color blue for any reason.



Shoes with Red Laces



In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

HISPANIC GANGS

- **Norteno=Northern California**
Color: Red
Number: 14; XIV
- **Sureno= Southern California**
Color: Blue
Number: 13; XIII
- **Area Codes used in graffiti to claim home town allegiance:**
213- Los Angeles
714-Anaheim
805-Bakersfield/Santa Barbara
818-Glendale
909-San Bernardino
- **Tattoos:**
 - 3 dots= Mi Vida Loca (my crazy life)
 - Pachuco Cross
 - Tear Drop =may indicate prison time served, and/or being the “shooter” in a drive-by shooting
 - Happy/Sad Faces (play now; pay later)

HISPANIC GANG RIVALS:

“NORTENO VS. SURENO”

Bakersfield, California is the “territorial line” between northern California (Norteno Gang) , and southern California (Sureno Gang). Gang wars can also occur between any gang (or gang set) that is aligned with a rival gang.

IDENTIFYING GANG BEHAVIOR

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for multiple signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support the child who may be gang involved.

Clothing that “may” indicate gang affiliation:



13th letter of the alphabet is “M”

The number “13” is used by Hispanic gang members to identify with the terms, “Mexican and marijuana”. Often times indicates gang affiliation and drug involvement..



Belt buckle with the number “13” on it.



“S” on a belt buckle *may* represent “Surenos Gang” affiliation.



Look under the bill of hats for information on gang involvement.



“14” or XIV in clothing or graffiti may indicate Norteno Gang affiliation.



HISPANIC GANG GRAFFITI

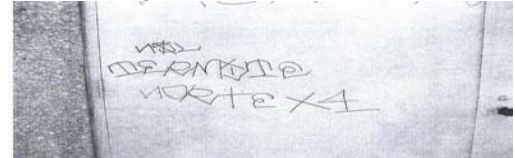


Chuckie & Casper= street names

Califas= California

SUR 13= Southern California

818, 213, 714, 805= area codes of home town allegiance



NSL= North Side Locos (neighborhood set)

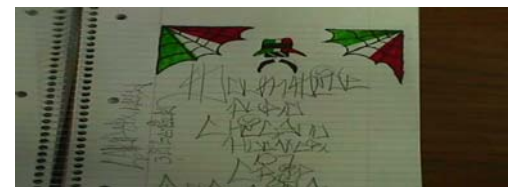
(“S” is crossed out to disrespect the Surenos Gang)

Termite= street name

Norte X4= Norteno 14 (gang name)



“Sureno” gang member crossed out “Norte” to disrespect their rival gang.



Watch for gang graffiti in student’s notebooks, and on student desks.





In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

GOTHICS

- Dress totally in black
- Use make-up to mimic that of Marilyn Manson
- Self mutilate
- Multiple piercing of the nose, tongue, eyebrows, ears, belly button, lip, and chin
- Die hair in multiple colors or jet black
- Carry around metal lunch boxes
- Draw occult symbols & use numbers 666 & 1394 (acid) in graffiti
- Carry razor blades for blood letting and drinking
- Attend rave parties
- Ecstasy & acid are drugs of choice



Identifying Gang Behavior

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for multiple signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support the child who may be gang involved.

STRAIGHT-EDGE

- Beliefs:
 - Abstain from the use of:
 - tobacco
 - alcohol
 - drugs
 - premarital sex

(The problem lies when they see others involving themselves with the above activities Straight Edge members have been known to try to force their beliefs on others by using violence.)

- Tattoo themselves with the letter “X”
- Body Piercing is also popular: nose, tongue, eyebrows, ears, belly button, lip, and chin
- Shaved heads are common
- Baggy clothes
- May ID themselves as Skateboarders
- Align themselves with
 - animal activists
 - animal liberation front
 - coalition to abolish fur traders

Vegans: Vegetarians– typically will not eat animal bi-products

Becans: Often times the militant side of Straight-Edge



VAMPIRES

- Heavy into the Occult and Satanism
- Usually low self esteem
- Problems in school (attendance & discipline)
- Dress in black clothing
- Girls use white make-up
- Fascinated with death
- Vampires believe they are immortal and can live for 300 years
- To become a vampire one must be bitten by another vampire. The drinking of each other’s blood is part of the ritual. Vampires have no fear of Aids as they believe they are immortal so therefore they cannot die.
- They believe the only way to kill a vampire is to decapitate them





In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

OVERVIEW OF THINGS TO BE AWARE OF NOW THAT SCHOOLS ARE BACK IN SESSION

Numbers used to identify gang and/or drug affiliation:

5 = People Gang
 6 = Folk Gang
 13, X3, XIII = Surenos (southern California)
 14, XIV = Norteno (northern California)
 666 = Satanic Gang
 187 = Homicide code in California
 45 Blood Set
 3-11 Crip Killa
 420 = Referencing “time to do drugs”
 81st = Gang Set
 18th = Gang Set
 XXX, 30, Gang Set
 719, 213, 714, 805, 818, 909 = Area codes where gang members are claiming “home town” affiliation
 1394 = Acid

Identifying Gang Behavior

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for multiple signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support the child who may be gang involved.

SYMBOLS used to identify gang and/or drug affiliation:

ICP= Insane Clown Posse

CK =Crip Killa (Blood term)

BK= Blood Killa (Crip term)

\$ = referencing drugs (sales/use)

SUR= Surenos

THREE DOTS= Mi Vida Loca

TEAR DROP= Prison time/Drive by shooter

WS= West Side

SS= South Side

ES= East Side

NS= North Side

CROWNS= Gang affiliation (5 point & 6 point)

BGD= Black Gangster Disciples

BOS= Brother’s of the Struggle

PITCHFORKS= Folk Symbol

CANE/STAFF= People Symbol

LA= Los Angeles (area code 213)

NHB= Neighborhood Blood

NORTE-NORTENO =Gang Name

SURENO= Gang Name

HAPPY/SAD FACES= Play now; Pay later

CRAB= Slang put down for Crip member (Blood term)

SLOB= Slang put down for Blood member (Crip term)

- **COLORS** (discussed in past newsletters)
- **CLOTHING**
 - dew rags
 - lanyards
 - shirts with any of the gang symbols, gang hand signs, gang numbers (13/14/187)
 - 1/2 gloves
 - shoelaces/red/blue
 - wrist bands with gang references
 - shoes with anarchy symbols or gang symbols
 - hats with gang symbols under bill, or tipped right or left
 - hair nets
 - pant legs (one up & one down)
 - belts with gang numbers/letters
 - S= Surenos (if the student’s names doesn’t start with an S)
 - 13= Surenos/Southern California
- **JEWELRY**
 - with gang symbols/numbers
 - look for dice (5 dots or 6 dots)
 - with satanic symbols
 - crowns (5 or 6 points)
- **COMBS**
 - if left in hair after combing is often linked to gang affiliation
- **GRAFFITI**
 - on notebooks
 - on school papers
 - on their arms & hands
 - in restrooms
 - on desks/chairs
- **CELL PHONES & PAGERS**
 - often used as a way to connect to drug sales/buys



GANG GRAFFITI
VS.
TAGGER GRAFFITI

GANG GRAFFITI

- **TERRITORIAL**
- **OFTEN THREATENING MESSAGE**
- **NOT USUALLY ARTISTIC**
- **IDENTIFIES:**
 - **GANG NAME (SUR 13)**
 - **GANG SET (SPMV)**
 - **STREET NAME (SMILEY)**



TAGGER GRAFFITI

- **NOT USUALLY TERRITORIAL**
- **NOT USUALLY A THREATENING MESSAGE**
- **USUALLY ARTISTIC**
- **IDENTIFIES:**
 - **TAGGER CREW (DISPERS)**
(MEANING DISPERSE)
 - **STREET NAME (SIGNED IN LOWER RIGHT HAND CORNER)**



TAGGERS

- **Usually Male**
- **Typically 11-25 Y.O.A.**
- **All ethnic & economic backgrounds**
- **Wear dark clothing when tagging at night**
- **Wear oversized clothes and back packs to conceal graffiti items**
- **Use numbers: 24-7-365**
2DS= Tagger Gang Name
187= Homicide Code in California
4:20, = referencing "time to do drugs"
3:11 = Crip Killa)
3:16, (Stone Cold Steve Austin) Book of John, Chapter 3 Verse 16
- **Loosely organized**
- **Goal is fame & recognition**
- **Prefer late night and early A.M. hours**
- **Pecking order is determined by artistic ability:**
 - **Writers: basic scrawling**
 - **Piecers: Mural drawers**
 - **"In the Heavens"= graffiti drawn in dangerous places (overpasses, billboards, building roof tops)**



"Writer Graffiti" (above)
(Crew Name is TAJ & Area Code of Home Town —Home Grown Taggers)



Roll Call of Crew Members in TAJ

"Piecer Graffiti"



"In the Heavens" Graffiti
Aluminum Roof Top (below)



Regardless of how pretty the art work, it constitutes Criminal Mischief when applied to any surface without permission.



WHAT'S NEW IN THE SCHOOLS?

GRILLS!

Removable gold covers for your teeth are known as "grills." These are kind-of-like a car grill for your mouth. The grills are often used by rappers, but are now increasing in popularity among teens.

These can be made for any number of teeth, or for the entire mouth. The snap-on grills are sometimes solid, or they may be "open-faced" with cut-outs to show the natural teeth. Fangs are popular, and so is the "iced out" look -- a grill with tiny diamonds.

Words or symbols referencing gang affiliation are often etched or carved into their caps, as well as individual initials, street names, stars, or their gang/set name.

SIX POINT GRILL



The Folk gang uses the number 6 as a symbol to identify their gang. The top six teeth are covered with this particular grill.

Diamond Grill with Blue Accent

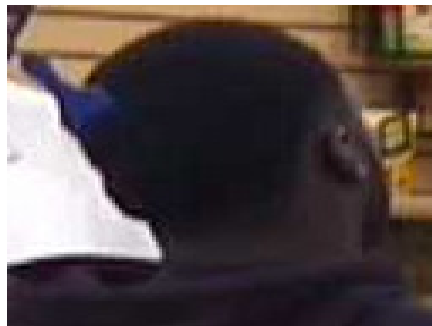


Folk, Crip, & Surenos gangs all identify with the color blue. This could be one indicator of gang involvement. Look for other identifiers to verify gang affiliation, and to determine which gang is being claimed.

HAIR PICKS



"Picks" are often worn in the hair to show gang affiliation. The color of the pick, and location of the pick in the hair can help determine which gang a student is claiming.



ROSARY or COLORED BEADS

The use of colored beads by gang members is also increasing in popularity. The color and number of beads used, depends on which gang is being claimed.

The beads can be used as a necklace, bracelet, worn in shoelaces, made into a key chain, or worn as accents in the hair. Colored rubber bands are also worn in the hair, or on the wrists to show gang membership.



The beads on a necklace or bracelet may alternate in color. The Folk gang, for instance, may alternate the color of every sixth bead as they identify with the number 6. Blue would most likely be the primary color. The People gang may alternate the color of every fifth bead since they identify with the number 5. The Surenos gang may have a total of 13 beads or alternate colors every 13th bead, as they identify with the number 13. Again, the primary color would most likely be blue.



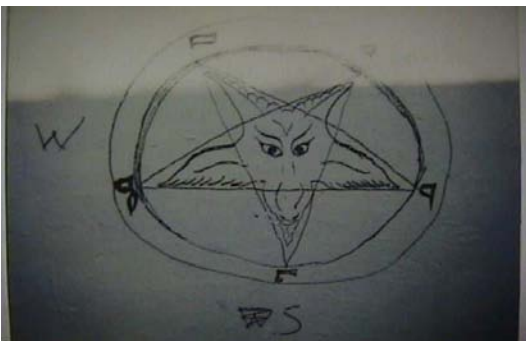
Definition of a Gang:

Three or more people with common interests, bonds, & activities, characterized by criminal or delinquent conduct, engaged in collectively or individually.

Occult Gangs

- Satanism

-Symbols used: snakes, candles, chalices, swords, daggers, black robes, inverted pentagrams, 666, triangles, and the Baphomet or “goat’s head”.



Baphomet (goat’s head)

-Satanism incorporates a symbolic form of human sacrifice

- -4 Satanic Groups:

Dabblers
Religious Satanists
Self Styled
Generational

- Spiritual-Cultural Religions

-Formed from Non-Christian religions merging with Catholicism

-Participate in animal or fowl “blood-sacrifices” (they sacrifice chickens, small birds, and goats)

-Don’t sacrifice dogs, cats, or people

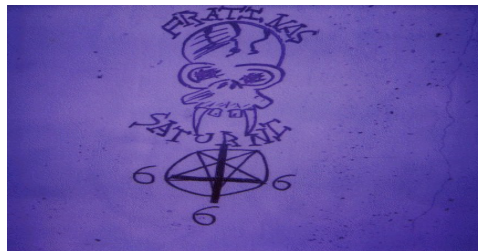


“goat’s head” in white spray paint over restaurant logo



Satanic symbols spray painted on front of church

- Upside-down crosses
- Baphomet (goat’s head)
- The word “God” crossed out to show disrespect



Satanic symbols:
666, upside-down cross, goat’s head



Satanic Hand Signs

Occult Groups

(These groups do not meet the criteria to be considered a gang)

- Paganism-

-Earliest Earth-Based Religion



- Believe everything on Earth has a force to it: flowers, water, etc.
- If you become one with this life force, you can become God-like



- No human or animal sacrifices
- Ceremonies were to influence nature to help crops grow

- Witchcraft (Wicca)

- Nature-Based
- Use magic to control or change reality
- White witches practice the craft for the good of all
- Black witches practice evil magic for their own purposes
- Often work in professional fields (doctors, teachers, lawyers, etc.)
- Male counterpart represents the horned God (Warlocks)

Law Abiding – Not considered a gang, as they do not meet the criteria to be considered a gang.



Tattoos

A tattoo is any mark made by inserting pigment into the skin. This is done for many different and very personal reasons. Tattoos are, often times, applied to show affiliation with a particular group/gang, for religious purposes, sometimes for decoration, to show loyalty, to identify where the student has been or what they have participated in, and/or to identify personal values that they embrace. Tattoos, whether applied professionally or personally, should be recognized and used as a tool understand:

- what the student's intended message is, and
- if it's a safe message for the student to be displaying on his/her body

Recognizing Tattoos



Spider Web: Indicates time served in prison
"Chicano" (below the spider web)



"Hatchet Man" : Often used to show gang affiliation with the "Insane Clown Posse"
 (self inflicted tattoo)



"Mi Vida Loco" = My Crazy Life
 Happy/Sad Faces= Play Now; Pay Later



X= 10 (left arm) + 3 (right arm) = 13
 # 13= Surenos /"Southern California"



This student was claiming the "Gothic" gang. He drew Anarchy symbols on himself & his clothing to indicate his gang was taking over all other forms of authority.



Gang member with tattoo behind left ear:

"Trust No Man" Tattoo



Sean= Real Name
 "Shaggy"= Street Name



"Lune"= Street Name
 Three Dots= "Mi Vida Loco"
 (My Crazy Life)
 NHB= Neighborhood Blood Gang



TAJ= C/S neighborhood set of the Insane Posse Gang (Thug A.. Juggalos)
 719= Area Code indicates location of gang allegiance



100%= "Down" for the gang



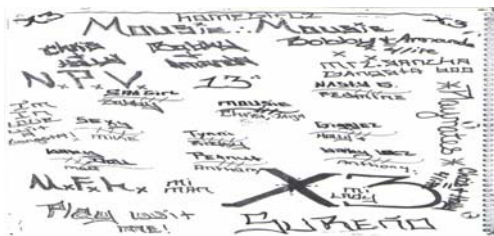
One of the earliest signs of gang affiliation is graffiti on student notebooks



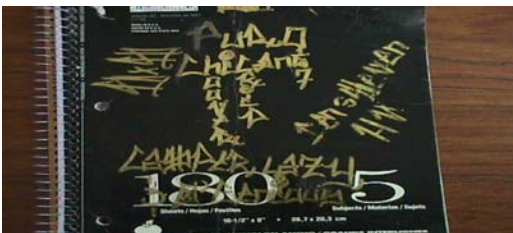
South Side Surenos 13



OG= Original Gangster
13 = (stands for Surenos or Southern California)



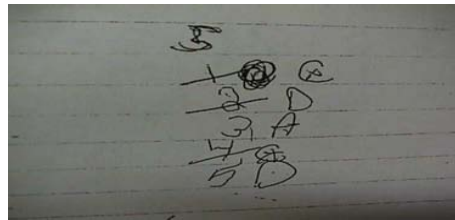
- Gang: Surenos
- Neighborhood: NPV
- Street Names of members referred to as a "roll call" (Mousie, Nasty, Sad Girl)



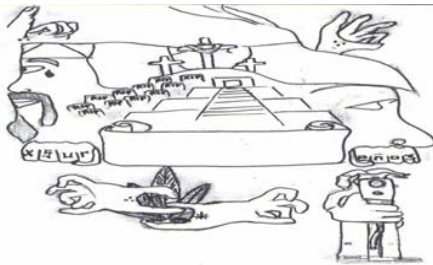
Gang: Crip
Neighborhood: South Side Hoover Crip
Street Names: Casper & Lazy
\$\$= South Side and drug involvement



CRAB: Slang name used by Blood gang to disrespect the Crip gang



Blood member crossing out all letter C's on a test to disrespect Crip gang



- Gang hand signs top & bottom of picture
- Marijuana leaf indicates drug involvement
- Graveyard represents loss of gang members in rival gang wars



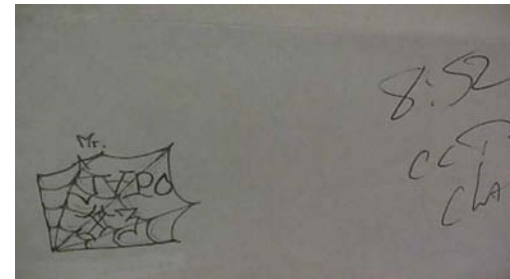
- Gang Name: Norteno 14 (Northern California)
- Neighborhood: NSL
- Street Name: Termite



Spider Webs: Used by gang members to indicate having served jail time



- Gang Name: Bloods
- Set: Neighborhood Bloods (NHB)
- Street Name: Lune'
- Three Dots: Mi Vida Loca/Loco (my crazy life)



Spider Web: Student served time in Zeb Pike Juvenile Detention Center

Street Name: Mr. Sapo
13= Student is claiming Southern California gang affiliation



This Month's Newsletter:

I have had numerous phone calls from concerned parents, grandparents, and group homes asking for information on what to look for in their children's behavior that might indicate gang affiliation. I have put together some highlights from past newsletters of what to look for in pre-gang behavior, and some recommended responses to discourage gang involvement.

Who Gets Jumped into Which Gangs?

In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform "required" gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

Identifying Gang Behavior

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for multiple signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support the child who may be gang involved.

Signs of Possible Pre-Gang Behavior:

(look for multiple signs)

- Sudden change in friendships
- Parents uneasy around new friends
- Attitude change-uninterested in family activities and values
- Spending more time alone/ withdrawal
- Poor grades at school - cutting classes
- Angry or bullying attitude
- Impatient, intolerant, aggressive
- Disrespectful and demanding
- Resents authority figures
- In trouble with the police
- Dressing regularly in a particular color
- Radical body piercing, hair styles, jewelry, or clothing
- Drawing symbols or strange words on notebooks, clothing, or walls of bedroom
- Uses spray cans or felt markers to mark on others' property
- Stays out after being asked to be home at a certain time
- Uses an unfamiliar nickname for self
- Strange words in their vocabulary
- Unexplained possessions or money
- Carrying items that could be used as a weapon

What Parents Should Know

Discourage Children From Joining Gangs:

- Encourage your children to participate in supervised, responsible activities to fill their free time.
- Know where your children are and who they are spending time with.
- Teach children acceptable and responsible behavior .
- Encourage children to talk about what is going on in their lives at school & in the community.
- Develop a no-tolerance policy for gang clothing, gang writing, or hanging out with gang members.
- Be a positive active role model.

Why Do Children Join Gangs?

- For adventure and excitement
- For a sense of belonging and attachment
- To gain respect or to attract girl/boy friends
- To feel powerful
- For monetary gain and/or to escape poverty
- To retaliate against home and/or society
- To emulate family members



DEFINITION OF A GANG

Three or more people with common interests, bonds, & activities characterized by criminal or delinquent conduct, engaged in collectively or individually.

INSANE CLOWN POSSE (ICP) "GANG"

The gang named "Insane Clown Posse" stems from a rock band who's music is promoted by Psychopathic Records. It has over one million followers who call themselves Juggalos & Juggalettes. Joe Bruce ("Violent J") gave Insane Clown Posse its name, and the band members began developing their "wicked clown" alter egos soon after. They also began painting their faces like clowns which became their trademark. They usually wear black or white clown-like "eye" make-up and often dress in black. Juggalos are people who have shared similar, hurtful, experiences such as being chosen last for team sports, who have had abusive parents, who haven't had the necessary supports to grow successfully in life, who have not had others to turn to, and/or who feel they have been shunned by society. They refuse to conform to the mainstream.

One Juggalo states, "To me this Juggaloism means to be with people who are like you, and people that understand you. We are the freaks, thugs, scrubs, and generally the people you don't see yourself fit to talk with. Another Juggalo says, "Juggalos are probably the most culturally diverse, self-expressive, unique, and creative people I know. Everyone is on an even level because we all grew up the same way and harnessed the same beliefs and ideas of life. There is no such thing as a hierarchy in this society, which we truly believe to be Utopia."



"Hatchet Man" Graffiti
(NE side of Colorado Springs)



Insane Clown Posse Graffiti
(above and below)
(Drawn on Middle School Student Notebooks)



ICP T-Shirt Logos



ICP Tattoos



Glossary of ICP Terms

- **ABK:** anybody Killa
- **Down:** determined to be a Juggalo
- **Front:** pretend to be what you aren't
- **Grill:** teeth
- **Juggaloco:** insane Juggalo
- **Juggaloism:** a true Juggalo living by the hatchet
- **'Lette:** short for Juggalette (F)
- **'Lo:** short for Juggalo (M)
- **MCL:** Much Clown Love
- **Nugbone:** your neck
- **Nugget:** your head
- **Scrub:** outcast or poor person
- **Skrilla:** money
- **Stale:** uncool
- **Step:** confrontation
- **Wicked Clowns:** nickname for ICP



Signs of Possible Drug Involvement

"Red Flags" for Possible Drug Involvement



Green "dollar bill" (in any denomination) on above dew rag and t-shirt indicates possible exchange of money for drugs. Marijuana leaf is also used as a symbol of drug involvement.

Red Flags for Possible Drug Involvement



Dollar sign jewelry worn around the neck, in the ears, or anywhere else on the body suggests drug involvement. The dollar sign patch on above backpack is another way to advertise accessibility to and/or use of drugs.

Drug Paraphernalia



Baggies full of drugs are often hidden in lock boxes along with the money used for the exchange.



Look for lighters and homemade pipes on suspected drug users.

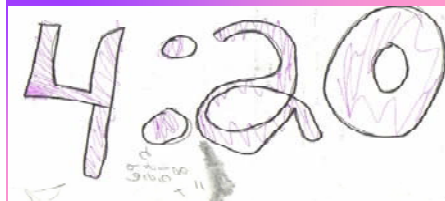
HOMEMADE ITEMS !!



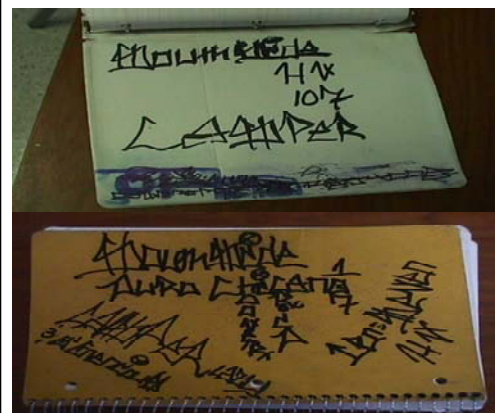
Homemade wooden & metal marijuana pipes.

Drug Related Graffiti

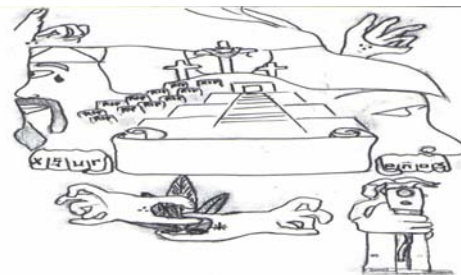
Drug Related Graffiti



4:20 is used as a symbol to indicate, "time to do drugs".



The letter "S" turned into a dollar sign on any surface is used to indicate drug involvement.



Marijuana leaf drawn in graffiti shows drug involvement. (selling, using, and/or manufacturing of drugs.)

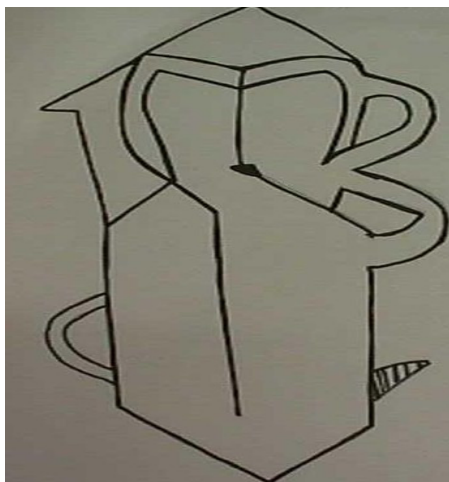


MARA SALVATRUCHA **MS-13**

- *Mara: slang for mob or group*
- *Salva: referencing El Salvador*
- *Trucha: slang for “beware”*
- *Originally formed by Salvadoran immigrants who came to the U.S. during El Salvador’s civil war in the 1980’s*
- *Approximately 10,000 U.S. members, located in 33 states, where the majority of the members are located in California, Virginia and New York*
- *Often have elaborate body art or tattoos with SUR 13, the letters M, MS, and/or words “Salvadoran Pride”*
- *MS-13’s 3-dot tattoo represents jail, hospital, & death*
- *Criminal activities include: aggravated assault, illegal firearm sales, carjacking, weapon smuggling, extortion, murder, rape, burglary, drug sales, home invasion, and stealing/exporting cars from the U.S.*

Sources: FBI and National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations

GRAFFITI



Graffiti typically includes: “Providence Salvatrucha Locos”, SUR 13, Mara, MS, MS-13, XIII, and/or X3



Neighborhood “SUR 13” Graffiti



Graffiti claiming MS-13 gang affiliation

HAND SIGNS



MS-13 Gang Hand Sign

FLAG OF EL SALVADOR

The two blue stripes represent the Pacific & the Atlantic Oceans. The white stripe represents peace.



MS-13 members wear blue & white as is represented by the flag of El Salvador.



Definition of a Gang

Three or more people with common interests, bonds, & activities characterized by criminal or delinquent conduct engaged in collectively or individually.

Identifying Gang Behavior

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for multiple signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support for the child who may be gang involved.

Why do kids join gangs?

- For adventure & excitement
- For a sense of belonging and attachment
- To gain respect or to attract girl/boy friends
- To feel powerful
- For monetary gain & to escape poverty
- To retaliate against home or society
- To emulate family members



Look for jewelry and dew rags that indicate possible drug involvement.

Signs of Possible Pre-Gang Behavior:

(look for multiple signs)

- Sudden change in friendships
- Parents uneasy around new friends
- Attitude change; uninterested in family activities and values
- Spending more time alone/withdrawal
- Poor grades at school; cutting classes
- Angry or bullying attitude
- Impatient, intolerant, aggressive
- Disrespectful and demanding
- Resents authority figures
- In trouble with the police
- Dressing regularly in a particular color
- Radical body piercing, hair styles, jewelry, or clothing
- Drawing symbols or strange words on notebooks, clothing, or walls of bedroom
- Uses spray cans or felt markers to mark on others' property
- Stays out after being asked to be home at a certain time
- Uses an unfamiliar nickname for self
- Strange words in their vocabulary
- Unexplained possessions or money
- Carrying items that could be used as a weapon
- Tattoos on body

What Parents Should Know

Discourage Children From Joining Gangs:

- Encourage your children to participate in supervised, responsible activities to fill their free time.
- Know where your children are and who they are spending time with.
- Teach children acceptable and responsible behavior .
- Encourage children to talk about what is going on in their lives at school & in the community.
- Develop a no-tolerance policy for gang clothing, gang writing, or hanging out with gang members.
- Be a positive active role model.



Look for writing of gang signs, gang names, or gang symbols on body or on school notebooks.



In many parts of the country, race, nationality, and gender determine which gang can be joined. In Colorado Springs, gangs are hybrid in nature. Members are jumped into gangs based on their willingness to perform “required” gang related activities, rather than their race, nationality, or gender.

OVERVIEW OF THINGS TO BE AWARE OF NOW THAT SCHOOLS ARE BACK IN SESSION

NUMBERS used to identify gang and/or drug affiliation:

5 = People Gang
 6 = Folk Gang
 13, X3, XIII= Surenos (southern California)
 14, XIV = Norteno (northern California)
 666= Satanic Gang
 187 = Homicide code in California
 45 Blood Set
 3-11 Crip Killa
 420= Referencing “time to do drugs”
 81st = Gang Set
 18th = Gang Set
 XXX, 30, Gang Set
 719, 213, 714, 805, 818, 909 = Area codes where gang members are claiming “home town” affiliation
 1394 = Acid

Identifying Gang Behavior

In terms of identifying someone who is claiming a particular gang affiliation, it is very important to look for multiple signs. A single sign, in isolation, is often not a credible way to identify gang affiliation accurately. However, a combination of identifiers may indicate the need to seek support for the child who may be gang involved.

SYMBOLS used to identify gang and/or drug affiliation:

ICP= Insane Clown Posse

CK =Crip Killa (Blood term)

BK= Blood Killa (Crip term)

\$ = referencing drugs (sales/use)

SUR= Surenos

THREE DOTS= Mi Vida Loca

TEAR DROP= Prison time/Drive by shooter

WS= West Side

SS= South Side

ES= East Side

NS= North Side

CROWNS= Gang affiliation (5 point & 6 point)

BGD= Black Gangster Disciples

BOS= Brothers of the Struggle

SOS= Sisters of the Struggle

PITCHFORKS= Folk Symbol

CANE/STAFF= People Symbol

LA= Los Angeles (area code 213)

L= 12th letter of alphabet

A= 1st letter of alphabet

L (12) + A (1) = 13

NHB= Neighborhood Blood

SYMBOLS (Cont’)

NORTE-NORTENO =Gang Name

SURENO= Gang Name

HAPPY/SAD FACES= Play now; Pay later

CRAB= Slang put down for Crip member (Blood term)

SLOB= Slang put down for Blood member (Crip term)

CLOTHING

- dew rags
- lanyards
- shirts with any of the gang symbols, gang hand signs, gang numbers (13/14/187)
- 1/2 gloves
- shoelaces/red/blue
- wrist bands with gang references
- shoes with anarchy symbols or gang symbols
- hats with gang symbols under the bill, or tipped right or left
- hair nets
- pant legs (one up & one down)
- belts with gang numbers/ letters (ie: S= Surenos (if the student’s names doesn’t Begin with an S)



WHAT ARE WE SEEING IN THE SCHOOLS THIS YEAR?

The gang named “Insane Clown Posse” stems from a rock band who’s music is promoted by Psychopathic Records. It has over one million followers who call themselves Juggalos & Juggalettes. Joe Bruce (“Violent J”) gave Insane Clown Posse its name, and the band members began developing their “wicked clown” alter egos soon after. They also began painting their faces like clowns which became their trademark. They usually wear black or white clown-like “eye” make-up and often dress in black. Juggalos are people who have shared similar, hurtful, experiences such as being chosen last for team sports, who have had abusive parents, who haven’t had the necessary supports to grow successfully in life, who have not had others to turn to, and/or who feel they have been shunned by society. They refuse to conform to the mainstream.

One Juggalo states, “To me this Juggaloism means to be with people who are like you, and people that understand you. We are the freaks, thugs, scrubs, and generally the people you don’t see yourself fit to talk with. Another Juggalo says, “Juggalos are probably the most culturally diverse, self-expressive, unique, and creative people I know. Everyone is on an even level because we all grew up the same way and harnessed the same beliefs and ideas of life. There is no such thing as a hierarchy in this society, which we truly believe to be Utopia.”

ICP GRAFFITI ON NOTEBOOKS



ICP T-SHIRT



ICP IN A DRAINAGE DITCH NEAR A MIDDLE SCHOOL



ANARCHY SIGNS IN THE SCHOOLS



WRIST BAND



ANARCHY SYMBOL ON T-SHIRT

CONTEST!!!!

Several schools have called regarding messages shaved into student’s hair styles. I am working with each of the schools on what the intended message is. In the meantime, a \$5.00 Starbuck’s gift card goes to the first person who e-mails me, (below) or calls me, (above) with what the intended message of this shaved hair style might be!



ICP ON A WALL NEAR A HIGH SCHOOL





GRAFFITI

Laws that relate directly to graffiti:

Graffiti Materials:

- Broad-tipped markers
- Etching Equipment
- Paint Sticks
- Spray Paint Containers
- Other: Any other devices capable of scarring or leaving a visible mark on any natural or manmade surface.

21-6-604: Defacement Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to apply graffiti to any natural or manmade surface, on any City-owned property, or on any non-City-owned property.

Graffiti removal required time limits:

It shall be unlawful for the owner or occupant of any real property to permit graffiti to remain upon any permanently fixed object on the owner or occupant's property for a period exceeding ten (10) days after notice of the graffiti's existence.

21-6-605: Possession of Graffiti Materials Prohibited:

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess any graffiti materials while in or upon any public place, or while in or within one hundred (100) feet of an overpass, underpass, bridge abatement, storm drain, retaining wall or similar public or private infrastructure.

Exceptions to possessing graffiti materials:

- used in the scope of one's employment
- permission has been granted by property owner
- participating in a class that requires such materials
- transporting materials between lawful locations while going about one's lawful business or activity

Illegal Graffiti



Mural drawn, without owner's permission, on the inside of a rented apartment



Murals drawn on the outside of a business without the property owner's permission



Illegally drawn mural found on the inside of a rented home in Colorado Springs after tenants moved out



Legally drawn mural on owner's own vehicle

CONTEST:

Can you read the graffiti message inside this mural?
(\$5.00 Starbucks gift card to winner!)



HOW GANGS AFFECT OUR COMMUNITY



Getting prior approval, and strategically placing murals where gang graffiti often goes up in the community, is one positive way to combat illegal tagging. It also helps keep our schools & neighborhoods safe!



When an approved mural in a neighborhood gets tagged with graffiti, it's important that the neighborhood restore the mural quickly to discourage gangs from taking over.



This bridge to Manitou has ceramic murals under the bridge to discourage illegal tagging of graffiti. (below)



"The Melting Pot" mural (below) is located on an overpass in Colorado Springs to discourage illegal tagging of graffiti.



The downtown bus station (below) has approved "artistic murals" to discourage illegal tagging of graffiti by those passing through, or waiting for a bus.



Acacia Park has "approved murals" for everyone's enjoyment. (below)



Approved mural at Cache La Poudre has recently been restored by North Middle School students to eliminate the illegal tagging that took place. (below)





We've had multiple requests from school personnel and parents, asking for the following information:

Signs of Possible Pre-Gang Behavior:

(look for multiple signs)

- Sudden change in friendships
- Parents uneasy around new friends
- Attitude change-uninterested in family activities and values
- Spending more time alone-withdrawal
- Poor grades at school - cutting classes
- Angry or bullying attitude
- Impatient, intolerant, aggressive
- Disrespectful and demanding
- Resents authority figures
- In trouble with the police
- Dressing regularly in a particular color



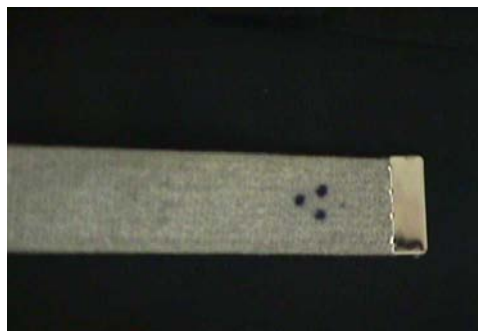
Red is the common color for "Blood" gang members
(alternate color is green)



Blue is the common color used for "Crip" gang members
(alternate color is purple)



Look for dew rags indicating possible gang involvement



(Three dots represent: Mi Vida Loco)

Look for unfamiliar symbols on belts, (above) on jewelry (below), tattoos, or graffiti on notebooks.



Look for signs of possible drug involvement:



Marijuana Leaf Patch



Earring (above), and necklace (below) with dollar sign displayed



"Dollar Sign" dew rag (below)





School's out for the summer....Do you know where you're children are?

Graffiti locations where children often hang out when they aren't in school:



Drainage ditches under roadways (above)



Ladders leading to underground culverts that extend throughout the city



Underground tunnels housing the homeless



Drugs & drug paraphernalia are often found in above areas



Business rooftops are popular locations for graffiti artists (above)



Buildings with exterior ladders offer easy access for rooftop graffiti



Razor wire offers little or no protection from graffiti (see wall behind wire above)



Ladders offer easy access to billboards for graffiti artists

Locations where the homeless seek shelter & our students hang out



Under bridges (above)



Train yards with active train activity



Look high (above) Look low (below)



Structured and supervised summer activities help our students have a fun and safe summer!