Society’s “traditional” type of street level gangs will be here for generations to come. They are never going away because they are so deeply embedded within our communities.

“They are the community!”

Objectives

- Discuss a general overview of gang culture
- Discuss Hispanic gangs and their activities
- Discuss how we target their activities
- Discuss briefly:
  - Elements of a gang: gang subcultures; Graffiti; hand signs; clothing; tattoos; geographical areas dominated by gangs; generational issues of gang involvement; Merging subcultures

Street-Level Gang Dynamics and Characteristics

The sub-culture of “Traditional” Street Gangs

- Hand signs
- Tattoos
- Graffiti
- Clothing
- The Drive
- The Mindset

The Street Gang Loose-knit structure

Hardcore
Active membership
General membership
Associate/Periphery

Cliques: Sub-groups within established gangs

Gang Sub-Cultures

- Street-level
- Tagger
- Prison
- Motorcycle
- Mafia-style
- Racial
- Profit-oriented
- DTO’s

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Street-Level Gangs

- Hispanic
- Black
- White
- Filipino
- Samoan
- Somali
- Laotian
- Cambodian/Hmong
- Vietnamese

Street-level Hispanic Gangs
Section of the Pie….

- Logan 30ta
- Logan 33rd Street
- Logan Trece
- Logan Redsteps
- Shelltown Gamma Street
- Shelltown 38th Street
- Market Street
- Lomas
- Sherman
- Paradise Hills Locos
- Varrio Encanto Locos
- Eastside

Merging Sub-Cultures

Rebels and…

Seemingly innocent Social Groups

Street-level Youth gangs

First-Generation Gangs

- Woptown
- Mountain View 73 Ls
- ALS
- Martin Block
- Mission Bay Locos
- Mira Mesa 13
- Linda Vista 13

Characteristics of local gangs

The characteristics of our traditional Hispanic or Latino gangs are generally the same as in most areas of the country.

- **Handsigns:** used to identify their affiliation and/or commitment to their gang.
- **Tattoos:** used to identify with their gang and/or accent their bodies.
- **Graffiti:** marking turf, challenging, disrespect, honoring their dead, establish themselves and their identities.
- **Clothing:** typical styles/fashion, some with markings and many use specific sports attire.
Hip Hop Culture has imprinted its clothing styles in gang culture.

Remember... Look like a duck, walk like a duck, act like a duck...

A duck will likely come up and say, “Quack Quack”

VELS
Varrio Encanto Locos members displaying the “E” “V” and “VE”

Encanto is a community within the Southeastern areas of San Diego and borders the city of Lemon Grove. Primary rivals are LV70’s and Varrio Market Street Locos.

Paradise Hills Locos (PHLS)
throwing up “P” and “H.” Primary rivals are LV70’s and all National City gang sets.

“Gang-related” Tattoos
For a tattoo to be “gang-related,” it must have something to do with a specific criminal street gang.

Common tattoos that are not necessarily “gang-related” but often worn by gang members.

- The three dots
- The Pachuco Mark
- 69 or 34 ½ (note: VELS69th Street)
- Spider web
- Telephone area codes
La Causa meaning "The Cause."
“Crooks” was a Parolee-at-large who needed a place to stay. So he bought a handgun and emptied a clip of .45 caliber rounds in a residential area. He figured police would put him in jail and he would have a place to stay. **HE FIGURED RIGHT**

An officer attending a community meeting in the Logan Heights area came out to find his car vandalized.
THE DRIVE

Street-level gang culture is driven by the concepts of:

RESPECT and DISRESPECT

Granted: They are concepts distorted “in the mind” of the gang member.
THE MINDSET

Most gang members have a very confrontational mindset that serves to challenge, confront or assault anyone who:

- The Gang Member
  - Doesn’t know and happens into their ‘turf’
  - Believes is from another gang
  - Believes is from a “rival” gang
  - Believes ‘Disrespects’ him
  - Believes Disrespects a companion