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1. Letters

1.1 Letter From Secretary General

Distinguished delegates, I am your Secretary General, Egemen Erkan. First of all, I wish you all a great conference. When we organized the 1973MUN conference, our main goal was to create a new, unparalleled conference that, academically speaking, would allow you to look back and say, "It was worth my time and I gained so much from this." We carefully selected each Under Secretary General for our conference. Each of them is a master in their field and a successful member who will do everything in their power to help you. Thank you all for joining us, and I wish you all the best in your work.

Best Regards

Egemen Erkan / Secretary General

1.2 Letter From Co Under-Secretary General

Dear delegates;

I am thrilled to be your Co Under-Secretary General in this amazing conference and in this exciting committee that i have been waiting impatiently for weeks. I hope and think we will all have a productive time.

I have forgotten how many MUN's i have attended in my career but this is the first time a last time plan came up that blocked my way of attending this conference. Sadly i won't be there to guide you or have fun reading gossip or just simply enjoying the time i spend with my friends. Though don't you worry a bit, your Under-Secretary General Levent Kırım -which is also a really dear friend of mine- is one of the best MUN'ers i have ever seen if not the best.

I would like to thank our Director General, Secretary General and mostly my friend Levent for inviting me and proposing the idea of making a NYPD committee. The second i heard the idea i thought to myself "This ought to be a great committee".

As we begin this conference, I encourage each of you to fully immerse yourselves in the topic and approach every session with focus and empathy. I hope this committee not only helps you grow as a delegate but also leaves you with memories, friendships, and insights that stay with you beyond this MUN.

"Power resides where men believe it resides. It's a trick. A shadow on the wall. And a very small man can cast a very large shadow."

Varys, from Game of Thrones

Sincerely,

Doğru Poyraz Yakıcı/ Co Under-Secretary General of NYPD

1.2 Letter From Co Under-Secretary General

Dear Delegates

As the Under-Secretary-General of the NYPD for this committee, it's been a wild ride stepping into this role, balancing crisis, chaos, and some questionable decisions along the way. But that's what makes MUN what it is.

At its core, the NYPD represents order in the middle of unpredictability. And in a way, that's exactly what we've been doing here trying to make sense of complex problems, working together (or sometimes against each other), and pushing for solutions under pressure.

But this letter is also a bit different for me personally. This conference marks the sooncoming end of my MUN journey. After countless committees, debates, last-minute directives, and way too many coffees, it's strange knowing this is the beginning of the end.

One night your SG called me and said *Aga gel mun yapak* and I tried my best to create the best committee I've ever done with the help of your Co-USG Dogu. Also I'd like to thank Ali Efe Kayali for giving me the idea and helping me with creating procedures

So as we move forward in this committee, I just want to say: make it count. Take risks, speak up, challenge each other, and don't be afraid to go all in. These are the moments you'll actually remember.

Sincerely,
Under Secretary General of NYPD

2. Introduction to the Committee

2.1. Committee overview

The New York City Police Department (NYPD), being the largest and one of the oldest police departments in the country, has the mandate of providing security to the people of New York. In the context of a Model UN meeting, this committee would be a legislative committee. It would be responsible for providing security to the people of New York while at the same time respecting the rights of the people.

2.2. Scope and jurisdiction

The committee has jurisdiction over all five boroughs of New York City. These are Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, The Bronx, and Staten Island. The delegates must consider the following:

I. Tactical Operations: Direct law enforcement efforts such as gang raids and the "Criminal Group Database."

II. Legislative Policy: Coming up with city-wide policies to stop recruitment.

III. Community Relations: Working with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and the Department of Education (DOE).

3. Background & Historical Context

3.1 History of Gang Activity in NYC

Gang activity in NYC dates back to the 1820s, starting in the "Five Points" neighborhood of Lower Manhattan



a. In the 19th Century early gangs such as the Forty Thieves and Bowery Boys were ethnically organized (Irish and Nativist) and often associated with local "political machines." "Five points gang" was crucial in gang activities around these times. They were the bridge between street brawls and the birth of Italian-American mafia, having famous figures in their crew at that time

b. In the Mid-20th Century (1950s-1970s) there was a shift in gang formation with the mass migration of people. Black and Latino communities organized gangs to maintain territorial and cultural turf against systemic segregation. Also there were massive "super-gangs" in the Bronx during the late 60s and 70s. While they were known for violence, they also functioned as quasi-political organizations in neglected neighborhoods.

c. The Explosion of the 1990s was the beginning of modern-day racial affiliations (Bloods, Crips) within the New York State prison system, particularly Rikers Island. In our days the major gangs in the area consist of Hispanic-American, African-American and Dominican-American individuals. These groups often identify with a

specific housing project or block (e.g., a specific set of Crips or Bloods that only operates in one neighborhood).

3.2. Major Gangs and Their Origins

I. The United Blood Nation (UBN)

- **Origin:** Founded in 1993 at Rikers Island (George Motchan Detention Center).
- **Context:** It was created by Omar "McK" Portee and Leonard "Dead Eye" McKenzie to protect African-American inmates from the dominance of Latin Kings and Netas within the prison system. It eventually spread to the streets of all five boroughs.

II. The Latin Kings (ALKQN)

- **Origin:** While they originated in Chicago in the 1950s, the New York "Bloodline" chapter was established in the late 1980s within the New York State prison system.
- **Context:** They focused heavily on Puerto Rican and Hispanic identity, operating with a rigid, religion-like manifesto known as "The King Manifesto."

III. Trinitarios

- **Origin:** Formed in 1989 within the New York prison system.
- **Context:** A Dominican-American gang that originally formed for protection against other groups in prison. They are now one of the fastest-growing gangs in the NYC metro area, particularly in Upper Manhattan and the Bronx.

IV. MS-13 (Mara Salvatrucha):

- **Origin:** Founded in Los Angeles in the 1980s by Salvadoran refugees fleeing a brutal civil war. They formed the group to

protect themselves from established Mexican and African-American gangs.

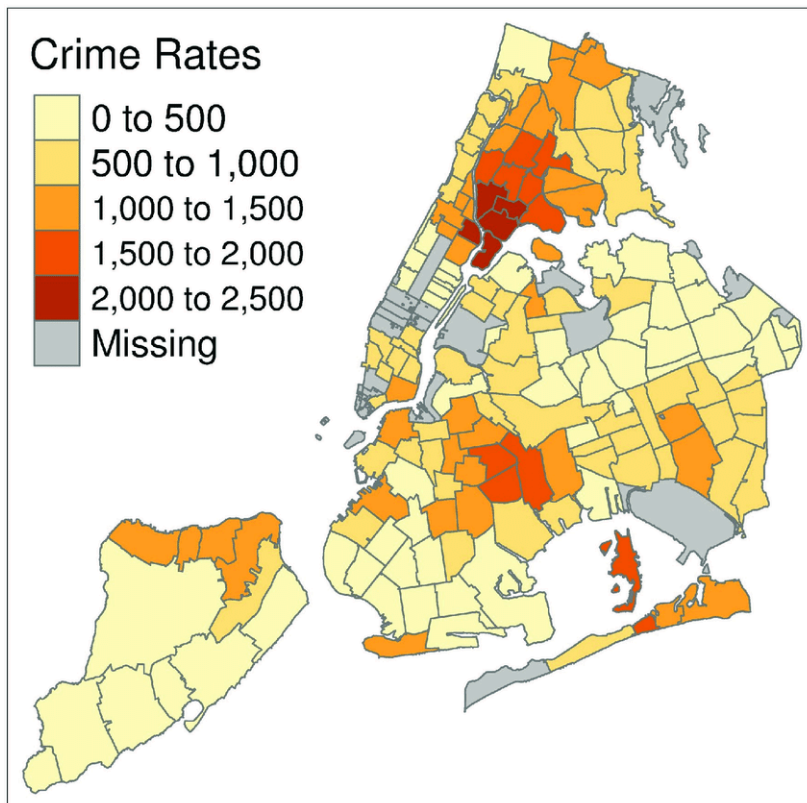
- **Structure:** They operate in "cliques" (local cells) with names like *Sailors Locos Salvatruchos* or *Hollywood Locos*. While they have roots in LA, the New York cliques often operate with a high degree of local autonomy.

V. The Crips:

- **The Origin:** In the 1980s, many Belizean immigrants in Los Angeles were deported back to Belize, taking Crip culture with them. When these individuals later moved to New York (specifically Harlem and Brooklyn), they established the first "sets."
- **Context:** The structure of the Crips in New York is centered around the "Set," which is a local chapter tied to a specific neighborhood or housing project and led by an "OG" (Original Gangster) who manages territory and disputes. Below the leadership are the "Young Homies" or rank-and-file members who handle street-level operations like drug distribution and defending the block from rivals.

3.3. Geographic Distribution: Boroughs and Hot Zones

While gang activity exists across the city, it is heavily concentrated in specific "**Hot Zones**"—neighborhoods where high-density public housing (NYCHA) often intersects with systemic socioeconomic challenges.



I.The Bronx (The Epicenter): The area currently witnesses the most gang violence, especially among the younger "crews."

a.South Bronx (Mott Haven & Hunts Point): These areas have historically been dominated by the Bloods and Trinitarios gangs.

b.Fordham & University Heights: These areas have emerged as new hotspots, especially due to "Drill Rap" violence, where virtual violence translates into real violence.

II.Brooklyn (Sectarian Turf): The borough comprises various national "nations," along with independent block sets.

a.East New York & Brownsville: These areas have the highest density of NYCHA buildings, where violence is restricted to turf wars, such as the conflict between the Van Dyke Houses and Tilden Houses.

b.Bedford-Stuyvesant: This area comprises complex gang turf, where established gang territories overlap with residential areas.

III. Manhattan (Northern Strongholds): The area comprises high-density neighborhoods, where gang activity is concentrated in the northern regions.

a. East Harlem (Spanish Harlem): The area has historically been dominated by the Latin Kings and Trinitarios, who compete for control over the narcotics trade.

b. Washington Heights & Inwood: The geography of the area, featuring high-rise buildings, often translates into the use of the terrain for lookouts.

IV. Queens (The Coastal & Transit Hubs):

The gangs in this area operate in isolated clusters, especially around the major transportation hubs.

a. Far Rockaway: The geographical seclusion of the area has led to the development of extremely exclusive local gangs.

b. Jamaica: The area comprises a major transit hub, where various gangs compete for recruitment.

V. Staten Island (The North Shore):

The area comprises St. George and Stapleton, where "folk-nation" gangs often replicate the gang activity in the nearby Brooklyn area.

3.4. Key Historical Turning Points

The history of NYC gangs has been impacted by a number of key legislative, judicial, and social occurrences. The following four events are critical for any delegate to be aware of:

I. The 1993 "Unification" on Rikers Island

NYC gangs were in a state of disarray until 1993. Yet within the walls of the Rikers Island correctional facility, a dramatic change was taking place. In an attempt to combat the rising influence of the Latin Kings, a number of smaller gangs came together to form a new entity: the United Blood Nation (UBN).

Impact: An "industrialized" approach to gangs in NYC was born, giving rise to a new hierarchical structure of gangs that would quickly multiply from the correctional facilities and out onto the streets of all five boroughs of the city of New York.

II. The Rockefeller Drug Laws and the "Kingpin" Era (1970s-1990s)

Tough mandatory sentences for those convicted of a drug-related crime led to a number of high-level members of NYC gangs being locked away in correctional facilities.

Impact: Although these drug laws were designed to dismantle the gangs of NYC, a new era of violence was born. Younger and more unstable members of these gangs came to power and ran the streets of NYC. Without the "old guard" to impose a code of conduct, violence became unpredictable.

III. The 2014 "Operation Crew Cut"

The NYPD, in an attempt to combat the escalating violence within public housing, developed a new initiative called "Operation Crew Cut." This initiative shifted from focusing on national-level gang groups, such as the Crips or Bloods, and instead focused on smaller, localized gang groups, referred to as "Crews," consisting of 10-20 members, usually related to a specific housing project or block.

Impact: This led to massive sweeps of these gang groups within the city, but this, in turn, led to an increase in smaller, localized gang groups, which we are witnessing today.

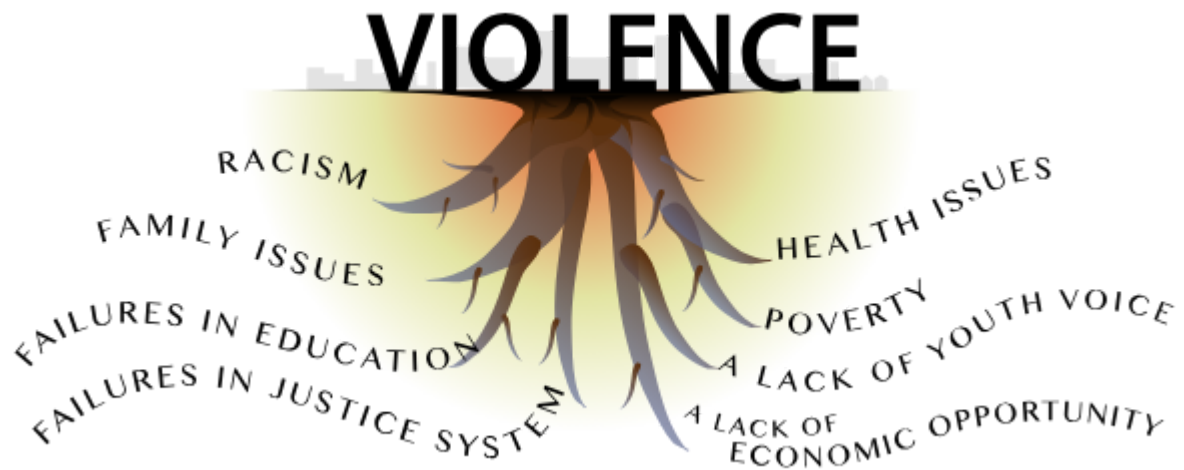
IV. The Digital Shift: The Rise of "Cyberbanging" (2010s-Present)

The introduction of smartphones and social media has had a significant effect on the evolution of gang culture.

Impact: The "Drill Music" genre has become the primary source of gang conflicts. A diss track created within a recording studio has now become capable of igniting a retaliatory drive-by within a matter of hours, making it difficult for the NYPD to utilize their "beat policing" method.

4. Root Causes of Gang-Affiliated Activities

In order to deal with gang violence, it is imperative that the committee not just look at the crime but also analyze how systemic failure provides an environment where gangs recruit members. These underlying factors are often referred to as "push and pull factors."



4.1 Socioeconomic Deprivation & Poverty

Economic instability is perhaps the biggest predictor of gang affiliation in NYC. This is because in many neighborhoods in NYC, the informal economy directly competes with the formal economy.

- **The 'Breadwinner' Trap:** Youth in extreme economic hardship may turn to gangs because they feel it is an opportunity to support their families since other jobs are not an option due to lack of experience or because they have a history of incarceration. It may seem as an easy money which is why it is the cause of a great amount of teens getting into gang violence
- **Lack of Resources:** Neighborhoods with the highest gang activity typically correlate with "food deserts" and a lack of youth centers, leaving teenagers with few supervised outlets for socialization. Thus leading them astray from a legal path.

4.2 Educational Inequality & The School-to-Prison Pipeline

The NYC Department of Education is in crisis because its disciplinary policies mirror those in the prison system.

- **The Pipeline:** This term is used to describe how many students are being pushed out of the school system and into the juvenile and prison system. This is often caused by over-policing in schools via School Safety Agents that arrest students for minor behavioral infractions. This may lead a student growing hatred towards the police which can lead them to gang affiliated activities
- **Academic Disengagement:** Students who fail in school due to overcrowding or lack of specialized education often seek a sense of 'achievement' and 'belonging' in a gang because they couldn't achieve academic or any kind of memorable success they seek acceptance from elsewhere.

4.3.Housing Insecurity & The Role of NYCHA

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) plays a vital role in the narrative of gangs. Though they offer essential living spaces, they have become isolated "islands" of poverty.

- **Territoriality:** Because of their physical separation from the adjacent blocks of private property, the NYCHA developments create a "turf" boundary.
- **Infrastructure Failures:** In many of the NYCHA developments, broken locks, dark hallways, and malfunctioning security cameras enable gangs to utilize common spaces anonymously, intimidating legal citizens.

4.4 Family Instability & Community Trauma

Gangs as a Surrogate Family: Many gangs fill a role as a surrogate family for those youth who have experienced family instability.

- **The Family Appeal:** To those foster children or those living with a single parent who is working multiple jobs, gangs offer mentorship, protection, and brotherhood. It is widely used by gangs to lure new people especially young people into the life of crime.
- **The Cycles of Trauma:** As a result of the high levels of violence within communities, PTSD affects many children. Traumatized youth have a tendency to be "hyper-vigilant" or aggressive. This attitude is a survival mechanism for those who have witnessed much violence. This attitude is in line with the aggressive nature of gangs.

4.5.Social Media & Online Recruitment

Recruitment today is no longer relegated to the street corner. Today, gangs recruit via smartphone. This phenomenon is referred to as "Cyberbanging."

- **The Glamour of Gangs:** They utilize social media to display their wealth, money, bling, cars, etc. This is a false image of success for those living in poverty.

- **Instigating Violence:** Social media is used as a catalyst. A diss on social media goes viral in a matter of seconds. A gang member is forced to retaliate violently to avoid being perceived as weak.

5. Current Situation & Key Statistics (2025–2026) Currently, in early 2026, New York City is experiencing a historic decrease in gun violence, with the NYPD recording some of the lowest rates of shootings and murders in the history of the city. Though the total incidence of violence is down, the involvement of gangs, especially among youth, is a more complicated and pressing issue facing the committee.

I. Gang Population & Crime Data The NYPD uses the Criminal Group Database, also called the "Gang Database," to monitor individuals who have possible gang affiliations.

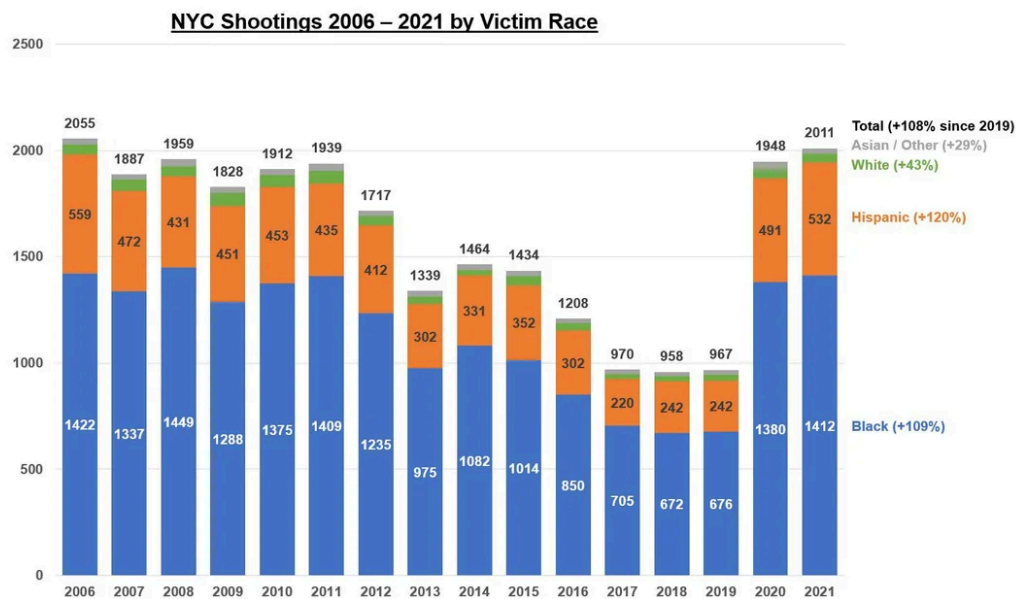
- **Database Size:** As of early 2026, the database contains around 8,500 to 13,000 active individuals and more than 500 different criminal groups. This is a considerable decrease from 2022, recording 16,000+ in database entries, due to recent internal audits and "precision policing" reforms.
- **Shooting Trends:** 2025 has been recorded as the safest year ever in terms of gun violence in NYC, with around 688 shooting incidents citywide, a 24% decrease from 2024 statistics.

- **The "Crossover" Effect:** Though shootings have decreased, felony assault figures are still high. NYPD statistics indicate that many of the conflicts related to gangs are no longer centered around firearms, but more centered around physical altercations and crimes involving blades, fueled by neighborhood rivalries.

II. Youth Involvement and Demographics The most concerning trend for the committee is the age of both perpetrators and victims of gang-related crimes.

- **Age of Involvement:** While the majority of the Gang Database includes adults aged 18-34, there has been a 25% increase in major crimes committed by minors under the age of 18.
- **Juvenile Recruitment:** According to law enforcement and community advocates, the average age of a youth recruited into a gang is 13 years old, and many of those youth are considered "active" as early as 11 and 12 years old
- **Racial Demographics:** The racial demographics of individuals identified as part of a gang also remain a concern. Approximately 98% to 99% of individuals identified as part of a gang through the NYPD's Criminal Group Database are Black or Latino. This statistic is a topic of much discussion, as it is perceived by many as a result of racial profiling of high-crime

"hot zones" by law enforcement.



- Gender:** While the majority of individuals identified as part of a gang are male, approximately 90%, there is a growing trend of females, specifically those who act as facilitators of social media-fueled conflicts.

6. Existing Policies & Their Effectiveness

6.1 NYPD Gang Database

The NYPD uses a centralized digital ledger to keep a record of individuals with known or suspected gang affiliations.



I. The NYPD aims to identify "drivers of violence" in order to target a small percentage of the population instead of entire communities.

a. It has been deemed a crucial tool for "Precision Policing" and solving cold cases, but it remains extremely contentious, especially considering 99% of those in the database are either Black or Latino, and anyone, including minors, can be added if they have "liked" a social media post or been photographed with someone suspected of being a gang member, regardless of whether they have ever been involved in a crime.

b. There have been protests and public aggression towards the NYPD. One of the main reasons is accusing the NYPD of racism, claiming most of the "criminals" are of Latin or black roots. Here are some of the main complaints by the public:

1. Racism
2. People not being informed about being included in the list
3. Some documents show even children are being involved, as young as 11.
4. People have no rights to file a complaint

6.2 Cure Violence & Violence Interrupter Programs

Unlike more traditional law enforcement, Cure Violence aims to combat violence in communities, stating that violence is a public health issue that can be "interrupted" before spreading.

I.The city funds "Credible Messengers," mostly former prisoners with high status within their communities, to mediate beefs between rival gangs and "de-escalate" violence before it leads to shootings.

II.However there can be cases where these Credible Messengers could be hurt or any worse. It is important to ensure the safety of these people

III.Programs such as B.R.A.G. (Bronx Rises Against Gun Violence) have been shown to be successful, with some precincts reporting a 20-30% reduction in shootings, but funding remains an issue, especially considering how much money goes into funding the NYPD.

6.3 Federal Prosecution Strategies (RICO)

The Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act, originally intended to combat the Mafia, has become the main weapon in the war on street gangs.

- **The Strategy:** Under the RICO Act, the entire group can be charged for the crimes of the members, as long as they are part of a "criminal enterprise." This has led to massive "gang sweeps," in which dozens of people are rounded up at once.
- **Effectiveness:** This law is very effective in dismantling the leadership of the street gangs and keeping the violent members off the streets in prison. The only drawback is that these sweeps tend to catch the "low-level" members of the gangs, which can disrupt the social fabric.



Crimes Covered by the
R.I.C.O. ACT

- Bribery
- Kidnapping
- Money Laundering
- Murder
- Embezzlement
- Drug Trafficking
- Prostitution

6.4 Reentry & Diversion Programs

These are the "back end" programs, meaning they are the focus on what happens when someone is arrested or released from prison.

- **The Strategy:** Diversion programs, such as Youth Court, are designed to prevent first-time offenders from going to jail by providing them with counseling or community service. Reentry programs provide the ex-inmate with a job and a place to stay, especially when released from Rikers Island or state prison.
- **Effectiveness:** These programs are the most effective in keeping the ex-gang member from reengaging in the criminal culture. If they have a job and a place to stay, the "gang pull" is greatly diminished. Unfortunately, these programs tend to elicit "Not In My Backyard" protests when they are located in the neighborhood.

7. Stakeholder Positions & Bloc Analysis

In NYC the police force and public may and have differed on many topics this has led to protests and resistance against arrests even by the innocent defending the guilty. Thus blocking the way of law enforcements ensuring justice is served.

7.1 Law Enforcement & City Government

They are concerned with maintaining law and order and providing security to the public. This includes the NYPD, District Attorneys from all five boroughs of New York City, and the Mayor's Office.

- **The Position:** They think that while social programs are important, "Precision Policing" and the Gang Database are a necessity to take violent drivers off the street. They think in terms of using the RICO Act and "Operation Crew Cut" raids on the gang structure itself.

Key Arguments: "Public safety is a prerequisite for economic growth." They often push for more funding for surveillance technology and ShotSpotter systems.

7.2 Civil Rights & Community Organizations

This includes those who are on the front lines and are directly affected by the violence and policing of the gangs. This includes the American Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU) and all "Know Your Rights" organizations.

- **The Position:** They believe that the aggressive policing and use of the Gang Database result in racial profiling and "School to Prison Pipeline." They believe that the mass incarceration of the youth of the gangs does more harm than good to the community structure.

Key Arguments: "We cannot police our way out of poverty." They push for the abolition or heavy auditing of the Gang Database and more investment in the "Cure Violence" model.

7.3 Academic & Public Health Perspectives

This group represents the sociologists and psychologists, studying the behavior of the gangs and violence caused by them. This group also includes academic organizations such as NYU and Columbia University.

- **The Position:** They believe in using the "Public Health Model" and believe that violence is a disease that can be stopped and contained. They believe in using the "Push and Pull" factors, which are part of the root cause of violence, which we discussed in Section 3 of this report.

Key Arguments: "Violence is a symptom of systemic failure." Reentry and Diversion programs are important, and stability can only be obtained through "Wraparound Services."

8. Proposed Solutions & Policy Recommendations

8.1. Prevention: Education, Housing & Economic Investment

Prevention aims to prevent gang recruitment before it occurs by targeting the "Push Factors" within a youth's life situation.

- **Universal After-School Programming:** Increasing COMPASS funding so all youth in "Hot Zones" have a safe and productive outlet between 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM.
- **NYCHA Modernization:** Investing in "Design for Security" to reclaim NYCHA territory from gang activity through improved lighting, door locks, and communal spaces.
- **Youth Employment (SYEP):** Expanding Summer Youth Employment Program to include "Bridge to Work" programs to provide a legitimate economic outlet instead of "fast money" for street crews.

8.2. Intervention: Outreach & Mental Health Support

Intervention works to reach those on the "edge" of gang activity and stop them before they fall in through immediate personal engagement.

- **Trauma-Informed Care:** Mandating mental health services for youth in high-violence precincts to treat PTSD-fueled aggressive gang activity.
- **Hospital-Based Intervention:** Stationing "Violence Interrupters" at Level 1 Trauma Centers (e.g., Jacobi or Bellevue Hospital) to engage shooting victims before they leave the emergency room and prevent a retaliatory cycle.

8.3. Suppression: Targeted Enforcement

Suppression is the traditional role of the NYPD but with a modernized approach to be less intrusive to law-abiding citizens.

- **Audit of the Gang Database:** An oversight board to ensure that no minor is added to the database without clear evidence of their involvement in crime.
- **Precision Technology:** Using forensics and ballistics to track crime guns through NIBIN to determine which guns have been used in multiple crimes and eliminate the worst offenders without having to sweep up neighborhoods.

8.4. Reintegration: Post-Incarceration Support

Reintegration ensures that the revolving door to prisons is closed by supporting those released back to society.

- **The "First 72 Hours" Initiative:** Providing vouchers and employment assistance to those released from Rikers Island within the first three days.

1. Make an emergency plan

WHO ...
do I need to consider?
do I need to tell?

WHAT ...
do I need to know?
do I need to do?

WHERE ...
will I go?
do I get information?
do I keep my plan?

HOW ...
will I get there?
will I get there - plan B?

WHY ...
do I need to make a plan?

TO SUPPORT PLANNING:

- To prepare for fire
cfa.vic.gov.au
- To prepare for flood and storm
ses.vic.gov.au
- Set up a watch zone
emergency.vic.gov.au
- Rediplan
redcross.org.au/prepare

2. Back up information

Important things to save:

- Your emergency plan
- Identification (to prove who you are)

DOCUMENTS

- Insurance policies
- Property documents
- Medical information and prescriptions
- Financial records

HOME INVENTORY

- Photos of possessions
- Photos of house assets
- Receipts, warranties etc.

CONTACT LIST

- Family
- Utility providers
- Other: _____

3. Prepare a kit

Gather and store items ready to support you and your family for 72 hours:

WATER	MEDICATION	RADIO & BATTERIES
TORCH	DOCUMENTS	FOOD
FIRST AID	CLOTHES	TOILETRIES
MONEY	PHONE & CHARGER	PET'S NEEDS
CHILDREN'S NEEDS	GLASSES	WHAT ELSE?

4. Stay informed

WARNINGS AND ADVICE

It is important to tune in to official and accurate information channels to stay informed with the facts before, during and after an emergency.

VIC EMERGENCY
emergency.vic.gov.au
Hotline: 1800 226 226
Press 9 for interpreter

EMERGENCY RADIO BROADCAST

Frequency: _____

Warnings – It's important to read the whole warning for information on evacuations, Emergency Relief Centres and more.

FLOOD STORM EMERGENCY
132 500
If life threatening call triple zero 000

- **Peer Mentorship:** Funding to provide those incarcerated with mentors to help those newly released navigate social situations to return to their original neighborhoods without falling back into their original gang sets.