Dear Crime Prevention Practitioner,

Protecting children and youth from drugs, violence, and crime is one of society’s most important priorities. As our society grows larger and more complex, the challenges associated with this task grow as well. Today, more children are latchkey kids and statistics show that children who are unsupervised are three times more likely than children supervised by adults to be involved in accidents, to engage in delinquent behavior, or to be victimized. There is no denying that technological advances have made the world a better place, but technology has also made it easier for scam artists, child predators, and other criminals to enter our homes in broad daylight via the Internet, the telephone, or other electronic devices. The deterioration of many communities that are plagued by drugs, gangs, crime, and homelessness has an impact on the safety of children at school, on playgrounds, and even in their own backyards.

One of the best ways to help protect children and youth from crime in today’s complex world is to teach them sound crime prevention habits that will carry them through to adulthood and how to share these crime prevention habits with siblings, friends, acquaintances—their entire peer group. With their energy and enthusiasm, children and youth are valuable resources for law enforcement and their communities, and they are easily engaged as partners to bring about positive community change. Across the nation, youth have implemented service-learning projects that have helped reduce or eliminate a specific crime or violence problem. Working through school- and community-based clubs such as McGruff Clubs; the Teens, Crime, and the Community program; Neighborhood Watches; religious organizations; and other groups, youth have carried out hundreds of projects: renovating shelters, cleaning up parks, removing graffiti, promoting tobacco prevention, tutoring at-risk youth, participating in Teen Courts and Youth Advisory Councils, and taking steps to prevent bullying and hate crimes.

This year’s kit, Protecting Children and Youth From Crime, provides strategies and reproducible materials designed to help you educate children and youth on how they can protect themselves from being the victims of identity theft, property theft, online predators, teen dating violence, bullying, and other crimes. Program examples for each month in the calendar illustrate ways that children and youth can share this information with their peer groups by organizing school crime watches, conducting workshops and rallies to promote crime prevention, participating in youth-run conflict-resolution programs, mentoring at-risk youth, and starting their own service-learning projects. The materials and resources in the kit are intended for use in everyday outreach, newsletters, special events, public service announcements, and targeted media campaigns. We hope this crime prevention kit will inspire and support you in your efforts to protect our nation’s children and youth.

Alfonso E. Lenhardt
President and CEO
National Crime Prevention Council
Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America and young people have become the number one demographic target for identity thieves. According to the Federal Trade Commission, the largest number—29 percent—of individuals who reported being victims of identity theft in the United States in 2005 were in the 18- to 29-age group. Many young victims don’t discover that their identities have been stolen until they apply for driver’s licenses and their applications are denied because licenses have already been issued under their social security numbers. Other victims find out that they have been targeted by identity thieves when their requests for credit cards or student loans are declined due to poor credit.

The U.S. Department of Justice defines identity theft as a type of crime in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person’s personal data in some way that involves fraud or deception, typically for economic gain. Many young adults are vulnerable to identity theft because they are unaware of the need to safeguard personal information, such as their social security numbers or mother’s maiden names. Many teens lack established credit records that can be monitored, allowing perpetrators to use their identities for years without being detected. Teens who have had their identities stolen suffer the same consequences as adult victims of identity theft; they must spend time and money to straighten out their credit histories and be deprived of important credit opportunities.

Qwest offers identity theft prevention resources for teenagers, parents, and educators on its website, www.incredibleinternet.com. These resources include fact sheets for teens and parents; short videos for teens about the importance of keeping their personal information safe; an online tutorial that explains how to understand a credit report; and two identity theft curricula for use by educators that include a 50-minute presentation for a single class period, and a full semester course complete with syllabus and exercises. The curricula are available for download free-of-charge on the website. Qwest is a provider of voice, video, and data services in the United States and abroad.

Contact:
Qwest
800-899-7780
www.qwest.com
www.incredibleinternet.com


Many teens lack established credit records that can be monitored, allowing perpetrators to use their identities for years without being detected.
For many students, creating a personal page on a social networking website such as Facebook or MySpace is a form of independence and self-expression. Often these pages read like personal diaries and contain intimate details of the students’ lives, including photographs, relationship information, hobbies and interests, and even where they go to school. Many students falsely believe that they are sharing this information only with friends and other students. However, social networking sites only create the illusion of privacy and are in fact accessible to just about anyone who wants to gain access, including parents, school administrators, and law enforcement.

Millions of high school and college students are posting information about themselves without realizing that social networking sites may be dangerous. Pedophiles use social networking sites to find potential victims. Even if a young person doesn’t list a physical address or phone number, he or she may provide enough personal information for a pedophile to use to start a relationship over the Internet. Many parents do not understand how to monitor their teenagers’ use of social networking sites and cannot view these sites because they are password protected.

NCPC partners with the Internet Keep Safe Coalition (www.ikeepsafe.org) to keep children safe on the Internet. The website uses an animated icon / mascot named Faux Paw the Techno Cat to teach children the importance of protecting personal information and avoiding inappropriate places on the Internet. It teaches children to safely navigate the internet through a virtual playground, Faux Paw’s adventures in storybooks, an animated video download, and educational games. Educational materials including worksheets and tests are also available for parents and educators.

Teenangels is a program of WiredSafety.org, an online safety, education, and help group. Teenangels are young people ages 13 to 18 who have been specially trained by law enforcement agencies and other safety experts in all aspects of online safety, privacy, and security. In six sessions, participating teens learn about the four Ps: privacy, predators, pornography, and piracy. They are taught how to protect passwords, how to handle cyberbullying, how to report online crime, and the importance of not sharing personal information. They also learn how to create a PowerPoint presentation and speak in front of others. After being fully trained, Teenangels run programs in schools to spread the word about responsible and safe surfing to other teens and younger kids, parents, and teachers. In June 2006, WiredSafety.org hosted the first Summit on Protecting Our Kids on Social Networks. A new offshoot of the program, Tweenangels, is for kids ages 9 to 12. Each Teenangel and Tweenangel is asked to commit at least 500 other students to training each year. Teenangel and Tweenangel chapters are organized around a school, faith-based organization, community group, or other youth organization.

Contacts:
Dr. Parry Aftab
Internet Keep Safe Coalition
Wired Safety
201-463-8663
parry@aftab.com
teenangels@wiredsafety.org

Crime Prevention Month Kits 2007-2008
National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month
November 2007
202-401-8004
Tie One On for Safety Campaign, Red Ribbon
(May 28-30)
MADD
800-442-4353

Hanukkah begins at sundown
Christmas Day
Kwanzaa begins at sundown

December 07
Educating Teens About Methamphetamines

Overall, methamphetamine (meth) use across the nation has declined in recent years, but its use by youth ages 12 to 17 continues to be a serious concern in many states in the West and Midwest, especially South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Nevada, Washington, Wyoming, Colorado, and Idaho. Meth is a powerful, highly addictive, stimulant drug that dramatically affects the central nervous system. Long-term effects include chronic fatigue, paranoid or delusional thinking, and permanent psychological and physical damage. Meth is relatively cheap and readily accessible. Youth who try meth may mistakenly believe it is less harmful than other drugs such as heroin and cocaine. Some believe, particularly girls, that taking meth will help them lose weight or give them a boost of energy when they need it. Users often experience extreme depression when coming off the drug, and the relapse rate following treatment is high. Most meth is produced in large “super labs,” but the number of home-made labs in which “meth cooks” create small amounts of the drug from legitimate household products is increasing. Toxic and explosive chemicals are by-products of the production process and have a devastating effect on the environment, communities, and any children who are present. One approach to solving the meth problem is to monitor the sale of household products used to make meth. Experts agree, however, that preventing drug use before it starts is the most effective way to eliminate the problem.

The Methamphetamine Awareness Project (MAP) takes an unusual approach to educating teens about the dangers of meth. Unlike traditional campaigns that use adults to promote the drug prevention message, MAP puts students behind the camera and in music studios to create video projects such as documentaries and public service announcements designed to help other young people avoid the pitfalls of drug use. A project of Oregon Partnership’s YouthLink program and funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, MAP works to reduce, delay, and prevent teen methamphetamine use in targeted communities in Oregon. MAP provides afterschool programming that combines drug-prevention education, team-building skills, and community service with the art of filmmaking. After being successfully piloted in 2003, MAP was awarded a three-year extension to work with additional schools. The MAP website offers clips from student projects, meth facts for teens, a MAP blog, and online links and resources for drug rehabilitation. The Oregon Partnership is a statewide nonprofit organization that promotes healthy kids and communities through drug and alcohol awareness, prevention programs, and a 24-hour crisis line for treatment referrals.

Contact:
Oregon Partnership
800-282-7035
www.orpartnership.org

Youth who try meth may mistakenly believe it is less harmful than other drugs such as heroin and cocaine.
Most teens have either experienced relationship violence or know someone who has. Relationship violence occurs when one partner tries to maintain power and control over the other through some kind of abuse or threat of abuse. The abuse can take many forms, including psychological, emotional, sexual, and physical. Young women ages 16 to 24 experience the highest rates of relationship violence, but this type of violence crosses all economic, racial, gender, and social lines. Teens who experience relationship violence may fail to see it as abuse because they perceive their partners’ controlling or aggressive behavior as romantic. They may fail to report the abuse because their partners have isolated them from family and friends, damaged their self-confidence, or threatened them with retaliation. The best way to prevent teen relationship violence is to educate teens on how to identify the early warning signs of abuse and empower them to choose healthy relationships. Teens need to know how to report abuse if it occurs and how to create a safety plan if they feel they are in danger.

The Safe Dates Program is a dating abuse prevention program designed to teach middle and high school students about the causes and consequences of dating abuse; how to help themselves or their friends in abusive relationships; and how to develop healthy dating relationships through positive communication, anger management, and conflict resolution. Safe Dates consists of a nine-session dating abuse curriculum that targets attitudes and behavior associated with dating abuse and violence, a 45-minute play about dating abuse to be performed by students, a poster contest on the theme of dating abuse prevention, a parent education brochure, and a teacher-training outline. The curriculum includes interactive exercises such as games, group discussions, role-playing, and writing exercises. In schools, it can be delivered by teachers, counselors, and trained student leaders. Safe Dates is a research-based program that has been identified as a model program by the Substance and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Contact:
Ann Standing
Hazelden Publishing and Education Services
800-328-9000 ext. 4030
astanding@hazelden.org
www.hazelden.org

Being bullied is not just an unpleasant rite of passage through childhood. Research shows that people who were bullied as children are more likely to suffer from depression and low self-esteem, and bullies themselves are more likely to engage in criminal behavior later in life. Bullying can be physical (e.g., hitting, kicking, or pushing), verbal (e.g., taunting, teasing, or name-calling), and psychological (e.g., spreading rumors or social exclusion). According to a national survey of 15,686 students in grades 6 through 10 by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, bullying is widespread in American schools; with more than 16 percent of U.S. schoolchildren saying they have been bullied by other students sometimes or weekly, 19 percent saying they had bullied others, and 6 percent saying they had both bullied others and been bullied. School bullying has come to the public’s attention amid reports that it may have been a contributing factor in recent school shootings, and bullying behavior has been linked to other forms of antisocial behavior such as vandalism, shoplifting, skipping or dropping out of school, and the use of drugs and alcohol.

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program tackles the problem of youth bullying on three levels: the school level, the classroom level, and the individual level. This whole-school approach from maintenance staff to the principal is designed for use in elementary, middle, or junior high schools and has been shown to effectively reduce and prevent bullying problems among schoolchildren and improve peer relations at school. School-level components of the program include formation of a bullying prevention coordinating committee, training for committee members and staff, and adoption of school-wide rules against bullying. Classroom-level components include reinforcement of the rules against bullying and holding regular classroom meetings with students to increase knowledge and empathy. Individual-level components include interventions with children who bully as well as with children who are bullied and discussions with parents of involved students. The Olweus Program has been implemented in more than one dozen countries around the world and has been designated as a model program by both the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Blueprints for Violence Prevention initiative at the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence.

Contact:
Marlene Snyder
Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life
864-765-4562
nobully@clemson.edu
www.clemson.edu/olweus

Research shows that people who were bullied as children are more likely to suffer from depression and low self-esteem.
Protecting Teens From Violent Crime

Although they are frequently stereotyped as troublemakers, teens are more often victims of violent crime than they are perpetrators. Juveniles ages 12 to 17 years old were, on average, more than twice as likely as adults 18 and older to be victims of violent crime during the period from 1993 to 2003. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and both simple and aggravated assault. Despite being victimized more often than other age groups, teens are the least likely to report their victimization. Teens have the same reactions as adults in the immediate aftermath of crime and may experience shock, disorientation, helplessness, and overwhelming fear. During adolescence, the experience of being victimized may be more traumatic than during other times of life. Victimized teens may isolate themselves, believing that no one understands what they are experiencing. Teen victimization has both long-lasting and damaging consequences for youth, their families, and their communities. Victimization increases a teen’s risk for pregnancy, substance abuse, low academic achievement, mental health problems, and suicide.

The Youth Outreach for Victim Assistance (YOWA) project, a joint effort of the National Crime Prevention Council and the National Center for Victims of Crime, supports youth-adult teams throughout the United States in designing and implementing youth-led outreach campaigns on teen victimization. The purpose of these campaigns is to raise awareness among youth about victimization and the resources that are available to teenage victims of crime. YOWA youth have educated their peers about dating violence, sexual assault, bullying, hate crimes, and other forms of violence against teens through public service announcements, school assemblies, posters, brochures, and websites. Established in 2003, YOWA has reached an estimated 1.1 million people through its outreach campaigns. YOWA also provides resources to victim service providers so they can better reach and serve teens. One such resource, Reaching and Serving Teen Victims: A Practical Handbook, can be downloaded free-of-charge at www.ncvc.org/tvp.

Contacts:
National Center for Victims of Crime
202-467-8700
www.ncvc.org
National Crime Prevention Council
202-466-6272
www.ncpc.org

Juveniles ages 12–17 years old were, on average, more than twice as likely as adults 18 and older to be victims of violent crime.
Teenagers and young adults are responsible for a significant proportion of hate crimes in this country, both as perpetrators and as victims. According to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Report, there were 7,163 bias-motivated criminal incidents in 2005, and 13.5 percent of these occurred at colleges or other schools. Many campus hate crimes go unreported because the students, faculty, and staff members are unsure of how to report them. Also, victims of hate crimes are often reluctant to come forward because they fear social isolation and repercussions. The incident may not involve a direct threat or act of violence but is often the use of degrading language and slurs directed toward students who belong to groups that have traditionally been the target of bias, prejudice, and violence. When a hate crime occurs on a college campus, the educational mission of the institution is impaired and students are deprived of the chance to live and learn in an atmosphere free of fear and intimidation.

Stop The Hate, a hate-crime prevention program for college campuses, was developed by the Association of College Unions International in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League, Tolerance.org of The Southern Poverty Law Center, the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence, and the National Center for Hate Crime Prevention. The philosophy behind the program is that hate crime on campus can only be addressed through the participation of all members of the campus community. Its train-the-trainer format offers administrators, student affairs professionals, faculty, and students the necessary tools to take action against hate crimes and bias-motivated violence on campus. Over a period of three days (18 to 20 hours of training time) each participant becomes skilled on 12 different training modules, including understanding hate crime law, reporting and documenting hate crime, and preventing hate crime and hate incidents. Participants who complete the training commit to implementing a minimum of six hate crime prevention efforts, which might include workshops, seminars, rallies, and writing articles over the next year. Individual campuses and regions can either host or purchase the Stop The Hate training program on a campus in the United States and Canada.

Contact:
Shane Windmeyer
Stop The Hate Program
704-395-1028
info@stophate.org
www.stophate.org

Older Americans Month
Administration on Aging
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-690-0130

National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month
Advocates for Youth
202-347-5700

National SAFE KIDS Week • National SAFE KIDS Campaign • 202-460-0600

National Police Week

Alcohol and Other Drug-Related Birth Defects Awareness Week
• National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. • 212-269-7797

May 08
As terrible and frightening as school shootings are, they are rare. Most school crime involves theft, not serious violent crime. Many children and teens witness vandalism, bullying, fistfights, and other frightening incidents in their schools on a daily basis. They hear reports of other students bringing weapons to school. They also worry that they will become victims of violent crime at school. The perception and fear of crime can be as debilitating as crime itself. In 2001, 6 percent of students reported fears that they were going to be attacked or harmed at school and 5 percent said that they avoided one or more specific areas at school for their own safety. ADT is helping protect thousands of schools across the nation—more than 15,000 K-12 schools and more than 1,300 college and university campuses—by providing free school security assessments and helping campuses integrate comprehensive school security solutions. For more information on ADT’s school security solutions, tips, and checklists, visit www.adt.com/wps/portal/adt/government/security_solutions/education or to schedule a free risk assessment by one of ADT’s school security specialists, call 866-748-9518 for grades K-12.

Just as schools need to assess the security of campus buildings, they also need to focus on student behavior. It is important for educators and law enforcement to collaborate and enforce zero-tolerance policies toward the presence of weapons, alcohol, and illegal drugs. But it is just as important for schools to respond to the issues of bullying and harassment so students can feel safe and can focus on learning. Toward this end, many schools are implementing peer mediation and conflict resolution programs so students can talk about their grievances and work out problems without fists or firearms. Good violence-prevention programs involve training for students, teachers, administrators, and parents.

The Resolving Conflict Creatively Program (RCCP) is a school-based violence prevention program for children in kindergarten through 12th grade. The curriculum is delivered by trained teachers and consists of 51 lessons that can be tailored to specific age groups. The RCCP curriculum is designed around several core skill areas: building communication, learning to effectively recognize and express feelings, dealing with anger, resolving conflicts, fostering cooperation, respecting and appreciating diversity, and countering prejudice. The lessons are organized into units based on these skills and are presented in a workshop format. The RCCP program also includes the recruitment, training, and supervision of children to act as peer mediators. The peer mediators are nominated by their classmates and attend a three-day training session, after which they help facilitate the resolution of conflicts among children, both in the classroom and elsewhere in the school.

Contact:
Jennifer Selfridge
Resolving Conflict Creatively Program
617-492-1764 ext. 31
jselfridge@esrnational.org

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Crime Prevention Month Kit 2007-2008

DeVoe et al., Indicators, 2003, 36, 38

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National Safety Month
National Safety Council
202-293-3270

National Internet Safety Month
I-SAFE America
760-603-7911
Law enforcement officers routinely encounter teenagers involved in illegal activities, from speeding to drug and alcohol use to curfew violations. Most interactions between police and young people go smoothly, but not all. Sometimes these interactions are contentious and adversarial. Poor communication and distrust may lead to unfortunate situations and even violence. Young people need to know what they should—and should not—do if they are stopped or visited by police. With their lack of experience and limited knowledge of the law, teens may fail to see the situation from the officer’s viewpoint and respond in ways that are inappropriate and dangerous. By learning the cardinal rules of showing respect, cooperating, and being honest when approached by police officers, youth can increase the chances that their encounter with law enforcement will end in the best possible way.

The Allstate Foundation’s The Law and You program kit is designed for use by community organizations and youth leaders to improve relations between police and teens. Intended for use with small- to medium-sized groups of youth, The Law and You uses a series of video vignettes to provide neutral ground for an informed discussion by teens and law enforcement officers about how young people should behave if they are stopped or visited by police. Four different vignettes represent possible encounters, including an arrest for shoplifting, a traffic stop, a loud party, and a drug bust. These vignettes are designed to inspire informed, thoughtful discussions and to keep open the lines of communication between police and youth. A presenter’s guide and a take-home brochure are also included in the kit.

The Law and You kit was first introduced in 1998 and was updated in 2005 by The Allstate Foundation in partnership with the National Crime Prevention Council, the Hispanic-American Police Command Officers Association, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and OMNI Youth Services. The Law and You program kit is available via a toll-free number (800-607-2722) at no cost to police officers, youth leaders, community organizations, and others, compliments of The Allstate Foundation. The brochure can be downloaded at www.allstate.com/community/lawyou/pdf.

Contact:
Jen Topolewski
Media Relations
The Allstate Foundation
847-402-5600
www.allstate.com
Discouraging Juvenile Gang Activity

Gang activity is once again on the rise in the United States after leveling off in the late 1990s. Gangs pose a serious threat to community safety. Youth are often drawn to gangs because they believe the gangs will offer them higher status and personal protection; however, youth are far more likely to be violently victimized while in a gang. According to a 2004 survey conducted by the National Youth Gang Center, 29 percent of the jurisdictions that city and county law enforcement agencies serve experienced youth gang problems that year.

Approximately 760,000 gang members and 24,400 gangs were active in more than 2,900 jurisdictions. The transition from typical adolescent groups to established group gangs are often preceded by four community conditions. First, families and schools are largely ineffective and alienating, and conventional adult supervision is largely absent. Second, adolescents have a great deal of free time that is not consumed by other pro-social roles. Third, adolescents have limited access to good professional jobs. And fourth, the neighborhood offers the young people a place to congregate.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America has developed a special gang prevention initiative targeting youth ages 6 to 18. The philosophy of the Gang Prevention Through Targeted Outreach program is to offer at-risk youth ages 6 to 18 what they seek through gang membership—supportive adults, challenging activities, and a place to belong—in an alternative, socially positive format. Activities center around five target areas: character and leadership development; health and life skills; the arts; sports, fitness, and recreation; and education. In addition to the activities provided in the program, the youth are provided with counselors and are tracked for the first year of their participation while being mainstreamed into normal club activities. Boys & Girls Clubs of America comprises a national network of some 3,700 neighborhood-based facilities serving more than 4.4 million young people annually, primarily from disadvantaged circumstances. This initiative is sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice. Since the program’s inception, more than 120 clubs nationwide have been funded, serving more than 6,850 youth.

Contact:
Tricia Crossman
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
404-815-5763
tcrossman@bgca.org

Youth are often drawn to gangs because they believe the gangs will offer them higher status and personal protection.

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The world is a better and safer place when we care for others and they care for us. Doing so strengthens the community and also the country, and remains one of the best approaches to crime prevention. When youth become involved in community service projects, they take a stand against crime and violence and become part of the solution to improving their schools and communities. From cleaning up a run-down playground to removing graffiti from the walls of a school, from teaching younger children to stay safe to raising money to provide bulletproof vests for police dogs, children and youth can make a difference and, in the process, gain self-confidence and learn new skills.

McGruff® Club is a program created by the National Crime Prevention Council to educate children ages 6 to 10 on what they can do to stay safe, prevent crime and violence in their communities, and participate in service projects designed to make their communities safer. Children meet once a week for 45 minutes and spend this time identifying safety concerns, learning how to stay safe, engaging in service projects, and celebrating those projects. All children in McGruff Club explore the topics of safe and unsafe neighborhoods, conflict management, bullying, and dangerous situations in the neighborhood. McGruff Clubs address additional issues based on the concerns of the children, which may include diversity, Internet safety, guns and other weapons, and home safety. Members receive special McGruff items and adult facilitators receive a resource toolkit to help them teach children about crime prevention and safety.

Contact:
Joselle Shea
National Crime Prevention Council
jshea@ncpc.org
202-466-6272

The Teens, Crime, and the Community (TCC) initiative was created to reduce high rates of teen victimization and to engage young people in their communities. TCC seeks to tap and focus teens’ energy, talent, and enthusiasm so they can participate in their communities as responsible citizens. Community Works, TCC’s curriculum, is designed to teach youth about different types of crime, the costs and consequences of crime, conflict management strategies, how crime affects communities, and what community prevention programs and services are available to them. TCC’s club model, the Youth Safety Corps Club (YSC), provides young people with ongoing, active involvement in TCC and the opportunity to design and implement crime, violence, and drug abuse prevention projects. The mission of YSC is to recruit, train, and mobilize a diverse student population to improve the learning environment in America’s schools by designing and running projects to prevent youth crime, violence, and drug abuse.

Contact:
Teens, Crime, and the Community
tcc@ncpc.org
www.ncpc.org/programs/tcc

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National Suicide Prevention Week  •  American Association of Suicidology  •  202-227-2280

September 08
One in six teenagers experiences property crime every year, a rate that is 40 percent higher than the rate for adults. Although property crime victims don’t experience the level of trauma that violent crime victims do, research has found that juvenile property crime victims experience fear, depression, hostility, and somatic symptoms that persist over an extended time. Most juvenile property crimes happen in school, with 54 percent occurring on school property. Electronic and photo gear, clothing, and luggage such as backpacks are the most common items stolen from juveniles. Yet property crimes against juveniles are rarely reported to the police. A larceny or theft perpetrated against a juvenile is three times less likely to be reported than one for which an adult is the victim. Why aren’t more juvenile property crimes reported to police? Possible reasons include self-blame by the victim, embarrassment in front of peers, fear of retaliation, and ignorance of crime reporting procedures. Reporting these crimes to police increases the likelihood that property will be recovered and also sends a message that crime will not be tolerated. It is an important way to hold juvenile offenders accountable and reduce the chances that they will continue to commit crimes. Because most property crimes against juveniles occur in the school setting, one approach to prevention is a school crime watch program, which is based on the Neighborhood Watch concept.

Youth Crime Watch of America is a national organization that offers young people an active role in reducing crime in their schools and neighborhoods. Youth crime watch programs are youth-led with support from adults. Youth who participate in the program, for example, take part in youth patrols of their school campuses; learn how to report crime effectively; help educate other youth about crime prevention through public service announcements, music, posters, and other approaches; and mentor other youth in need of a positive friend and role model. Youth Crime Watch offers a low-cost comprehensive start-up kit that contains operational guidelines and promotional materials for those who wish to start a youth crime watch program.

Contact:
Youth Crime Watch of America
305-670-2409
ycwa@ycwa.org

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October

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Crime Prevention Month
National Crime Prevention Council
202-466-6272

Domestic Violence Awareness Month
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
303-839-1852

Let’s Talk Month
Advocates for Youth
202-347-5300

Columbus Day

America’s Safe Schools Week
National School Safety Center • 805-373-9977

America’s Safe Schools Week

National Red Ribbon Week
National Family Partnership • 800-705-8997

National Red Ribbon Week

Child Health Month
American Academy of Pediatrics
847-434-4000

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Crime Prevention Coalition of America

The Crime Prevention Coalition of America leads the collective efforts of individuals, communities, and government to improve the quality of life by preventing crime.

Executive Committee Officers

Bob Douglas, Vice-Chair
Executive Director, Kentucky Crime Prevention Coalition

Tibby Milne, Chair
Executive Director, Utah Council for Crime Prevention

Benefits of Coalition Membership

All Coalition member organizations enjoy access to up-to-date information on successful crime prevention programs and innovative approaches that demonstrate the effectiveness and value of prevention. These benefits also include Internet tools to support crime prevention initiatives and improve the ability to communicate prevention messages.

In addition, all Coalition member organizations receive the following benefits:

- The CPCA weekly E-Bulletin with news about training, events, and grant and funding opportunities
- Regular program, policy, and funding updates
- Access to the password-protected, members-only Coalition section of NCPC's website, which contains training curricula, sample strategic plans, bylaws, membership plans and newsletters, and conference planning tools
- Ten issues per year of Catalyst, NCPC's newsletter for community crime prevention (five online, five printed)
- Access to local, state, and national media
- Reduced registration fees for NCPC's National Conference on Preventing Crime and other training sessions and symposia
- Training and technical assistance on organizational development, topical crime prevention, strategic planning, media relations, and resource development
- Discounts on selected NCPC publications
- An online member directory and gallery of shared member materials

The opportunity to help shape national prevention initiatives, programs, and policies through involvement with the Coalition

The opportunity to become involved in the media campaign of the highly successful National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign and benefit from its wide-reaching recognition among children and adults

The opportunity to localize the public service advertising of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign on a fee basis

Legislative Information

The Legislative Information section of the Coalition website is where members can gather information on proposed legislation related to crime, violence, and substance abuse prevention; find contact information for elected federal and state officials and their staffs; and learn about the federal legislative process. The Legislative Information section is updated frequently by NCPC staff.

Training Opportunities

The Coalition staff provides or arranges a source of highly effective training and technical assistance at little or no cost to CPCA members. The Coalition can be a source of topical crime prevention information or a facilitator of your organization's strategic planning process. It can provide assistance in working with the media and public policy issue education and support. For more information, contact Coalition staff at 202-466-6272.
Safer Kids With McGruff®

Children and youth know and trust McGruff the Crime Dog®. For almost three decades, McGruff has been delivering messages to millions of young people on how to protect themselves against the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; how to handle bullies; what to do if they find a gun or other weapon; how to protect themselves when using the Internet; and how to get involved in volunteer activities to help make their communities safer. The following programs help carry McGruff’s messages directly to youth and involve them in making themselves, and their communities, safer and better.

- The McGruff Club reaches out to children ages six to ten. Children meet once a week and spend this time identifying safety concerns, learning how to stay safe, engaging in service projects, and celebrating those projects. McGruff Clubs foster positive relationships among children, law enforcement officers, and other community members.

- Teens, Crime, and the Community (TCC) involves teens in crime prevention. TCC has motivated youth across the nation, including junior high and high school students; members of Boys & Girls Clubs; and juvenile offenders to implement service-learning projects that reduce or eliminate a specific crime or violence problem. The TCC initiative has two programs: Community Works and Youth Safety Corps.

- The Youth Outreach for Victim Assistance (YVOA) project supports youth-adult teams throughout the United States in designing and implementing youth-led outreach campaigns on teen victimization to raise awareness among youth about victimization and the resources that are available to teenage victims of crime.

- The McGruff House Program works by identifying homes that can be designated as temporary safe havens for children. Children who sense that they are in danger for any reason can go to a McGruff House until their parents or the authorities have been notified.

- The McGruff Truck Program utilizes trained drivers of privately held companies and municipalities to spot children in emergency situations. The driver finds out what the problem is and calls the company’s dispatcher or appropriate public safety agency to report the problem.

- Be Safe and Sound aims to improve the safety and security of our nation’s schools by mobilizing parents, school administrators, and students to assess physical and social safety concerns, implement solutions, and work with elected officials to sustain and enhance efforts to build safer schools.

- The McGruff Network is a group of law enforcement officers and community leaders who use McGruff and his messages to promote self-protection and crime prevention to children, teens, and adults. The McGruff Network brings together people working in crime prevention at all levels and keeps them informed on the latest news, tools, and resources available to help them make their communities safer.

Visit NCPC’s website, www.ncpc.org, for more detailed information on these programs and how to implement them in your community.

National Citizens’ Crime Prevention Campaign

Has it really been only 27 years since McGruff the Crime Dog® and his “Take A Bite Out Of Crime™” slogan began helping adults, teens, and children learn how to take individual responsibility for their own safety and to prevent crime in their communities? In that lifetime, McGruff has endeared himself to the American public, as well as overseas. A 2006 study commissioned by NCPC found that the beloved icon is still tremendously popular, with 75 percent of adults recognizing McGruff and more than 90 percent recognizing his famous slogan.

McGruff’s 25th anniversary radio messages; identity theft television, radio, and print ads; bullying prevention television and radio spots; and the release of the senior telemarketing fraud prevention PSAs all helped to increase the donated media support by more than 30 percent compared with the previous year.

The PSA campaigns described below offer a unique opportunity for local law enforcement and community leaders to use the campaign materials to help educate their neighborhoods about today’s crime prevention issues.

The cyberbullying prevention initiative was launched in 2007 with radio ads, viral videos, and web banners targeted to young people, particularly girls ages 12 to 18. The ads ask these young teens to “Delete cyberbullying. Don’t write it. Don’t forward it.” According to an NCPC study conducted by Harris Interactive, 43 percent of teens reported being cyberbullied at least once in the last year and 77 percent say the cyberbully is someone they know.


New Campaign Initiative

In 2006, NCPC launched a cause-related media and marketing campaign titled “Take A Bite Out Of Cybercrime.” This public awareness campaign on cybercrime is a joint initiative between NCPC and the Chief Marketing Officer Council (CMO) and aims to rally millions of computer and digital device users to take action against cybercrime. The campaign is fully sponsored by partners such as Intel, McAfee, Comcast, and Verisign. The campaign has garnered more than 100 million media impressions since its launch.

If you are interested in learning more about how to use the materials, please contact the NCPC Communications Department at 202-466-6272. Sign up for email alerts or visit www.ncpc.org for the latest information on communications campaigns and initiatives.
NCPC Publications

NCPC offers many publications on the topics presented in this Crime Prevention Month Kit. All NCPC publications can be ordered by calling 800-NCPC-911 or by visiting the secure online store at www.mcgruffstore.org. As noted below, some publications can be found on NCPC’s website as downloadable PDFs, and several are available free (for a single copy) plus shipping. For a free catalog, call 800-NCPC-911 or order online.

Charting Success: A Workbook for Developing Service-learning Projects
A companion book for Community Works (see below), designed for teens to use as they select, plan, and carry out projects.

Community Works: Smart Youth Make Safer Communities
A curriculum that combines education and action to reduce teen victimization and that involves young people in service to their communities. The curriculum utilizes interactive lessons that provide practical crime prevention knowledge. Community resource people and youth-led projects are key elements of the curriculum. A program of NCPC’s Teens, Crime, and the Community Initiative.

Designing Safe Spaces: Involving Children and Youth in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
Features lessons and field trips to introduce children and youth (ages 8 to 15) to CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design), a method of designing or modifying the physical environment in a way that positively influences human behavior.

Engaging the Power of Prevention: 10 Action Principles
In 1990, the Crime Prevention Coalition of America promulgated principles for effective crime prevention and published them in Call to Action. This report, which updates that document, is designed to renew and embed a commitment to crime prevention. The ten action principles describe quality crime prevention efforts.

Faith Community and Criminal Justice Collaboration: A Collection of Effective Programs
A sampling of innovative programs, as well as useful tips to help criminal justice organizations and faith communities work together. Available online only; PDF at www.ncpc.org/publications/text/volunteering.php.

How To Help McGruff® Service Projects for Children To Make Communities Safer
A guide for engaging children (ages 6 to 12) in service projects.

McGruff® and Scuffit’s® Stories and Activities for Children of Promise
This comic-activity book contains stories about some of the problems and situations children of incarcerated parents face and how they can maintain or establish contact with their incarcerated parent. For ages 7 to 11; available for free.

McGruff® Collectible Trading Cards
Three sets of six cards each; two deal with bullying; a third deals with Internet safety. Single copies of each set are free; sold in bulk only.

McGuff the Crime Dog® Presents Winners Don’t Use Drugs!
This comic-activity book helps kids (ages 7 to 9) understand why they should avoid alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs. It includes pages for parents and caregivers. Free.

McGruff®’s Surprise Party!
This comic book teaches kids (ages 7 to 9) how to say no to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. A pull-out insert for parents provides tips. Free.

Mentor Guide for People Working With Children of Promise
Describes the role of mentors for children of prisoners (ages 7 to 11) and suggests strategies. Also available in Spanish (Guía del Tutor para Personas que Trabajan con Niños Prometedores).

Neighborhood Watch Needs You
This booklet explains Neighborhood Watch to community members and helps create enthusiasm and encourage participation in the program.

Parents and Their Children: Talking Together
This set of nine reproducible tip sheets, in English and Spanish, helps parents communicate more effectively with their children and teenagers. Tip sheets come in a folder with suggestions for their use.

Preventing Crime Saves Money
Describes costs of crime and makes the case for investment in crime prevention strategies; provides examples of cost-effectiveness from a number of crime prevention perspectives.

Preventing Identity Theft: A Guide for Consumers
Explains how identity theft occurs and how to prevent it, repair the damage it causes, and report it. PDF available at www.ncpc.org/publications/text/volunteering.php.


Seniors and Telemarketing Fraud 101
This publication describes tactics used by fraudulent telemarketers to target seniors and provides tips on how to “Stop Criminals in Their Tracks.” PDF available at www.ncpc.org/ncpc_cms/5enFraud_rev4.pdf.

Taking a Stand Against Violence, Drugs, and Other Crime, 2nd edition (CD-ROM)
Comprehensive crime prevention kit to help practitioners educate the public on everything from preventing identity theft to disaster preparedness. Includes ten reports that address the major issues, plus 43 reproducibles and Neighborhood Watch Organizer’s Guide.

Think About Your Future. Stay in School/Piensa en tu Futuro. Permanece en la Escuela
Poster set in English and Spanish promotes staying in school. Reproducible information to assist parents, educators, and community members who seek to motivate children to stay in school.

United for a Stronger America: Citizens’ Preparedness Guide
Homeland security guide in English or Spanish helps individuals weave preparedness into their daily lives in their homes, schools, workplaces, places of worship, and communities. Free; PDF available at www.ncpc.org/publications/text/preparedness.php.

Volunteering: Do What You Like To Do
Using a crime prevention focus, guide shows teenagers how they can make a difference in the lives of others by doing what they already like to do. Free; PDF available at www.ncpc.org/publications/text/volunteering.php.

When Law and Culture Collide: Handling Conflicts Between U.S. Law and Refugees’ Cultures

Youth Safety Corps Project Implementation Toolkit
Designed to help youth and adults start a Youth Safety Corps club in their school or community, this kit includes information on identifying safety problems, developing a project that addresses that problem, determining what help is needed and who can provide it, evaluating success, and getting the word out.
Community service is one of the best ways that everyone, children and youth included, can make a difference. By engaging in community service, children and youth not only make their communities safer and better, but they also gain new knowledge and develop the life skills they need to stay safe and make healthy choices.

Projects for children ages 6 to 12 should be appropriate for the children’s concerns, skills, and levels of development. Beautifying a park, creating posters that celebrate diversity, and performing a skit on drug abuse are some ways children can help their communities.

Teens have greater skills and knowledge and are able to tackle many critical issues facing American society today, including drunk driving, violent crime, shoplifting, child abuse, rape, and substance abuse. Tutoring children at a local elementary school, participating in graffiti paint-outs, and escorting seniors on errands are ways teens can help their communities.

Whether you are working with young children or teenagers, the following steps will help you organize an appropriate project.

**Step One: Identify the Need**
Projects should respond to a need in the community that the children and youth feel is important. Brainstorm ideas and find out which topics interest them. Help them research the issue. Younger children may need short-term projects, while they can see results quickly. Longer-term projects are more appropriate for older children and teens.

**Step Two: Plan the Project**
Guide younger children carefully through the planning stage, but allow tweens and teenagers more independence. Assign tasks as appropriate. The planning process involves assessing resources, deciding when and where the project will be carried out (and how long it will take), building partnerships, raising funds, and promoting the project.

**Step Three: Carry Out the Project**
When the time arrives, be sure all supplies are ready. Have enough adults present to give directions and answer questions as needed. Make sure all participants understand their roles and responsibilities.

**Step Four: Reflect on and Evaluate the Project**
Both children and youth will gain more from their work if they take time to reflect on and evaluate the project. What did they learn from the project? Did they discover or develop any personal skills? What were the reactions of the people their project serviced? What worked well? What would they do differently next time?

**Step Five: Celebrate!**
After the work is complete, celebrate! You may decide to have a party; present participants with certificates for their achievements, and you can even display “before and after” pictures. Be sure to thank all partners and adult volunteers by including them in the celebration.

This information was adapted from How To Help McGruff® Service Projects for Children To Make Communities Safer and the Teens, Crime, and the Community program’s Community Works: Smart Youth Make Safer Communities.

For community service project ideas for children ages 6 to 12, visit www.mcgruff.org; for youth, visit www ncpc org.
National McGruff® Licensing Program

Arfmann Marketing, L.L.C.: The McGruff Safe Kids Total Identification System is a mobile identification/educational system that processes children's fingerprints and photographs, creating a printed copy of forensic quality fingerprints and vital information. McGruff Safe Kids Total Identification System DNA Collection Kit is a simple and inexpensive way for parents to collect and store their children’s DNA. 888-209-4218 or 727-725-9574; www.totalidssystem.mcgruff-safe-kids.com

The Badger (A division of Rose City Label): Adhesive badges to promote all types of safety education, including many custom designs to promote fire safety and crime prevention. Check out www.safetybadges.com for examples and more information. 503-638-7842 or 800-547-9920; www.safetybadges.com


BoomerangIt, Inc.: Security ID labels and tags backed by a secure database. The company/program works with law enforcement, Good Samaritans, and others to identify and return recovered property to its rightful owners. Major components are the National Bike Registry (bike registration and recovery service), and BoomerangIt (global lost and found return service). The McGruff ID Armor Identity Theft Protect and Privacy Pack prevent identity theft and protect sensitive personal information. 800-848-BIKE or 800-2BOOMIT; www.boomerangit.com or www.nationalidregister.com

Brodin Studios, Inc.: Unique bronze sculptures, recognition awards, bas-reliefs, paperweights, medallions, and plaques featuring law enforcement and McGruff. 800-274-5194; www.brodinstudios.com


Discover Education: McGruff educational films and videos in English and Spanish on such topics as bullying, gangs, vandalism, drugs, personal safety and security, latchkey kids, bicycle safety, Halloween, personal property, preventing child abuse and neglect, diversity, dangerous strangers, gun safety, conflict resolution, and more. 888-892-3344; www.discoverieducation.com

Disk Detectives, LLC: McGruff Disk Check provides a quick way for parents to monitor what their children have been doing online; software is designed to complement Internet safety programs. Community Outreach Program allows law enforcement to distribute software with customized graphics, videos, or educational messages. www.mcgruffinternetsafety.com

Ellison Educational Equipment, Inc.: McGruff and Scruff® and “Take A Bite Out Of Crime!” die cuts and paper shapes for schools and other facilities. 800-253-2238; www.ellison.com

Geiger: A variety of imprinted promotional productions including stickers, activity/coloring books, T-shirts and other apparel, pens, pencils, coffee mugs, sports bottles, flashlights, golf products, ballons, McGruff and Scruff plush dolls, etc. McGruff House® and McGruff Truck® products are also available to official program members. Custom special products can be created for unique programs. 877-441-5650; www.mcgruffgear.com

Grafeeties/WSR Group: Grafeeties (bumper stickers for sneakers) and temporary tattoos. 800-299-3366, ext. 250; www.grafeeties.com

Jerry Leigh Entertainment Apparel: Distributes McGruff-themed clothing available only through retail stores.

McGruff Specialty Products Office: McGruff and Scruff dolls, Halloween bags, litter bags, holiday bags, evidence bags, complete line of coloring and activity books, bracelets, tattoos, crime prevention brochures, bookmarks, posters, slide guides, pencils, stickers, reflectives, and other specialty items. 888-776-7763; www.mcgruffspco.com

Robotronics, Inc.: McGruff and Scruff costumes; animated costume (voice- and tape-activated eyes and mouth, with McGruff speaking and singing safety messages through an MP3 player or the wearer's voice using the included Wearer Amplified Voice Equipment); fully mobile, interactive McGruff the Crime Dog robot with audio and optional voice modifier; and McGruff and Cruiser Robot with enhanced electronic audio features and optional Whelen rotating beacons. 800-762-6876; www.robotronics.com


Sparta Pewter: Custom pewter giftware including McGruff the Crime Dog thermal mugs, key chains, zipper pulls, and dog chains. 888-354-2002; www.spartapewter.com

Stoffel Seals Corporation: McGruff badges, shields, key chains, lapel pins, and patriotic McGruff pins; badge design available for police, sheriffs, and troopers. 800-344-4772; www.stoffel.com

Symbol Arts, Inc.: McGruff and flag patriotic lapel pins and key chains; five- and seven-point star badges; eagle and oval shield badges; belt buckles; identification accessories; medals, ribbons and nameplates; pins, patches, and medallions. 801-475-6000, ext. 102; www.symbolarts.com

Tee’s Plus: Sports apparel and accessories featuring McGruff and Scruff including T-shirts, golf shirts, baseball caps, jean jackets, and nylon jackets. 800-782-8377; www.teesplus.com
The vitality of our [city/county/state] depends on how safe we keep our homes, the personal injury, financial loss, and community deterioration resulting from crime are intolerable and require investment from the whole community; adults must invest time, resources, and policy support in effective prevention and intervention strategies for youth, and adults must make sure to engage teens in programs to drive crime from their communities; effective crime prevention programs excel because of partnerships with law enforcement, other government agencies, civic groups, schools, faith communities, businesses, and individuals as they help to nurture communal responsibility and instill pride; Now, therefore, [name of leader], [title], do hereby proclaim October 2008 as Crime Prevention Month in [name of area] and urge all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, and businesses to invest in the power of prevention and work together to make [city/county/state] a safer, stronger, more caring community.

October Marks Crime Prevention Month

[Governor/Mayor/Council President] today proclaimed October as Crime Prevention Month 2008 and challenged the entire community to make crime prevention a priority. (He/she) also paid tribute to law enforcement and the many individuals who have taken personal responsibility for their neighborhoods and community organizations that work for the common good.

In 1984, the National Crime Prevention Council, the nation’s focal point for preventing crime, designated October as Crime Prevention Month. The month-long commemoration reflects the adage that prevention pays off. NCPC strongly believes that citizen involvement in crime prevention can and has played a vital role in helping many communities stay safe.

“We must not stop working to continue reducing crime in our country,” said [Name of Governor/Mayor/Council President]. Experience in [town or state] has proved that grassroots, collaborative action works to keep crime down. (Give examples.)

During Crime Prevention Month 2008, government agencies, civic groups, schools, businesses, and youth organizations in [town or state] will conduct a robust set of activities to highlight prevention information, showcase their accomplishments, reach out to educate and empower the public through educational campaigns, and explore new partnerships that build stronger communities where crime cannot survive. Events will include [list event, date, time, and place].

Since 1980, McGruff the Crime Dog® has been the icon of crime prevention and the symbol of NCPC’s work nationwide. Together NCPC and McGruff have helped communities spread the prevention word through trainings, mass media, demonstration programs, conferences, publications, and numerous partnerships. Crime Prevention Month 2008 recognizes successful crime prevention efforts on the local, state, and national levels to generate interest and enthusiasm for prevention efforts to continue to grow even stronger and become more widespread. [Governor/Mayor/Council President] knows we can all work together to "Take A Bite Out of Crime".

A Proclamation for Crime Prevention Month 2008

Whereas, the vitality of our [city/county/state] depends on how safe we keep our homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and communities;

Whereas, crime and fear of crime destroy our trust in others and in civic institutions, threatening the community’s health, prosperity, and quality of life;

Whereas, people of all ages must be made aware of what they can do to prevent themselves and their families, neighbors, and co-workers from being harmed by crime;

Whereas, people of all ages must be made aware of the dangers of technology crime and how they can protect themselves from becoming victims;

Whereas, the personal injury, financial loss, and community deterioration resulting from crime are intolerable and require investment from the whole community;

Whereas, crime prevention initiatives must include self-protection and security, but they must go beyond these to promote collaborative efforts to make neighborhoods safer for all ages and to develop positive opportunities for young people;

Whereas, adults must invest time, resources, and policy support in effective prevention and intervention strategies for youth, and adults must make sure to engage teens in programs to drive crime from their communities;

Whereas, effective crime prevention programs excel because of partnerships with law enforcement, other government agencies, civic groups, schools, faith communities, businesses, and individuals as they help to nurture communal responsibility and instill pride;

Now, therefore, [name of leader], [title], do hereby proclaim October 2008 as Crime Prevention Month in [name of area] and urge all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, and businesses to invest in the power of prevention and work together to make [city/county/state] a safer, stronger, more caring community.
Resources on the Web

Be sure to visit www.ncpc.org—your crime prevention toolbox—for tips, checklists, information, strategies, and more. The websites listed here can help you locate additional information.

Although we have selected these links with care, NCPC is not responsible for the material posted.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives: Kids’ Page
Cyberkids
Department of Justice: Kids’ Page
FBI Kids’ Page
Internet Keep Safe Coalition
McGruff’s Mibesin Child Safety Center
National Safe Place
Netmsatz Workshop
UNICEF Voices of Youth

For Youth
Boy Scouts of America
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Camp Fire USA
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.
National 4-H Council
National PAL
National Youth Leadership Council
Police Exploring Program

Privacy Rights Clearinghouse
Office for Victims of Crime
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Identity Theft Resource Center
Office of Victims of Crime

School Safety
ADT Security Services
Federal Trade Commission
Identity Theft Resource Center
Justice Department Identity Theft
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Office of Victims of Crime
Privacy Rights Clearinghouse

For Parents
American Library Association: Parents’ Page
Connect for Kids
GetNetWise
Mothers Against Drunk Driving
National Center for Children Exposed to Violence
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
National Citizens’ Crime Prevention Campaign
Safekids
Take A Bite Out Of Cyber Crime

For Volunteers
American Red Cross
Citizen Corps
Community Emergency Response Teams
Federal Emergency Management Agency
National Association of Town Watch
Neighborhood Watch Program—USA on Watch
Points of Light Foundation
Safe America Foundation
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
USA Freedom Corps

For Seniors
AARP
Administration on Aging
ADT Security Services
National Consumers League
National Fraud Information Center
SeniorJournal.com
Telemarketing Toolbox
Today’s Seniors Network
National Association of Triads, Inc.

Identity Theft
ADT Security Services
Federal Trade Commission
Identity Theft Resource Center
Justice Department Identity Theft
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Office of Victims of Crime

School Safety
ADT Security Services
Afterschool Alliance
American School Counselor Association
Be Safe and Sound Campaign (NCPC)
Keep Schools Safe
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of School Resource Officers
National Schools Center
Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

For Law Enforcement
Community Policing Consortium
COPS—Community Oriented Policing Services
Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.)
International Association of Chiefs of Police
Justice Technology Information Network
National Association of School Resource Officers
National Sheriffs’ Association
Police Executive Research Forum
UNAIDS Narcotics Investigation Treatment and Education (UNITED)

Government
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Federal Bureau of Investigation
National Institute of Justice
Office for Victims of Crime
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Support and Information
American Youth Policy Forum
America’s Promise
Child Welfare League of America
Crime Prevention Coalition of America
Drug Strategies
Join Together Online
Keep Schools Safe
National Citizens’ Crime Prevention Campaign
National Collaboration for Youth
National Safe Place
Office of National Drug Control Policy
Partnership for a Drug-Free America
Public Education Network
Stand for Children
Street Law, Inc.
Violence Policy Center
Unlawful Narcotics Investigation Treatment and Education (UNITED)

Research/Statistics
Bureau of Justice Statistics
FBI Uniform Crime Reports
National Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Juvenile Justice
National Center for Victims of Crime
National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information
National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglected Children

For Seniors
AARP
Administration on Aging
ADT Security Services
National Consumers League
National Fraud Information Center
SeniorJournal.com
Telemarketing Toolbox
Today’s Seniors Network
National Association of Triads, Inc.

Identity Theft
ADT Security Services
Federal Trade Commission
Identity Theft Resource Center
Justice Department Identity Theft
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Office of Victims of Crime

School Safety
ADT Security Services
Afterschool Alliance
American School Counselor Association
Be Safe and Sound Campaign (NCPC)
Keep Schools Safe
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of School Resource Officers
National Schools Center
Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

For Law Enforcement
Community Policing Consortium
COPS—Community Oriented Policing Services
Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.)
International Association of Chiefs of Police
Justice Technology Information Network
National Association of School Resource Officers
National Sheriffs’ Association
Police Executive Research Forum
UNAIDS Narcotics Investigation Treatment and Education (UNITED)

Government
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Federal Bureau of Investigation
National Institute of Justice
Office for Victims of Crime
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Support and Information
American Youth Policy Forum
America’s Promise
Child Welfare League of America
Crime Prevention Coalition of America
Drug Strategies
Join Together Online
Keep Schools Safe
National Citizens’ Crime Prevention Campaign
National Collaboration for Youth
National Safe Place
Office of National Drug Control Policy
Partnership for a Drug-Free America
Public Education Network
Stand for Children
Street Law, Inc.
Violence Policy Center
Unlawful Narcotics Investigation Treatment and Education (UNITED)

Research/Statistics
Bureau of Justice Statistics
FBI Uniform Crime Reports
National Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Juvenile Justice
National Center for Victims of Crime
National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information
National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglected Children
To help you celebrate Crime Prevention Month, this calendar contains a selection of camera-ready materials designed to be printed, photocopied, or offset. Most have space for sponsors, local phone numbers, and addresses. You can download the brochures and the entire kit from www.ncpc.org.

Although these materials are copyrighted to protect their integrity, you may produce as many copies as you would like for free distribution as long as you do not change the text or delete NCPC’s credit line without written approval from NCPC. Some printers will need to see written proof that you have permission to print or copy these materials before they will proceed with the job; this page serves as that permission. You may add your local group’s name, address, phone number, and website where space is provided.

If you wish to change the text or if you wish to use McGruff® or Scruff® in locally produced materials or settings, contact the Trademark Control and Quality Review Committee at NCPC, 1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Thirteenth Floor, Washington, DC 20036-5325; 202-466-6272 (after September 30, 2007, our new address is 2345 Crystal Drive, 5th Floor, Arlington, VA 22202). Call the NCPC Fulfillment Center at 800-NCPC-911 for a free copy of Guidelines for McGruff® and Related Marks.

Here are some ways to use these brochures.

- Hand out brochures at McGruff events, civic meetings, and school assemblies. Ask libraries, recreation centers, medical offices, mall kiosks, and local businesses to display and distribute materials. Ask social service agencies and doctors’ offices to display brochures in their waiting areas. Enlist members of your Neighborhood Watch groups to pass them along to other residents.
- Organize a Crime Prevention Month parade in October and have McGruff help distribute materials to the crowd. Set up a crime prevention booth at a local mall. Hold a crime prevention fair during October.
- Look for an organization that may already be dealing with an issue covered in this kit. Youth centers and clubs, school guidance offices, and health clinics would be excellent places to leave the youth-related brochures in this kit.
- Link your crime prevention website to NCPC’s website for downloadable brochures.

Immediately Report a Theft to Authorities
Remember, being robbed or having your property stolen is not your fault. Even if you left your valuables unattended, no one has the right to take your things. If something that belongs to you is stolen, report the theft immediately to school authorities, your parents, and the police. Be sure to note the date, time, and location of the incident. If someone else witnessed the theft, ask for the person’s full name and contact information for the report. Prompt reporting is an important factor in recovering stolen items and in catching the thief so he or she does not commit more crimes.

Start a School Watch Program
You may have heard of Neighborhood Watch, where neighbors watch out for each other and report crime in their neighborhoods. A school crime watch works the same way. Students watch out for each other to make the entire school safer and more enjoyable. They learn how to keep from becoming victims. They also learn the best ways to report theft and suspicious activities.

When students in a school start and run a crime watch program, they are saying, “Crime is not tolerated here.” Talk to your school principal about starting a program at your school. A national organization called Youth Crime Watch of America can also provide you with information on starting a school crime watch. Visit their website, www.ycwa.org, or call them at 305-670-2409 for more information.
If You Are a Victim of Identity Theft

If you think you are a victim of identity theft, talk to your parents. Together you can take the following steps:

• Call one of the three major credit reporting agencies. The law requires the agency you call to contact the other agencies to alert them of the suspected fraud.

• Dispute any bills with charges you did not authorize. You may be responsible for the amount charged even if you did not authorize the use of your credit card.

• File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which maintains a database that law enforcement agencies use to hunt down identity thieves. To report your theft or to get more information on what to do, call the FTC’s toll-free hotline at 877-IDTHEFT.

• Request a different one if it is not working properly. If you drive to school, never leave valuables in plain view inside your car, even if you keep it locked. Put them in the trunk or at least out of sight. Buy radios and CD players that can be removed and locked in the trunk. Remember, day and not in someone else’s?

Teens: Protect Your Identity From Thieves

If you listen to your portable music player on your way to and from school, tuck it in a pocket or keep it out of sight.

Many students report that their belongings are stolen from lockers. Lockers can be broken into easily, especially if they are not properly closed. Make sure your locker is shut tightly at the top, in the middle, and at the bottom.

Always keep it locked and do not share your combination with anyone. Your school parking lots are usually not monitored by security cameras or guards. Each time you visit the parking lot, remember to bring money and expensive items to school and to avoid carrying large amounts of cash or large sums of money. A parent or guardian should always be with you when you visit the school.

Keep a List of All Your Valuables

One of the best ways you can assist the police in recovering your stolen property is by keeping records. Make a list of each item including color, make, model, serial numbers, and any other identifiers. You might want to take a picture of each item to keep with the list. Make several copies of the list and give one to your parents.

How to Prevent Theft

It’s unfortunate, but some people steal. Yet protecting your portable property doesn’t mean you can’t have it with you or enjoy it. It does mean taking steps to ensure that this property is carefully watched or secured at all times. Here are some approaches that will help keep you from being a victim of property crime.

How to Recover Stolen Items

Although many stolen items are never recovered, there is always a chance that a thief will be apprehended and his or her stash of stolen items will fall into the authorities’ hands. If you take certain steps before and after a theft, you just might get a prized item returned to you.

Keep a List of All Your Valuables

Of all of your valuables. Write down a full description of your belongings. You might want to take a picture of each item to keep with the list. Make several copies of the list and give one to your parents.

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Never Leave Your Valuables Unattended

Most items are stolen because they are left unattended. Lunch line or leave it on the bench next to your gym locker, or toss your backpack on a table while you get in the cafeteria? You might want to take a picture of each item to keep with the list. Make several copies of the list and give one to your parents.

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If You Are the Parent of a Teen Crime Victim

How you and other adults respond to a teen who has experienced a crime can make a difference in how the teen copes with and recovers from the event. Remember that witnessing a violent crime can be as traumatic as experiencing it directly.

The National Center for Victims of Crime recommends that you watch your teenager for these common reactions to a traumatic event:

• change in eating or sleeping habits,
• acting out in an aggressive or inappropriate manner,
• attention-seeking behavior,
• increased risk-taking,
• deteriorating school performance or fear of attending school,
• withdrawal from peer relationships,
• physical signs of stress such as headaches or stomachaches,
• nightmares and other sleep problems,
• difficulty concentrating, and
• feelings of anger, hopelessness, anxiety, and depression.

While it is normal for a victim to move through different stages of feelings in order to recover from a painful experience, sometimes victims get stuck in one stage for an unusually long time. If this happens, you may want to seek professional help for your teen.

Take a Stand for Victims’ Rights

• Make sure your Neighborhood Watch group looks out for victims of crime by offering practical help and accompanying victims to court.
• Celebrate National Crime Victim Rights Week in April of each year. Pass out fliers, talk to your school about marking the event, send a letter to local media asking them to feature victims’ rights.
• Find out what laws your state has passed to address victims’ rights. Write to your state senator or representative if you think more needs to be done.
• Make sure your phone has security features such as a password or key lock and use them. If you have a laptop computer, say you’ve won a prize and you must provide your personal information to claim it. They may direct you to a phony number, or bank and credit card account number. Don’t post other people’s information, either.

You can’t completely protect yourself from identity theft, but here are some steps you can take to reduce the risk of identity theft:

• Never give your personal information to anybody, including your friends at school. If someone asks for the information will be used. Then talk to your parents how to safeguard checks and bank account numbers. Do • When you open your first checking account, find out how to monitor your account statements for suspicious activities. • Shred any documents that contain your Social Security number, driver’s license number, or other personal information before throwing them in the trash. Cross-cut information before throwing them in the trash. Cross-cut • Steal your purse or wallet—and all the credit and cards, bank statements, and pre-approved credit card offers • Steal your birth certificate, passport, and other personal identification cards inside documents during a home burglary • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan.

How to Prevent Identity Theft

Your name was given to you when you were born. It belongs to you or your parents. You or your parents provide your name and Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan.

That’s called identity theft, and it’s the fastest growing crime today. Identity theft refers to all types of crime in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person’s Personally identifiable information, typically for economic gain. Anyone can because of bad credit histories. They must spend many hours and sometimes money to clear their good names. Millions of people every year, and about one-third of them are kids. Here are some of the most common ways identity thieves could obtain your personal information.

• Steal your purse or wallet—and all the credit and cards, bank statements, and pre-approved credit card offers • Steal your birth certificate, passport, and other personal identification cards inside documents during a home burglary • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan. • Steal your Social Security number, which was created for you by the government, at very important times in your life, such as job, apply to college, or request a credit card or student loan.

The National Center for Victims of Crime recommends that you watch your teenager for these common reactions to a traumatic event:
Youth Crime Watch of America (YCWA) empowers youth to take an active role in addressing problems in their schools and communities. Youth take ownership of their own crime watch program for their school, neighborhood, public housing site, recreational center, or park. Activities include crime reporting, mentoring, and mediation.

For More Information

Teens, Crime, and the Community (TCC) is a national program that seeks to involve teens in crime prevention to create safer schools and neighborhoods. Participating teens tackle such critical issues as violent crime, shoplifting, child abuse, rape, hate crime, and substance abuse. www.ncpc.org

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to be informed about the case's progress and to receive compensation for damages.

The right to be treated with dignity and compassion.

The right to protection from intimidation and further harm.

The right to be treated equally in court.

The right to have property returned promptly if found by the police.

The right to be informed about the outcome through the criminal justice system.

What You Might Do

If You Are a Victim of Crime You Might Feel

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If You Are a Victim of Crime You Might Feel

If You Are a Victim of Crime You Might Feel

Do not blame yourself

Do not try to seek revenge

Don't be embarrassed

Don't feel guilty

Don't feel foolish

If you think your friend needs help but won't tell anyone, or if your friend asks you not to. This may save your friend's life, or someone else's.

If you think your friend repeatedly that it is not his fault.

Your Legal Rights as a Victim

Police and courts realize that victims need help. Most states have passed laws to protect victims. Here are the rights that most victims can expect:

• The right to be treated with dignity and compassion.

• The right to protection from intimidation and further harm.

• The right to be treated equally in court.

• The right to have property returned promptly if found by the police.

• The right to be informed about the case's progress and to receive compensation for damages.

• The right to be informed about the nature and scope of the event.

Everyone Is Doing It: Planning a Successful Crime Prevention Event
Where To Find Help
• Community or neighborhood dispute resolution centers
• Local government—family services
• Private organizations listed in the telephone directory’s “arbitration” or “mediation services”
• Law school legal clinics

What You Are Doing to Help
You want to be able to see if what you are doing is supposed to reduce fights in your school, you can count how many fights there were in a typical week before your project began and how many there are now. Has the school remained free of graffiti? Are you tired of walking by playgrounds that are filled with trash and broken equipment? You know kids won’t play there because it’s such a mess. You can make a difference by cleaning up that playground as a community crime prevention project.

3. Get what you need. Basically, you need people to do the work, materials (remember to include things like money, publicity, and the support of adults. Look to local businesses, foundations, parents, the school, and local television station. Production made possible by a grant from ADT Security Services, Inc.

4. Check your progress once your project is underway. You can check your progress by counting how many fights there were in a typical week, or performances with prevention themes. Join a group like an afterschool program, Boys & Girls Clubs, 4-H, Scouts, YMCA or YWCA, or Camp Fire. If you need help finding out what’s around, talk to someone in your school, place of worship, police station, or recreation center.

5. Get the message out. When you’ve got things moving, tell others what you are doing. You can share your success in your school or local newspaper. You can put up film anticrime commercials. Put on drug- and alcohol-free events. Start a teen court. Set up a group. Teach younger kids. Join a group. You can do almost anything you want to do by fitting your skill to a problem you want to solve. Find a group or get one together. Join an existing group like an afterschool program, Boys & Girls Clubs, 4-H, Scouts, YMCA or YWCA, or Camp Fire. If you need help finding out what’s around, talk to someone in your school, place of worship, police station, or recreation center.

Step 3: Success

Steps for Success

1. Choose one problem. (At this point you may want to look around your community and see what people are already doing. Maybe you can work with another group.)

2. Plan what you’re going to do and each step you’re going to take to get there. Decide who’s going to do what. Split the work evenly so no one will get burned out. Remember to plan how you’ll be able to tell if your project was successful. Are there fewer fights at school? Are you safer with less arguing in school? Ask your friends how they feel about what you’ve been doing. They educated their friends and neighbors about how to prevent violence and drug abuse. They participated in an antivandalism section for your school’s website. Teens in Boston organized a crime prevention campaign in their school that included painting the hallways and beautifying the surrounding grounds. They hosted a community open house night. They created a crime prevention coloring book designed and produced a billboard for the highway near their town that provided information about child abuse.

Making Peace: Tips on Conflict Management
Take Action

• Educate your community. Start a peer education program on teen dating violence.

• Encourage your school or a community organization to start a program to help abusers conquer their behavior. Teaching how to be in a relationship without resorting to violence will help break the cycle.

• Read up on healthy relationships and dating violence. Ask your school library to purchase books about living without violence and the cycle of domestic violence.

• Inquire about having health, social studies, contemporary living, and other classes incorporate discussions of teen dating violence and its prevention.

Use the following tips from the National Crime Prevention Council to manage conflict:

1. Use “I” statements—express how you feel, rather than blaming the other person. Instead of yelling, try saying “I feel frustrated when I can’t finish making dinner.”

2. Keep your voice calm. Even some adults—have not learned how to control that reaction are skills that many teens—and adults have not learned. Anger management training helps individuals take command of their emotions instead of allowing their emotions to take control.

3. Look for tone, body language, and other clues to what the other person is saying. Pay attention instead of thinking about what you’re going to say next. Demonstrate your concentration by using body language that says you are interested in what the other person is telling you. Look the other person in the eye, nod your head, and keep your body relaxed and your posture open.

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• Talk with youth groups about what your school or community can do to prepare for emergencies.
• Use youth talent (anything from a basketball marathon to a battle of the bands) to raise funds for local emergency agencies.
• Sign up with the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, or another emergency-response organization as a volunteer.
• Speak up at public hearings for the needs and concerns of youth in your community so they can learn from your experience.
• Volunteer in hospitals, police stations, fire and emergency agencies.
• Work with other young people to come up with a list of ways youth and children in emergency situations. Work with others to plan to be back.

For More Information
www.ncpc.org
www.nationalallcc.org
http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/pubs/yia.html
www.ncjrs.org
www.ready.gov
www.fema.gov
www.nationaltcc.org
www.ncpc.org

What Teens Can Do Against Terrorism

• Talk with youth groups about what your school or neighborhood has done or is doing to become better prepared to deal with emergencies.
• Offer to bring to other parts of the community programs you have developed for younger children.
• Use youth talent (anything from a basketball marathon to a battle of the bands) to raise funds for local emergency agencies.
• Sign up with the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, or another emergency-response organization as a volunteer.
• Speak up at public hearings for the needs and concerns of youth in emergency situations. Work with other young people to come up with a list of ways you can help and ways the community can help you.
• Sign up (if you are old enough, which depends on your area) as a volunteer firefighter, or attend a citizens' or youth academy, if your police department offers one.
• Talk with youth groups and youth-serving organizations about working together to help your neighborhoods and each other develop and sharpen emergency prevention and response skills.
• Speak out against the bully.
• Stand tall and walk with confidence and in a way that commands respect.
• Hang out with friends who don’t get involved in bullying.
• Stand up for others who are being intimidated.
• Include the person who is being bullied in your activities.
• Start a bully education program for the local elementary school. Consider a puppet show or skit that teaches kids about bullying.

Take Action

• Work with the school administration and get students together to develop or revise your school’s code of conduct.
• Help organize clean-ups and fix-ups so that neighbors are willing to help.
• Build up ties to neighbors and schoolmates. The better you and your family know each other, the more likely you will successfully respond together to any emergency, which in turn makes you and your family safer.
• Offer your help in developing a neighborhood plan for terrorism and other civic emergencies. There’s a lot you can do! 
• Build a Community Emergency Response Team. Ask your local fire department about training or visit www.fema.gov to learn more about these civilian volunteers who received specialized medical and emergency response training.
• Energize student support for first responders through educational visits, fundraising drives, and discussions of procedures in place and issues confronted.
• Help develop family action plans and take responsibility for them.
• Assist in gathering a family supply kit and keeping it fresh.

Your Neighborhood

• Learn about school policies in different kinds of emergencies. In partnership with the faculty and administrators, help educate other students on how these policies work.
• Learn about school security systems with cameras and controlled access, suggest that one be installed.
• If your school does not have an electronic security system, start a School Crime Watch if your school does not already have one.
• Find out whether your school has a group of volunteer special training. Ask counselors about training peer counselors to help in emergency or tense situations.
• Help to conduct the neighborhood survey. Identify ways in which you can assist in planning and in carrying out plans.
• In your neighborhood, form a neighborhood patrol. Organize a neighborhood watch. The National Citizens’ Crime Prevention Campaign, sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.
Hang out with kids who are not involved and don't join a gang. Get involved in activities that are not gang-related, such as organized sports, summer jobs, community organizations, volunteer groups, faith groups, or arts and drama groups.

Start showing gangs you have zero tolerance for their activities. You can:
- start a graffiti clean-up program in your community
- start a youth group or club whose purpose is to improve the neighborhood or school.

Don't be a "wannabe" by dressing or acting like you want to be in a gang. If threats from gangs continue, tell your parents, the police, or school officials.

Refuse to participate in taunting and teasing. Walk away from fights.

If You Are the Victim
- Say "no" to a bully's demands from the start. If the bully won't listen, tell an adult.
- Do not physically fight back: experience shows that this actually increases the likelihood of continued victimization.
- Seek immediate help from an adult.
- Report bullying to school personnel.
- If your safety is at stake, walk away or run if you need to.
- Treat others the way you would like to be treated.
- It's everyone's responsibility to stop bullying. And don't be afraid to get help when necessary. It takes courage, but help is available.

Telling adults if you witness cruelty or hear about violence can make a difference in someone's life or lives. It is illegal to bully someone. If you witness bullying, report it.

The Bully
- Bullies keep bullying as long as it works—as long as it makes them feel more powerful.
- There are two kinds of bullies: smooth talkers and intimidators.
- Smooth Talkers are clever and manipulative. They try to control by talking, saying the right thing at the right time, and lying. This type of bully attempts to control others by talking them into doing things the bully would like to see happen. They lie and deceive to get others to do things they wouldn't normally do.

As different as these two types may seem, all bullies have these characteristics in common:
- willingness to use and abuse other people to get what they want
- concern with their own pleasure
- desire for power over others
- feeling of pain inside, perhaps because of their own shortcomings
- inability to see things from someone else's perspective.

Some bullies are outgoing, aggressive, active, and expressive. They get their way by brute force or openly harassing someone. They may carry a weapon. This type of bully rejects rules and regulations and needs to rebel to achieve a feeling of being better than everyone else. The reality is that bullies need to bully to feel powerful and in control. There are things you can do to deal with the situation without making things worse.

IfYou Are the Victim
- Hang out with friends. Thereis safety in numbers.
- Avoid or ignore the bully.
- Tell the bully assertively to stop threatening you (for example, "I don't like what you're doing. Stop it!").
- If threats from gangs continue, tell your parents, the police, or school officials.
- If you are threatened by gang members, don't overreact.
- Take Action

Take Action
- If you are threatened by gang members, don't overreact. Stay cool and try not to act scared.
- Ignore their threats and tell them you have no argument with them.
- If threats from gangs continue, tell your parents, the police, or school officials.
- Don't be a "wannabe" by dressing or acting like you want to be in a gang.
- Hang out with kids who are not involved and don't want to be in a gang.
- Get involved in activities that are not gang-related, such as organized sports, summer jobs, community organizations, volunteer groups, faith groups, or arts and drama groups.

Start showing gangs you have zero tolerance for their activities. You can:
- start a graffiti clean-up program in your community
- start a youth group or club whose purpose is to improve the neighborhood or school.

The Reality of Gangs

Bullies don't go away when elementary school ends; bullying actually peaks in junior high school and continues through high school and even into the workplace. It can lead to serious problems and dangerous situations for both the victim and the bully.

Bullying is repeated and unnecessary aggressive behavior, to get someone to do something they wouldn't normally do. It's a form of intimidation, behavior designed to threaten or frighten or make someone feel powerless. There are things you can do to deal with the situation without making things worse.

There is no easy answer to bullying. But you can help by being involved in activities that are not gang-related, such as organized sports, summer jobs, community organizations, volunteer groups, faith groups, or arts and drama groups.

Start showing gangs you have zero tolerance for their activities. You can:
- start a graffiti clean-up program in your community
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The National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, sponsored by the Crime Prevention Coalition of America, is substantially funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.
A Dozen Things Students Can Do To Stop School Violence

1. Mentor a younger student. As a role model and friend, you can make it easier for a younger person to adjust to school for someone else, and refuse to keep silent about those who carry weapons.

2. Report any crime immediately to school authorities or police.

3. Report suspicious behavior or talk by other students to a teacher or counselor at your school. You may save someone’s life.

4. Learn how to manage your own anger effectively. Find out ways to settle arguments by talking it out, working it out, or mediation program, in which trained students help classmates find ways to settle arguments without fists or weapons.

5. Help others settle disputes peaceably. Start or join a peer mediation program, in which trained students help classmates find ways to settle arguments without fists or weapons.

6. Set up a teen court, in which youths serve as judge, prosecutor, jury, and defense counsel. Courts can hear cases, make findings, and impose sentences, or they may establish sentences in cases where teens plead guilty. Teens feel more involved in the process than in an adult-run juvenile justice system.

7. Become a peer counselor, working with classmates who need support and help with problems.

8. Refuse to bring a weapon to school, refuse to carry a weapon, and try to keep quiet about those who carry weapons.

9. Start a school crime watch. Consider including a student groups, and a way for students to report concerns anonymously.

10. Ask each student activity or club to adopt an anti-violence position. Try for 100 percent participation.

11. Welcome new students and help them feel at home in your school. Introduce them to other students. Get to know at least one student unfamiliar to you each week.

12. Learn about gangs. Join a Gang?

Joining a gang is like entering enemy territory. Belonging to a gang has a warlike existence where beatings and shootings happen all the time. Typical scenarios of joining a gang involve violence and rape.

• Boys usually have to fight several other gang members.
• Girls may be forced to have sex with several gang members.
• New members may be required to prove themselves by beating up an innocent person, robbing a store, or shooting someone the gang to which they belong.

What Does the Future Hold for a Gang Member?

Gang membership can severely hurt one’s health and future. Gang members may be killed or injured. Many put themselves in danger of disease, prison, and lengthy jail time. They are likely to be involved in crime throughout the 20 years. And by joining you usually don’t end up with a good education, making it hard to find a good job. They may commit serious and violent crimes that lead to lengthy jail time.

What’s the Deal With Gangs?

Gangs are neither just a big city or inner-city problem, nor are they a problem of a particular race or culture. Gangs cross all ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, gender, and geographic boundaries. They bring fear and violence to youth in crime and drive out businesses. Gangs pull teens away from school and home into a life of violence.

One of the scariest aspects of gang violence is it’s often unpredictable. People get hurt if they are in the wrong place at the wrong time. If gangs or gang members are in your school or neighborhood, you know it.

Learn About Gangs

• Gangs can be organized around race or ethnic group, gender, crime, or territory.
• Gangs are neither just a big city or inner-city problem, nor are they a problem of a particular race or culture. Gangs cross all ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, gender, and geographic boundaries. They bring fear and violence to youth in crime and drive out businesses. Gangs pull teens away from school and home into a life of violence.

• Most gang members are males ranging in age from 8 to 20 years. They are likely to be involved in crime throughout the 20 years. And by joining you usually don’t end up with a good education, making it hard to find a good job. They may commit serious and violent crimes that lead to lengthy jail time.

• Gangs often use special hands signs or handshakes to tell others the gang to which they belong.
• “Gangsta” rap paints a realistic picture of daily gang life. It also shows the disrespect for authority, especially the police.

• The music and lyrics talk about money making activities, or territory.
• Gang members and are forming their own gangs.

• Common reasons are to end boredom and seek more excitement, earn money, be with friends, and be more popular.
• If you think you will be safer joining a gang, you’re wrong. Most gang members are males ranging in age from 8 to 20 years. They are likely to be involved in crime throughout the 20 years. And by joining you usually don’t end up with a good education, making it hard to find a good job. They may commit serious and violent crimes that lead to lengthy jail time.

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Putting A Stop To Hate Crime

Discriminating against someone because of his or her race, religious background, or other qualities is wrong. You can do something to stop violence and prejudice. You can work to change attitudes.

Adults Can...

• Set a good example by showing respect for others through actions, attitudes, and remarks.
• Organize forums to examine possible sources of bigotry and hate violence in the community and brainstorm prevention actions.
• Encourage law enforcement to collect hate crime statistics and make them available to the public.
• Raise public awareness that bias-motivated incidents are crimes and should be reported to law enforcement.
• Support training in identifying and responding to bias-motivated crime for police and sheriff's departments.
• After getting approval from the investigating law enforcement agency, immediately clean up any bias-motivated graffiti. Paint a mural celebrating diversity in its place.
• Work with school, businesses, or community groups to sponsor poster or essay contests on “How Bias-related Crimes Hurt Our Community.”
• Offer support to a co-worker or neighbor who has been a victim of a bias-motivated crime.

Young People Can...

• Start a conflict resolution program in their school.
• Say hello to, and have a conversation with, someone who may appear different from them.
• Reject all stereotypes.
• Report incidents of discrimination or hate crimes to parents and teachers.
• Start a peer education program to teach bias awareness to younger children.
• Organize a community-wide Day of Respect or Day of Dialogue, in which all members in your community can share strategies to prevent hate crime.
• Mentor a younger child.
• Use their creative talents—sing, write, or paint to share positive anti-violence messages.
• Start a school or town crime watch program.
• Advocate violence prevention by writing to their local government representative and sharing their ideas.
• Offer support to a classmate who has been a victim of a bias-motivated crime.

A Dozen Things Parents Can Do To Stop School Violence

1. Recognize that keeping firearms in your home may put you at legal risk as well as expose you and your family to physical risk. In many states, parents can be held liable for their children's actions, including inappropriate use of firearms. If you do choose to keep firearms at home, ensure that they are securely locked, that ammunition is locked and stored separately, and that children know weapons are never to be touched without your express permission and supervision.

2. Take an active role in your children's schools. Talk regularly with teachers and staff. Volunteer in the classroom or library, or in after-school activities. Work with parents/teacher-student organizations.

3. Act as role models. Settle your own conflicts peacefully and manage anger without violence.

4. Listen to and talk with your children regularly. Find out what they're thinking on all kinds of topics. Create an opportunity for two-way communication, which may mean forgoing judgments or pronouncements. This kind of communication should be a daily habit, not a reaction to crisis.

5. Set clear limits on behaviors in advance. Discuss punishments and rewards in advance, too. Disciplining with framework and consistency helps teach self-discipline, a skill your children can use for the rest of their lives.

6. Communicate clearly on the violence issue. Explain that you don't accept and won't tolerate violent behavior. Discuss what violence is and is not. Answer questions thoughtfully. Listen to children's ideas and concerns. They may bring up small problems that can easily be solved now, problems that could become worse if allowed to fester.

7. Help your children learn how to examine and find solutions to their problems. Kids who know how to approach a problem and resolve it effectively are less likely to be angry, frustrated, or violent. Take advantage of "teachable moments" to help your child understand and apply these and other skills.

8. Discourage name-calling and teasing. These behaviors often escalate into fistfights (or worse). Whether the teaser is violent or not, the victim may see violence as the only way to stop it.

9. Insist on knowing your children's friends, whereabouts, and activities. It's your right. Make your home an inviting and pleasant place for your children and their friends; it's easier to know what they're up to when they're around. Know how to spot signs of troubling behavior in kids—yours and others.

10. Work with other parents to develop standards for school related events, acceptable out-of-school activities and places, and required adult supervision. Support each other in enforcing these standards.

11. Make it clear that you support school policies and rules that help create and sustain a safe place for all students to learn. If your child feels a rule is wrong, discuss his or her reasons and what rule might work better.

12. Join up with other parents, through school and neighborhood associations, religious organizations, civic groups, and youth activity groups. Talk with each other about violence problems, concerns about youth in the community's sources of help to strengthen and sharpen parenting skills, and similar issues.
Methamphetamine: Nothing To Rave About

"Meth, speed, chalk, ice crystal I crank fire and glass" are street terms for a man-made drug called methamphetamine. Methamphetamine is among the most addictive substances around. The drug can easily be made in secret laboratories from relatively inexpensive over-the-counter ingredients. This white, odorless, bitter tasting crystalline powder can be smoked, snorted, injected, or swallowed. Teens may think that the bizzare way the drug makes them feel is cool; however, the drug is altering their brains—maybe permanently.

Methamphetamine is not usually bought and sold on the streets like many other illicit drugs. Instead, people obtain supplies through friends or acquaintances. It is typically a more closed or hidden sale. Most teens who come in contact with methamphetamines will do so attending a "rave" or private club. It is at these clubs where the drug is often sold.

Because methamphetamines can be made with readily available, inexpensive materials, there is great variation in the processes and chemicals used. This means that the final product that is sold as "methamphetamine" may not be that drug at all. Uncertainties about the drug's sources and its content make it difficult to know how powerful this substance may be and what the consequences are of this potent mixture.

Signs of a Methamphetamine User

Users may experience

• signs of agitation, excited speech, decreased appetites, and increased physical activity levels (Other common symptoms include dilated pupils, nausea and vomiting, diarrhea, and elevated body temperature.)

• occasional episodes of sudden and violent behavior, intense paranoia, visual and auditory hallucinations, and bouts of insomnia

• a tendency to compulsively clean and groom and repetitively sort and disassemble objects such as cars and other mechanical devices.

Long-Term Effects of the Drug

Methamphetamine can:

• change the brain's ability to manufacture a chemical substance essential for the normal experience of pleasure and for normal psychological functioning. These changes in the brain can persist long after the user stops taking the drugs.

• cause a stroke

• create a mental disorder that may mimic schizophrenia

• be extremely addictive.

Kicking the Habit

There are currently no medications available to treat addiction or overdose to methamphetamines. Withdrawal from this drug is typically characterized by drug craving, depression, disturbed sleep patterns, and increased appetite.

Take Action

• Skip parties where you know there will be alcohol and drugs.

• Get involved in drug-free activities.

• Urge your school, faith community, or neighborhood to organize an anti-drug rally.

• Talk to school counselors about starting an alcohol or drug abuse prevention program.
Defiendete de los Derechos de las Víctimas

Asegúrate de que tu grupo de Vigilancia del Barrio busque a las víctimas de delitos ofreciéndoles ayuda práctica y acompañándolos a los tribunales.

Celebre la Semana Nacional de los Derechos de las Víctimas de la Criminalidad en abril de cada año. Distribuya folletos, hable en su escuela cerca de marzo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo de enero de marzo de enero de mayo 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Guía para los adolescentes sobre la protección de pertenencias portátiles

Empieza un Programa de Vigilancia Escolar

Quisiera hacerse un programa de vigilancia en el vecindario, donde los vecinos velan el uno por el otro, y denunciar los delitos que ocurran en su vecindario. Un programa de vigilancia en la escuela funciona de la misma manera. Los adultos velan los unos por los otros, y la escuela entera es un lugar más seguro y agradable. Ellos aprenden cómo evitar volverse víctimas. También aprenden las mejores maneras de denunciar delitos y actividades sospechosas.

Cuando los estudiantes de una escuela empiezan y ponen en ejecución un programa de vigilancia en contra de delitos, esto puede ser muy valioso para una escuela. La forma en que usted y otros adultos respondan a un adolescente que ha sufrido un acto de criminalidad puede ser el factor decisivo entre cómo el adolescente hace frente al acto de agresión y se recupera del mismo. Recuerde que ser testigo de un acto violento puede ser tan traumático como experimentarlo directamente.

Sus Derechos Legales Como Víctima

¿Sabía usted que los adolescentes tienen el doble de probabilidades de ser víctimas de agresión, robo y homicidio? Las adolescentes tienen más probabilidades de ser víctimas de agresión sexual, de violencia física. Todas las víctimas necesitan ayuda.

**Qué pudiera hacer usted**

- Llamar inmediatamente al 911 para notificar el delito y obtener cualquier ayuda médica de emergencia que sea necesaria.
- Trabajar con sus padres u otros adultos en quienes usted confíe.
- Pensar que su vida nunca será la misma.
- Tener miedo de que el agresor o alguna otra persona pueda aprovechar de usted.
- Sentirse avergonzado de que alguien se haya aprovechado de usted.
- Sentir enojo y deseo de venganza.
- Sentir conmoción por haberle sucedido algo tan imprevisto.
- Sentir tristeza por la pérdida de propiedad o sentido de seguridad.
- Sentirse avergonzado o poco inteligente de que alguien se haya aprovechado de usted.
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Cuando los estudiantes de una escuela empiezan y ponen en ejecución un programa de vigilancia en contra de delitos, están diciendo: "Aquí no se toleran delitos". Habla con el director de la escuela a la que asiste para empezar un programa así en tu escuela. Youth Crime Watch of America, una organización a nivel nacional, puede también proporcionarte información sobre cómo empezar un programa de vigilancia contra delitos. Visita su sitio web en www.ycwa.org o llámalo al 305-670-2409 para obtener más información.

Crime Prevention Tips from
National Crime Prevention Council
2345 Crystal Drive
5th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202
202-466-6272
www.ncpc.org

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Cómo recuperar objetos robados

A pesar de que muchos objetos robados nunca se recuperan, en el caso de que alguien te los roba, podrías recuperar un objeto preciado. Los ladrones de identidad venden a otros objetos robados que han ido acumulando de diferente manera. 

Existen algunas estrategias que podrías seguir para asegurarte de que los objetos robados que ha ido acumulando terminen en tu posesión y no en la de otro. 

Cómo prevenir robos

• Refutar cualquier factura con cargos que no autorizaste. 
• Presentar una queja a la Comisión Federal de Comercio (Federal Trade Commission - FTC) que mantenga una base de datos que las agencias del orden público usan para perseguir y encontrar a los ladrones de identidad. 
• Presentar un reclamo en el departamento local de policía o en la oficina de alguaciles. Necesitarás esta información para darle seguimiento a tu caso a través de los acreedores que han sido damnificados en tu nombre. 

Cómo reportar un robo

El sitio en Internet sobre robo de identidad de la Comisión Federal de Comercio, www.consumer.gov/idtheft, es un buen lugar para que te informen sobre lo que hay que hacer y cómo puedes protegerte.

El Departamento de Justicia de los EE.UU., en su sitio oficial en Internet, www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraud/idtheft.html, también ofrece herramientas para protegerte de las fraudes de identidad.

Algunas de las estrategias que se recomendarán en las dos páginas anteriores incluyen:

• Presentar una denuncia inmediatamente a las autoridades de la escuela, a tu policía y a tu madre o padre.
• Convierte tu número de teléfono en almohadilla indeleble para escribir tu nombre en las etiquetas interiores de tus cosas valiosas.
• Algunos artículos pueden encargarse directamente al fabricante para que los cambien.
• La Operación ID es un programa nacional de prevención del delito, patrocinado por la Coalición Nacional para la Prevención del Delito (Crime Prevention Coalition of America), está financiada considerablemente por la Oficina de Asistencia Judicial, Oficinas de Programas Judiciales, Departamento de Justicia de los EE.UU., www.ncpc.org.
• Los ladrones de identidad se han perdido, y el tener tu nombre en ellos hará que regresen en forma segura a tu posesión.
• Los números de serie y otros datos que ayudan a identificarlos. 
• Haz una lista de todos tus objetos de valor. Da una descripción completa de cada artículo, incluyendo el color, la marca, el modelo, el número de serie. 
• Protege los objetos de valor que dejes en tu automóvil en la maletera. Recuerda, frecuentemente no hay gente en el estacionamiento de la escuela durante el día escolar y los ladrones podrían apoderarse de lo que dejas en tu autos. 
• Protege en todo momento tu armario individual adecuadamente. Asegúrate de que tu armario esté bien cerrado en las guardias ni las cámaras de seguridad. 
• Muchos estudiantes informan que se han llevado a cabo hurtos en las habitaciones para cambiarse de ropa no están vigiladas por los guardias ni las cámaras de seguridad. 
• Protege en todo momento tu armario individual adecuadamente. Asegúrate de que tu armario esté bien cerrado en las guardias ni las cámaras de seguridad. 
• Los hurtos de la mayor parte de artículos ocurren porque se han llevado a cabo hurtos de las mochilas de los estudiantes en la fila para comprar el almuerzo o si dejas tu mochila en el suelo durante la clase. 
• Los armarios de los gimnasios son los más vulnerables al hurto porque frecuentemente se dejan sin cerrar, y generalmente las cámaras de seguridad no son suficientes para proteger tus efectos.
• Protege en todo momento tu armario individual adecuadamente. Asegúrate de que tu armario esté bien cerrado en las guardias ni las cámaras de seguridad. 
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Evaluation of Crime Prevention Month Kit 2007-2008

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The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) is a private, nonprofit, tax-exempt [501(c)(3)] organization whose primary mission is to be the nation's leader in helping people keep themselves, their families, and their communities safe from crime. NCPC publishes books, kits of camera-ready program materials, posters, and informational and policy reports on a variety of crime prevention and community building subjects. NCPC offers training, technical assistance, and a national focus for crime prevention organizations and local community groups to use in their communities. NCPC's programs, publications, and informational materials are designed to help people reduce the risks of crime and increase the likelihood of healthy communities. NCPC also publishes the McGruff "Take a Bite Out Of Crime" public service advertising campaign. NCPC is funded through a variety of government agencies, corporate and private foundations, and donations from private individuals.

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