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Do the Write Thing, Boston

Breaking the Cycle of Violence

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### Do The Write Thing Essay, 2014

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### "Do The Write Thing"

"Strong gun laws do not prevent violence, only good citizens prevent violence" - Laurie Manzer. Violence has affected my life in many ways. It all started when I was about 6 years old, my aunt and her husband lived in the same house. My aunt would come home from work every single day, and go straight to the kitchen to cook for her child. She would sit down, and talk to her little boy everyday, eventually when they were done eating she would either take him to the park or play with him. After that She would go to her room and relax for a while, and I would stay with my cousin and play with him. While, we were playing my aunt's husband would come home drunk, go straight to my aunt's room and start screaming at her. Eventually those yellings would turn into cries for help. Almost everyday we would hear the same cries, and the abuse my aunt would receive. She would always use makeup to hide the marks and bruises by the night before. She would always think that her bruises in her face her subtle but we would always notice them. I would always think that it wasn't fair how a nice, humble, generous, hardworking, and loving mother would receive such unfair treatment and be used as a pillow by her husband to let all

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his frustration out on her. I would always be a witness of this petrifying abuse.

Youth violence may be caused by many types of temptations. Many have to do with being, gay, or bisexual. Violence is also caused by, bad neighborhoods, drugs, racism, bullying, peer pressure and other many temptations. One major cause that causes youth violence is peer pressure. Many teens who are already in gangs often other people to join them in change of money, drugs, etc. As a result of this the leader of the gang often pressures the other members of the gang to beat a kid up after school, or start problems. If the order isn't being obeyed the leader often threatens the one being ordered that if he doesn't obey him he will kill him or something bad will happen to his family and this is how it all starts in mot cases.

What can I do about youth violence? I have asked myself this several times before. A simple, easy, and effective fundamental is by just simply taking action and talking to the smaller children who look up to you. I can talk to them and make them fully understand what's right and wrong. Tell them the consequences of doing the wrong thing and how youth violence can be a major affect in people's life. It is obvious how each and every one of us



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by only taking a small step at a time can help stop youth violence in many ways, By the time these smaller kids are 18 they will know not to commit such terrible acts that can take be a huge impact on their life, and will know to do the right thing, and by doing this it will bring positive consequences to their lives.

Youth violence is not only in bad neighborhoods but around the world as well, There are many effective methods that we can take part of to stop this insanity, but teenagers are refusing to listen and change, If only they would take up some time of their misused time to listen , maybe all the terrible crime rates, and teenagers taken to Juvenile prison would decrease. My wish is that one day all this violence would stop and we would all get along despite the defects of a person . After all we are only humans and aren't perfect we always make mistakes and learn from them thats the beauty of human nature. I know that by just by gathering people care to change the leaders of tomorrow by one step at a time we can come a long way and change the lives of many affected teens who took part in violence or committed terrible acts.