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Breaking the Cycle of Violence

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Do The Write Thing Essay, 2014

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~~Cyril Moore~~

~~Martin Luther King Jr. K-8 school~~

Letter of a prisoner

*All I wanted was to fit in.
I wanted to have friends.
Apparently that wasn't the best way,
Violence was the only answer.
I wanted to feel a sense of belonging.
If you wanted to hang with us,
You had to do something to prove yourself.*

*A sophomore in high school.
Now an inmate in state prison.
Believe it or not but this has really affected my future.
I had an ambition of being a lawyer.
Threw my whole life away.
5-7 years in the same cell.
And then your family hardly visits you.
Oh man, how stupid was I?*

*Honestly, I regret my decision.
And now I'm writing letters to pass time.
I really miss my friends and family.
Never let someone pressure you into anything.
This is where you might end up.*

*Maybe we can stop youth violence
Get teens into summer programs
Give them away to occupy themselves
Keep them out the streets.*

~~Kyrish Moore~~

~~Martin Luther King Jr. K-3 school~~

*Take their minds off of the negative
I realized from my own experience,
That violence isn't necessary.
I also acknowledged that the little things cause it
Drama, gangs and disrespect,
If we try, we can prevent and avoid it*