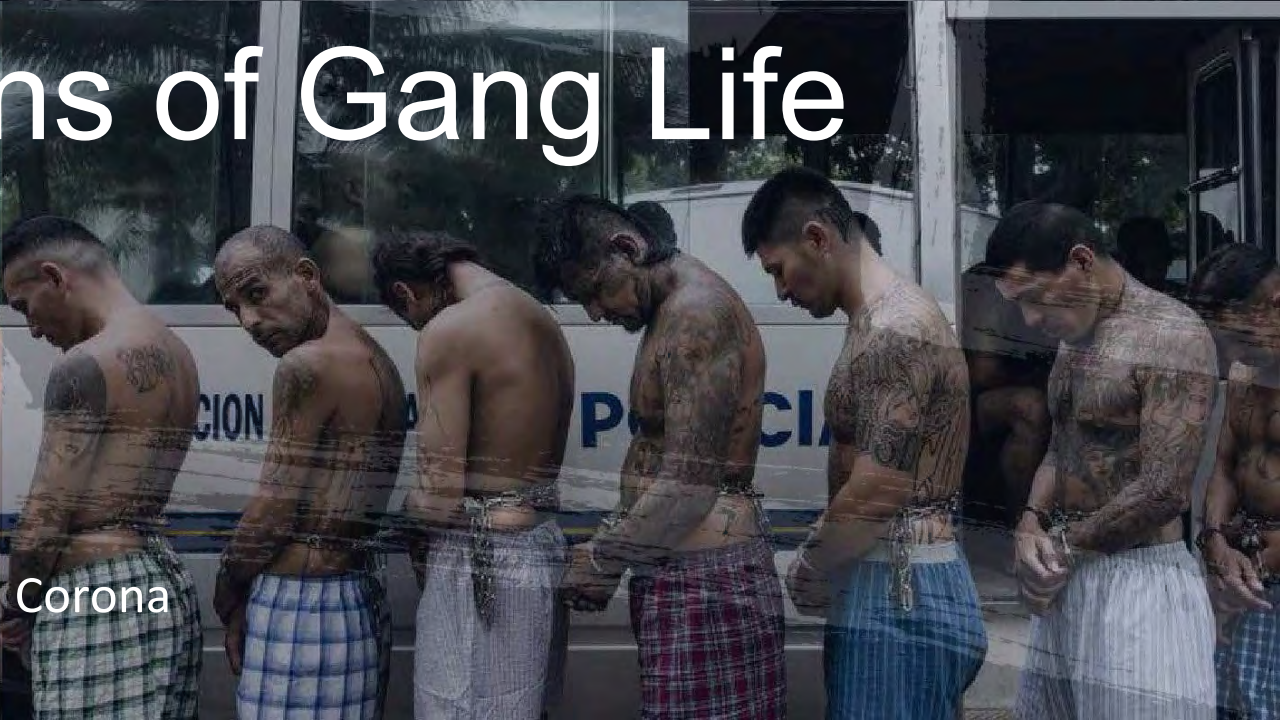


The Pros & Cons of Gang Life



By Brianna Corona

The background of the slide is a collage of three images. On the left, a man with a serious expression is seen behind metal prison bars. In the center, a large group of shirtless men, many with extensive tattoos, are lined up in a row. On the right, two women wearing blue clothing and black head coverings are visible, one of whom is holding a rifle.

Introduction

- Joining gangs is usually frowned upon by a lot of people.
- However, no one takes down the time to see that there is pros as to why someone may want to join a gang. These people do have reasons.
- The following PowerPoint will discuss the reasons why one may join a gang and what the consequences are.

Gangs Provide Protection

- Many times, these young teenagers and adults join gangs because they need protection.
- They may have rivals in the streets and want protection from someone.
- Some people may join gangs simply because they are scared and are in need of protection.





Joining a Gang Provides Comfort

- There is a cycle in families of joining gangs and it can be difficult to change that cycle.
- Some people may join gangs because that is all that they have known their entire life.
- Some people may even be recruited by other families to join
- For example, “Young people are often recruited by older gang members to commit their criminal acts, because the adults feel that laws are more lenient on juveniles” (*Understanding and Avoiding Gangs*).



People Join Gangs for Money

- Many teens are easily influenced.
- They may see a lifestyle portrayed by drill rappers and believe it to be true.
- They may want to join a gang in order to obtain a luxurious lifestyle.
- In some cases, drill music can be a way of grooming young people into believing that it's a good lifestyle to have" (*Gangs and Gang Crime*).



Initiation Process

- However, there is also reasons why people should not join gangs.
- Everyone that wants to join a gang must go through the initiation process which is different in every gang.
- The initiation process is typically gang members beating up or jumping the people that want to join there gang.
- Once the individual is beaten up or even raped, then they can join the gang.





The Gang Lifestyle is Forever

- Once one joins a gang, it's a lifetime commitment.
- Gang members are not allowed to leave the gang even if they changed their mind.
- Some gangs may allow them to leave under the condition that they get jumped or raped by other gang members.



Crimes

- Typically, all gang members must commit crimes.
- Joining a gang is not worth it because it could mean a lifetime in prison.
- “In recent years, gangs are participating in more non-traditional crimes such as prostitution, alien smuggling, and human trafficking, identity theft, and mortgage fraud” (*11 Facts about Gangs*).



SUMMARY

Summary

- In summary, there is more to gangs than everyone thinks. People have their own reasons for joining a gang. This also means that they have their own consequences that they must face for doing that. Gangs have their own pros. People join gangs because they provide protection, comfort, and money. The cons of joining a gang is that there is an initiation process, no one is allowed to leave the gang, and crimes must be committed. I learned why people join gangs and what they must go through once they're in one.

Reference

S

- *Gangs and gang crime*. What attracts young people | Gangs and gang crime | Thurrock Council. (n.d.). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/gangs-and-gang-crime/what-attracts-young-people>
- *Gangs 101: Why young people join gangs and what you can do*. (2008, November 19). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://www.wbtv.com/story/9372434/gangs-101-why-young-people-join-gangs-and-what-you-can-do/?outputType=amp>
- *So you think you want to join a gang? Stop Houston gangs - report gang crime tips & violence - texas gangs*. (n.d.). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://stophoustongangs.org/default.aspx?act=frontpage.aspx&name=So%2Byou%2Bthink%2Byou%2Bwant%2Bto%2Bjoin%2Ba%2Bgang&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>
- *Traits of gang members*. Traits of Gang Members. (n.d.). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://www.edmontonpolice.ca/CommunityPolicing/OrganizedCrime/Gangs/TraitsofGangMembers>
- *Understanding and avoiding gangs*. Understanding and Avoiding Gangs. (n.d.). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/understanding-and-avoiding-gangs>
- *11 facts about gangs*. DoSomething.org. (n.d.). Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-gangs>