

U.S. Latino Youth Street Gangs: Prevention & Intervention Strategies for Service Providers

Presenter: Robert Hernandez

Can you share the articles that were referenced?

A: Diego Vigil: Multiple Marginality
National Gang Threat assessment 2012

Do you distinguish demographics between gangs and cartels?

A: Yes, based on criminal justice definitions they have separate distinctions, one is considered fragmented and the other organized.

How different are Non- Latino Gangs from Latino Gangs?

A: It appears that much of the difference is based on cultural factors, rituals, and traditions. However, there are common themes found across Non-Latino gangs and Latino gangs.

Where can one obtain information about gang activity in Portland Oregon [or in other U.S. cities], outside of the police department?

A: Usually the immediate point of reference is through each cities law enforcement compstats data banks, however, the municipalities of each city may also be a point of reference, council, public safety department chair.

Why the increase in the lethality of violence in some of these gangs? Thank you very much for all this information!

A: Some of the rise in violence may be due to more access to guns, increasing disparities, joblessness, re-entry efforts with no established mechanisms in place. Destabilization of neighborhoods due to impact from development/gentrification. Practice Informed evidence has noted strain on families as a result of shifting neighborhood's breaking any sense of informal or formal leadership where a high prevalence of violence exists.

Has the research considered the immigration factor from other countries?

A: There has become more of a circle migration occurring with an emphasis on immigrant youth risk levels. Access to drugs and risky behavior has become more common than in years past with this population as immigrants adopt more of the American cultured ideologies.