



For additional information or help getting out of a gang:

Call or visit:

385-468-9773

[CHOOSEGANGFREE.COM](http://CHOOSEGANGFREE.COM)

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*The Mission of the Salt Lake Area Gang Project is to Identify, reduce, and prevent criminal gang activity through public education and proactive enforcement in Salt Lake County and surrounding areas.*

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GANG TIP HOTLINE

385-468-9768

[GANGTIPS@UPDSL.ORG](mailto:GANGTIPS@UPDSL.ORG)

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**CHOOSE GANG  
FREE**



**CHOICES AND  
CONSEQUENCES**  
Youth and Gangs

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## YOUR LIFE

## YOUR CHOICE

Youth sometimes join gangs because they are not aware of the alternative ways for them to spend time with kids their age. They may think there is nothing else to do or if there is, they don't know how to access positive activities.

They may even feel that joining a gang is the only way for them to associate with other kids or be a part of a peer group.

Gang activity of any type, including associating with gang members, acting like a gangster, or actually becoming a member yourself can have an overwhelmingly negative impact on your life, your future and your family.

### **GANG INVOLVEMENT QUICKLY ELIMINATES YOUR CHOICES.**

*Life is better with Choices*



## Gangs and the Police

Kids that join or hang around gangs can expect to have a problem with the police.

They are questioned, detained and arrested more often than other kids.

They can also expect to have problems with other gang members.



## Alternatives

Too much free time can sometimes be dangerous and trouble may follow. When school and family responsibilities are complete the choices are yours.

- \* Draw
- \* Write a song
- \* Skateboard
- \* Ride a bike
- \* Make a video
- \* Paint
- \* Garden
- \* Volunteer at the animal shelter
- \* Dance
- \* Play basketball
- \* Learn to cook
- \* Design a video game
- \* Go swimming

## What Should I do?



## Just Think.....

- ⇒ Is this a good idea in the long term?
- ⇒ What may happen if I do?
- ⇒ What may happen if I don't?
- ⇒ Do I know everything I need to?

## Can You Get Out?

- ⇒ Never tell your gang you are planning to leave.
- ⇒ Gradually stop dressing, talking and acting like a gangster.
- ⇒ Make excuses to stay away from gang friends. (Mom, School, Probation Officer).
- ⇒ Change your number/lose your phone.
- ⇒ Take a new route home from school or work.
- ⇒ Avoid places where you know other gang friends will be.
- ⇒ Spend your time doing other things

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**(All contacts are kept confidential)**