Discussion

[Name of the Writer]

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The term “gang” is defined by the Justice Department and the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as a group of members whose determination is to engage in criminal activities and practices violence to promote its criminal objectives”1. Youth Gangs, Street Gangs, as well as Organized Crime Gangs are terms broadly and interchangeably used in mainstream coverage. Different gangs are linked together; for example, on behalf of criminal gangs, street gangs can be involved in drug trafficking.

The number of gangs and their activities in the U.S. is on the rise across the country, and Tongan Crip Gang is one among them. The “Tongan Crip Gang” is known as a street gang and is a subclass of the Crips gang. TCG is active in Inglewood California, also located in Utah and also present in New Zealand, Australia, and Canada. It is famous for its criminal deeds including drug trafficking, robbery, extortion, murder, burglary, car theft.

Research suggests that gang affiliation often provides psychological, social or economic benefits, and youth join gangs to meet their unfulfilled needs. The young people who perceive the future as helpless and hopeless, often think the gang's way of life may appear to offer them a better alternative. It provides them the means to attain goods and resources that may not be obtainable through legitimate means.

The meaningful approach to prevent crimes, violence, and some other associated factors are the "therapeutic" principle, which aims to create progressive changes in the lives of young people and their families, and also help to avoid negative consequences. This comprises skills-based, family-focused, and therapy-based programs. Criminal justice agencies are using a variety of strategies such as suppression tactic which includes street sweeps, stronger observation, hotspot targeting as well as caravanning. Some other strategies are crime anticipation activities, and community collaboration, which are found to be the most effective strategies in avoiding and monitoring gang crime.

End Notes

1. Stoll, David. "Gang Wars of Central America: What Anthropologists Have to Say." Latin American Politics and Society 59, no. 4 (2017): 121-131.