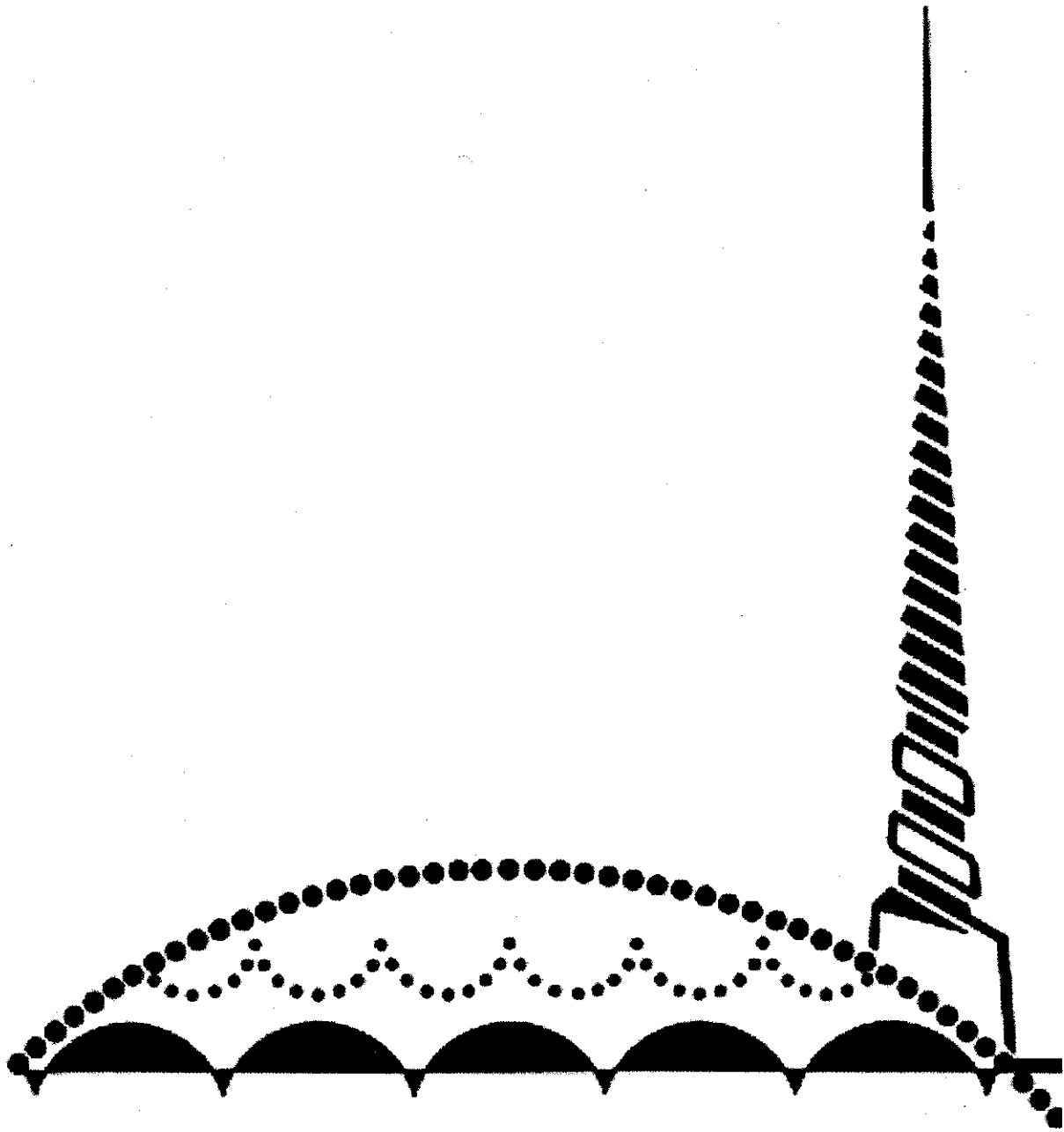
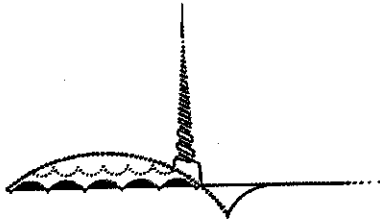


2007-2008 MARIN COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

Gangs of Marin





Gangs of Marin

SUMMARY

Marin County has street gangs. Although growing in some areas, their numbers in the low hundreds are smaller and their behavior less violent than in nearby counties. Most of their members live in a handful of small communities along US Highway 101: Marin City, part of the canal neighborhood of San Rafael, and a few neighborhoods in the southern half of Novato. Most local gangs are affiliated with statewide and broader criminal organizations operating out of the prisons. Marin gangs seem to have relatively loose ties to these groups, but they do employ the same written symbols to identify their turf and sport the same colors to assert their affiliation. They have the same enemies.

Family breakdown is a primary cause of the anger and alienation that lead youths to join gangs. Kids join gangs to acquire meaning, dignity, and a sense of belonging. Sex, drugs, money, and power add to the allure. Law enforcement officers cite the influence of gangsta rap music as a profound contributor to the culture of gang violence. As long as the entertainment industry cranks out music celebrating crime and violence, gang violence will continue if not escalate. This is not a problem we can solve in Marin County.

Strategies to reduce gang activity involve providing alternative ways for them to find a place for themselves where they feel at home and respected. Law enforcement in Marin keeps the situation under control. The police and sheriff's departments in Marin County work notably well to keep on top of the situation. An informal task force of federal, state, county, and city law enforcement agencies meets monthly in Novato and cooperates in field activity. The Grand Jury recommends that participation by all county law enforcement agencies in this interagency gang unit be continued.

The Grand Jury has never published a report on gangs in Marin. Providing information about gangs is one of the ways of deterring them. This year we undertook an investigation to assist the public toward that end. We found that residents can help reduce gang activity by supporting healthy recreational opportunities, mentoring, and counseling. School officials can strive for everyone to feel included and respected. Parents can watch for signs of gang membership in their children and those of their neighbors. All can help the police by reporting activities that don't look safe or lawful. Law enforcement efforts to control gang activities significantly enhance public safety in Marin and should not be curtailed by the county's anticipated 2008-09 budget reductions. The Grand Jury recommends that current staffing levels of all municipal and county officers with gang specialization or responsibility be maintained or increased in 2008-09,

including school officers, to continue enhancement of public safety in Marin. We further recommend that educational presentations continue to be made by law enforcement agencies to schools, religious organizations, and other community groups to inform the public on gangs and accordingly deter Marin gang activities.

BACKGROUND

Unruly groups of teenagers and young adults are a constant part of urban life. Where substantial numbers have only a marginal attachment to the workforce, family life has reached high stress levels, and many of the young feel alienated from the life of the larger community. Some form themselves into groups or—more likely—join groups that already exist. When those groups choose to behave outside of, or in opposition to, the laws of the larger community they are called gangs. Marin has them. Fortunately they are smaller in number and less violent than in surrounding counties.

METHODOLOGY

Our primary source is the interviews we held with knowledgeable members of the Marin community. It is this information that gives this report its distinctive value. The Grand Jury interviewed law enforcement officials from throughout the county—police chiefs and other senior police officials, sheriff's deputies, detectives, and patrol officers. We also interviewed union officials, probation officers and administrators, staff of community and youth organizations, city and county officials, school officials, and others.

The Grand Jury drew upon the wealth of information on the Internet and in libraries about gangs and gang activity in Marin, elsewhere in California, and nationally. Grand Jury members also engaged in patrol "ride-alongs" with officers through areas where gangs are indigenous.

DISCUSSION

First the bad news: as do most other urban counties throughout California and much of the United States, Marin has criminal street gangs. Their activity and membership are increasing in Novato and Marin City. Now the good news: their membership is small relative to the size of Marin's population. There is no official count, but estimates range from 300 to 450. The higher figure may result from including individuals seen with gangs but not established as members.

Law enforcement sources advise that gangs of Marin are less violent than elsewhere in the state and their numbers are growing more slowly than in other Bay Area communities. Among the reasons are Marin's high cost of living, leading to the absence of large areas with concentrations of low-income families and individuals; the presence of attentive and competent governmental and social service agencies; and effectively coordinated law enforcement and community service by police, sheriff, county probation, and the courts. It helps that Marin's jurisdictions and the county as a whole are smaller in population than surrounding areas and are thereby more readily manageable.

Why youths join gangs

The Grand Jury was given a variety of reasons for youths joining gangs. No one disputes the idea that a weak family structure is an important factor, although some do come from two-parent families. One answer is gaining a sense of belonging. Others include sex, drugs, money, and power. Family members currently or previously in gangs recruit their siblings and even their children. Some candidates are recruited in schools but most in their neighborhoods. Reinforcing all of this is gangsta rap emanating from the American music industry. The influence of this source was cited repeatedly by those who deal with street gangs.

Neighborhoods with gangs

San Rafael's Canal Neighborhood

The canal neighborhood of San Rafael is in a lowland triangle bounded on the west by US highway 101, the north by San Rafael Creek, and the east by San Francisco Bay. Its northern corner is made up of apartment buildings, densely populated, now principally by recently arrived Latino families. Many individuals are undocumented, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids have been a major interrupter of lives. The police tell us that most of the adults work, or try to find work at regular or pickup jobs. Some are on welfare, but reportedly no longer than necessary. Frequently several families and unrelated individuals inhabit the same apartment, sometimes on a timeshare basis—by the hour rather than by the week. Individuals can be seen hanging out at local markets or in parking lots until the hour when their timeshare turn begins. This one square mile area contains about 12,000 people, most of them in the northern corner of the lowland triangle. The southern corner of the triangle is light industrial, while the eastern corner, Spinnaker Point and Baypoint, is made up of comfortable middle class homes.

Gang members are concentrated in the congested northern corner of the canal. Because a reliable count is difficult, statistics are not kept on their numbers, but Grand Jury sources estimate about 120 in one gang and 40 in another. The larger, the "18th Street" gang, is named for the Los Angeles street where it was formed by individuals of Mexican descent. The smaller "13th Street" gang, also known as MS 13 and Mara Salvatrucha, is made up mostly of refugees from Central America. Both groups are part of a larger aggregate, the "Sureños." While they are enemies in the canal neighborhood, when in prison they are

allies against the other major California combination, the “Nortefios,” who do not have a strong presence in the canal neighborhood.

“Sureños” means “people of the south.” Generally they are comparatively recent immigrants to California, many of them still connected to or identifying themselves with their original homes in Mexico and Central America. Spanish is still their language. It is common among 13th Street members to maintain their bonds to home, many in El Salvador and Guatemala. If they are arrested when visiting home, they may be “disappeared” or shot by the police. Some have fake Mexican birth certificates, so when they are caught in the United States and deported they are sent to Tijuana rather than home. This is a common enough occurrence that the 13th Street gang maintains a safe house there.

Nortefios were organized in the prisons in the mid-1960s by agricultural workers preyed upon by Sureños. They adopted as a symbol the black eagle on a red background of the United Farmworkers flag. In prison, Nortefios are affiliated with La Nuestra Familia, Sureños with the Mexican Mafia. Prison officials segregate these gangs from one another out of necessity.

Novato

The Nortefios throughout the state are earlier settlers and mostly English-speaking. In Marin, the Northbay Nortefios number a few dozen individuals, mainly scattered throughout Novato, some of them Anglos and some from “better-off” families. Sureños are more numerous than Nortefios in Novato, numbering about 100. Some of them live in a few small neighborhoods of densely compacted apartments in the southern half of the city—Bay Vista, the northern end of Alameda del Prado, and the Leafwood complex across US 101 from the Vintage Oaks shopping center. Others live in an attractive and newer neighborhood of semidetached houses in the southeastern section of Hamilton, where rents are federally subsidized.

Marin City

Marin City began as wartime housing for African-American families working in the local shipyards and has gone through many changes since. Families were intact in the World War II and post-war years and earned their living through work. These days a large part of this half square mile area is public housing. The family is more likely to be headed by a single female with one or two children living at home with their income from public welfare. More than a few residents trace their roots in the area back several generations. The neighborhood was troubled in the early years by the problems that affect working families everywhere. For several decades, Marin City has been the scene of economic difficulty, with more than its share of social disintegration. Most families strive to do their best under difficult circumstances and to follow the rules. Some do not. One result is a homegrown African-American gang, the “200 Block Young Hawgz,” who number about 35. A newer Marin City gang, the “North Rag Mafia,” is composed of Nortefios

and African-Americans. No incidents between these two gangs were brought to the attention of the Grand Jury.

In the company of deputies from the sheriff's south county substation, the Grand Jury learned that the 200 Block gang hangs out with other residents and visitors in the parking lot in the 200 block of Drake Avenue, among deteriorating low-rise public housing units up the street from the Marin City shopping center. Any afternoon, but particularly on weekends, several dozen people can be seen sitting in and leaning on cars, smoking, drinking alcoholic or other beverages, or just hanging out. On the sidewalk across Drake Avenue is a smaller group being addressed by a young man in a white tee shirt and a blue baseball cap known to the sheriff's deputies who patrol this unincorporated area as the group's drug dealer, but smooth enough an operator to avoid the signs that warrant a search. As the evening wears on, the crowd increases. Rarely, someone fires off a weapon; less than annually, someone gets hit by a bullet. But in the evening, nearby residents experience a continuous stream of noise which they can do nothing about, and by morning the area is a mess to be cleaned up by the housing authority.

* * *

What these Marin neighborhoods have in common is that their residents have below-average incomes. In many instances they are recent immigrants to the United States. Their skills, education, and health are lacking in comparison with the general population of the county. For many their principal language is not English. Frequently a parent is trying to raise her children alone. In addition to these challenges, gangs of alienated youths are present in the daily lives of their children. They offer inducements to enter that presumably glamorous life—a life continuously celebrated in gangsta rap and apparently available to them, or it would not be so openly advertised. Parents and other caregivers face extraordinary challenges in these circumstances.

Symbols of identity: Colors and signs

Law enforcement officers caution that if you are a teenager or a young adult you should not wear the color red or blue in or near the neighborhoods discussed above or in the schools or local places of business that serve them. If you don't fit this profile there is less to worry about. In communities where there are rival African-American gangs, the "Crips" wear blue and the "Bloods" wear red. Colors can change temporarily when, for example, gangs wish to be identifiable but a school mandates that blue and red not be worn. Blue was the color of bandannas given out by prison authorities in the 1960s. The two Sureño gangs and the Norteños, although unrelated to the Crips and Bloods, have also adopted this color—Sureños, blue; Norteños, red.

A series of tattoos and tags (graffiti) goes with the colors. Usually these are abbreviations of the name of the gang. The tags of self-identified Sureños, used to mark territory and to identify oneself by tattoo, include 13, XIII, SUR, SS, Southside, Mi Vida Loca, MVL, and three dots in a triangular arrangement. Their original members fled armed conflict in their Central American countries with tattoos on shaved heads, skulls,

and the like. A Richmond gang, "Richmond Sur Trece," using the tag RST, sometimes hangs out with them (and is known for stealing Honda Accords). Tags of the 18th Street gang, which does not identify itself as Sureño except in prison where it too is part of the Mexican Mafia, include XV3, 666, 99, and CANAL. Norteños began by adopting the color and symbol of César Chávez's farm worker movement, a stylized black eagle on a field of red. They use the black eagle in a red circle, HUELGA, XIV, N, 14, Norte, NBN, and four dots in a square pattern or sometimes tattooed across their knuckles.

When these tags appear on surfaces in a community, it is important to eradicate them. Leaving them concedes the space to the gang and may signal to a rival gang that anyone on the street is fair game. Tags are usually messy scrawls compared with art graffiti, which are often quite carefully done. Some graffiti represent nothing but vandalism.

Gang colors may be reflected throughout a member's wardrobe. His jacket may be one of a sports team whose team color is that of his gang. He will wear baggy pants, often split at the cuff, with a thin belt, and a knit cap, beanie, or bandanna in red or blue tied like a sweatband around his head. He may wear colored shoelaces in his sneakers. His clothing or his skin may display gang symbols.

Organization and customs

The Northbay Norteños organization is more hierarchal than the other Marin County gangs. Its head is the leader of Nuestra Familia at Pelican Bay. Others are held at Corcoran or San Quentin's death row. Members are expected to pay dues—a street tax that may be \$200 per month—and a property tax. The street tax comes mainly from drug sales. The property tax is paid with valuables that can be passed along, such as a watch or an Ipod. A portion of these dues flows to the prison gang. Pressure may come down to push more drugs to increase revenue. However, the Grand Jury was told that the typical ex-con does not come to Marin to recruit and that no one from prison is organizing here currently.

While Norteño youths, who are mostly born in the U.S., typically live with their families, Sureños often do not. Many of them entered the country illegally as youngsters, their Central American families torn apart by civil strife. Others left their Los Angeles families to come north. Sureños also pay dues, in their case to the Mexican Mafia prison gang. Among other things, these dues support the safe house in Tijuana that takes in deported members of the gang.

Admission to a gang in some communities, but reportedly not in Marin, is often by a process known as "jumping in," where, in the 18th Street gang, for example, the candidate is beaten for 18 seconds by the members. In Marin, admission is more likely to be by "putting in work," perhaps beating up a rival gang member or a member of one's own gang who has been "green lighted," that is, approved for attack. The candidate might instead undertake some kind of criminal activity. Girls also may put in work for admission, but another way for them to join is to be "sexed in," to become the girlfriend of a leader or submit to sex with several of the members.

To leave the organization, a member may be "jumped out," essentially the same process as being jumped in. More commonly, when a member takes on a job and family responsibilities he or she gradually fades out of the gang.

Criminal activities

The largest source of revenue for all of these gangs is dealing drugs. While gang members commonly use marijuana and sometimes ecstasy, they deal a greater variety. Their customers are not only others in the neighborhood but individuals from prosperous Marin. Another income source is the burglary of autos and houses, because Marinites are known for leaving their cars and residences unlocked. In fact, thieves come to Marin from other areas since it is a "target-rich environment," where there is much that is worth stealing.

Prostitution was rarely cited to the Grand Jury as a source of gang revenue. Street prostitution is common in the low-income areas, but not as a gang activity. Instead, women are brought into the county for an evening, then taken to another location for the next evening, making their recognition by the police more difficult. When a prostitute is encountered by a patrol officer in the canal neighborhood, her explanation for being on the street is commonly that she is looking for the bowling alley. Her pimp may be there, either relaxing inside or parked in his expensive automobile.

Attacks on members of rival gangs are rare. Generally they try to stay out of each other's way. Most violence takes place after school or on weekends. The weapons used are sometimes knives, but Phillips head screwdrivers are popular; they are effective and not usually considered a "dangerous weapon." Instead of carrying them, members often hide them in a bush or another place where they may come in handy.

Crimes may be committed either in a gang's home neighborhood or elsewhere. Marin City's gangs commit most of their crimes elsewhere in the county. Not long ago the 200 Block Hawgz began to show up at the San Rafael transit terminal to accost citizens and rob them of their wallets and jewelry. The installation of video observation cameras has significantly reduced that activity.

There are few crimes in Marin County where a gun is fired. Guns are coveted but they are hard to come by. A gun has to be stolen and usually it is kept by the person who did so unless the need arises to hide it, in which case someone else may hold it. Sometimes a member is designated to hold any guns and they are issued as needed; the 18th Street gang is known to have a "gun holder."

"Tagging," as vandalism, is a common crime. About 25 percent of the graffiti in Novato are gang-related. Less frequent gang crimes in the county are auto theft, auto burglary, assault, robbery, and home invasion.

Law enforcement and assistance

Municipal police, the sheriff, probation, and the courts all play roles in managing the problem of street gangs. Each in Marin has taken the problem seriously, studied it, learned from field experience, and learned from colleagues. Communication and cooperation among agencies and a shared philosophy of community service explain how one chief of police can tell us that he does not feel that he has a gang problem but merely a gang presence. However, like all other public safety services, gang-related law enforcement efforts are subject to fiscal constraints, and Marin County has negotiated a five percent budget reduction in the county's Probation and Sheriff's Departments for 2008-09, with the potential for additional cutbacks once the 2008-09 state budget is determined. Marin's independent and collaborative law enforcement efforts to control gang activities significantly enhance public safety in all of Marin's communities and should not be curtailed by these anticipated 2008-09 budget reductions and cutbacks.

Police practices

Marin's eleven cities and towns, have their own police departments, except that Larkspur and Corte Madera have merged. The Sheriff's Department takes responsibility for the widely scattered unincorporated areas of the county, including Marin City.

Marin City and part of San Rafael's canal neighborhood are concentrated areas where the police can choose to get out of their cars and walk the neighborhood, get to know the residents, look, listen, and learn. They do, greeting those they see on the street, treating them with respect. Gaining respect is one of the motivations for joining a gang, they tell us, and receiving respect from the police can help to reduce that need. Walking the street is also important in developing sources of information among residents about gang membership and what may be "going down." Eventually, sources within the gangs are developed in this manner. Assigning officers to schools where gang recruitment or other activity may be present is an important practice. Schools have been described as the first line of defense.

When gang activity seems to be picking up, San Rafael police will increase their profile in the area, adding patrol cars and walking the neighborhood, mostly just to be seen. In support of the police, probation officers also boost their presence, making themselves seen on the street, increasing client contacts, and conducting more home searches. Officers from Novato and deputy sheriffs may join in. This heightened visibility helps quiet things down.

Gangs are a later phenomenon in Novato than in San Rafael. The Novato police acknowledge a debt to San Rafael for educating them about gangs.

The cities of Novato and San Rafael, along with the Sheriff's Department, have taken the initiative to convene police and probation agencies of Marin, together with federal and state officials, into a loosely structured task force that meets monthly to exchange

information about gangs in the county and surrounding areas. In addition to Novato, San Rafael, and the Sheriff's Department, participants include the San Anselmo and Twin Cities police departments, the District Attorney, adult and juvenile branches of the county Probation Department, the California Department of Corrections parole and special security units, the California Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Teams may be assembled from this group for concentrated field activity.

Providing information about gangs is one of the ways of deterring them. Law enforcement agencies frequently provide educational presentations at schools, religious organizations, and meetings of other groups to alert the community about how to recognize gangs and gang activity and what can be done about it.

Marin City is a village somewhat on its own, officially a "community service district," qualifying for that designation by having three or more contiguous community services under a single administration. The Sheriff's Department has established one of its three substations there, making it responsible for a large portion of southern Marin and benefiting this community by its visibility and ready accessibility. The precinct commander is an African-American woman seasoned by more than twenty years of line experience in the department. Southern Marin is divided into three patrol beats, one of which includes Marin City. In addition to its normal beat coverage, the department has assigned a patrol car and a deputy exclusively to Marin City as a fourth beat-within-a-beat. This deputy has patrolled the area for many years and knows a great many of its residents, including individuals who hang out in the 200 block parking lot. With intelligence resulting from friendly contact, he is often able to anticipate problems before they occur and prevent a significant number of them.

Reducing gang appeal

Youths need programs and activities, opportunities for them to belong, be respected, and achieve a measure of success. The newly rebuilt and expanded Pickleweed Community Center in the canal neighborhood is a first-rate facility for indoor and outdoor sports, meetings, and other activities—clean, spacious, and well-lighted. The center offers activities of its own but principally serves as an advocate and a venue for the activities of other public and private community agencies. This arrangement leads to an array of activities more comprehensive than the center could provide on its own. It also saves the agencies money. Those seeking to use the center for their programs complete a detailed application that is approved by the center's neighborhood-based advisory committee. All programs are evaluated annually.

Marin City has a community recreation center that is old and worn. It is slated for replacement with a modern, well-equipped structure. Construction should begin in two to three years. Novato has a teen center downtown, a swimming pool at Hamilton, and employs school facilities to provide a program of sports and other activities. But the dispersal of its low-income population among several neighborhoods presents a challenge, as does the city's footprint, seven miles in length.

There is no suitable indoor gathering place in Marin City for adults to socialize. The parking lot in the 200 block of Drake, after which its indigenous gang is named, is regularly appropriated for this purpose to the consternation of neighbors. Alcohol cannot be permitted in the recreation center where minors are present. A recent suggestion is that the area needs a sports bar. There is no such gathering place in the shopping center down the street or anywhere else in Marin City.

It is an uphill battle for programs in the schools and the community to persuade gang-prone youths not to turn in that direction for money, power, sex, or drugs, when gangsta rap glorifies gang values and lifestyles. A nationally syndicated African-American columnist recently wrote the following:

American popular culture has always had a tendency to romanticize hoodlums, whether Al Capone, Bonnie and Clyde or Tony Soprano. But the hip-hop world's celebration of savage violence, educational failure and misogyny by gangsta rap has been one of the worst influences on American youth, especially black youth, in decades. If you want to ruin a nation, a society or an ethnic group, persuade its members that the highest form of achievement lies in criminality. . . .

The worst of gangsta rap has not merely reflected behavior but has also inspired it, much of it lawless and destructive. Its lyrics are paeans to murder and mayhem. It celebrates an outlaw culture that disrespects women, mocks middle-class values and preaches against any cooperation with police in catching criminals.¹

Gang members are a tiny part of Marin's quarter-million population. Several things recommended by law enforcement sources to keep these numbers low and to reduce them further are:

- Spend time with our children. Read to the youngsters and attend and support the school and recreational activities of the older ones.
- Assist and support our children with their homework.
- Pay attention to what our children watch on television and their music, explaining the harm in glorifying cruelty and lawlessness.
- Be attentive to signs in our children or those around them of changes in manner, dress, or associates that may indicate gang affiliation is developing.

¹ Tucker, Cynthia. "Thug culture celebrates outlaws." San Francisco Chronicle. May 5, 2008.

- Support and volunteer in community and school programs for young people.
- Attend school functions for parents and community. Join the Parent Teacher Student Association. Be supportive rather than annoyed when the school calls or visits with a problem.
- Report suspicious activities to the police—unusually large gatherings or gatherings at unaccustomed places.

FINDINGS

The Grand Jury finds that:

F1. Marin has criminal street gangs, but they are small relative to the size of our population. Marin's gangs are less violent and their numbers are growing more slowly than in other Bay Area communities

F2. A weak family structure and the desire for a sense of belonging are undisputed factors leading to gang participation. Other attractions are money, power, sex, and drugs.

F3. Marin gangs are primarily based in Marin City, a corner of the canal neighborhood of San Rafael, and pockets of Novato.

F4. It is important for property owners to remove graffiti immediately, because leaving "tags" in place concedes the area to the gang and encourages lawlessness.

F5. The leaders of criminal street gangs are often inmates in state and federal prisons and dues from neighborhood gangs are forwarded to these convicts.

F6. The largest revenue stream of street gangs comes from drug sales. Some customers are from Marin's prosperous neighborhoods.

F7. Other crimes by street gangs in Marin are auto theft, auto burglary, assault, robbery, and home invasion.

F8. Marin's independent and collaborative gang-related law enforcement efforts significantly enhance public safety, but are subject to fiscal constraints. The 2008-09 budgets of the county's Probation and Sheriff's Departments have been reduced by five percent and may be further reduced once the 2008-09 budget is determined.

F9. Law enforcement in Marin takes the control of gangs seriously: training and assigning gang specialists, including school officers; emphasizing both law enforcement and community service; implementing effective strategies and tactics; sharing information regularly across jurisdictions through monthly meetings of an informal task force; and joining together in temporary concentrations of effort.

F10. Providing information about gangs is one of the ways of deterring them. Police agencies frequently provide speakers to schools, religious organizations and other

community groups to inform them of the nature of gang activity in Marin and what can be done about it.

F11. It is an uphill battle for schools and the community to persuade gang-prone youths not to turn in that direction while gangsta rap glorifies gang values and lifestyles.

F12. Most actions which can discourage gang membership are the responsibility of family and neighbors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grand Jury recommends that:

R1. Cooperative planning and action among Marin's law enforcement agencies concerning control of street gangs, including the informal gang task force, continue to receive strong economic and community support and not be curtailed by the county's anticipated 2008-09 budget reductions.

R2. Irrespective of fiscal constraints and budget cutbacks, current staffing levels of municipal, probation, school and sheriff's officers with gang specialization or responsibility be maintained or increased in 2008-09 to continue the enhancement of public safety in Marin.

R3. Educational presentations continue to be made by all law enforcement agencies to schools, religious organizations and other community groups to inform the Marin public about gangs and accordingly deter Marin gang activities.

REQUEST FOR RESPONSES

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05, the Grand Jury requests responses

from the following governing bodies:

- County Board of Supervisors: **All Findings and Recommendations**
- City Council of San Rafael: **All Findings and Recommendations**
- City Council of Novato: **All Findings and Recommendations**
- Town Council of Corte Madera: **F9, F10, R1, R2, R3**
- City Council of Larkspur: **F9, F10, R1, R2, R3**
- City Council of San Anselmo: **F9, F10, R1, R2, R3**

from the following individuals:

- Sheriff Robert Doyle: **All Findings and Recommendations**
- Edward S. Berberian, Jr., District Attorney: **F9, F10, R1, R2, R3**

The governing bodies indicated above should be aware that the comment or response of the governing body must be conducted in accordance with Penal Code Section 933 (c) and subject to the notice, agenda and open meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

California Penal Code Section 933 (c) states that "...the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body." Further, the Ralph M. Brown Act requires that any action of a public entity governing board occur only at a noticed and agendized public meeting.

The Grand Jury invites a response from:

- William R. Burke, Chief Probation Officer: **All Findings and Recommendations**

Reports issued by the Civil Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code Section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person, or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Civil Grand Jury. The California State Legislature has stated that it intends the provisions of Penal Code Section 929 prohibiting disclosure of witness identities to encourage full candor in testimony in Civil Grand Jury investigations by protecting the privacy and confidentiality of those who participate in any Civil Grand Jury investigation.