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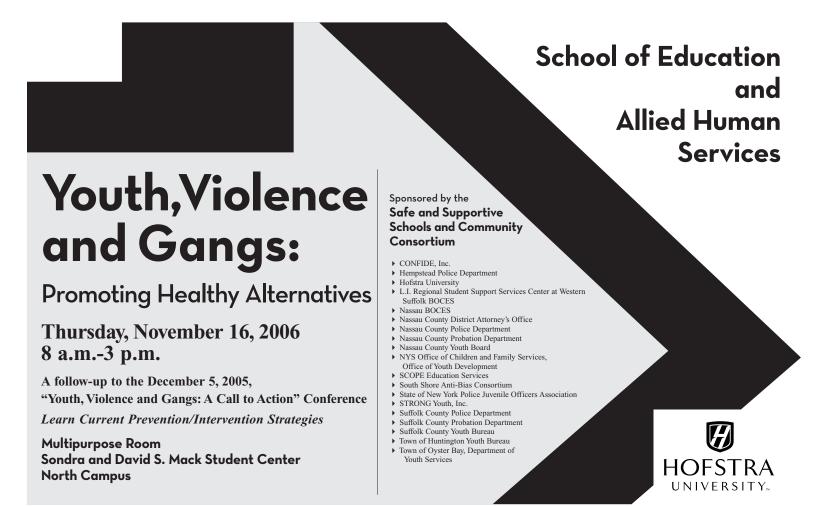
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Hofstra University continues its commitment to extending equal opportunity to all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual ortentation,



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Plenary Session

9-10:15 a.m.

YOUTH, VIOLENCE AND GANG PREVENTION: PROMOTING HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES

Alfonso Wyatt, Vice President, Fund for the City of New York

(Sponsored by the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association)

The complexity of youth violence and gang prevention/intervention defies an easy solution or single strategy. Promoting healthy alternatives requires the coming together of community members to address these and associated issues, cooperatively.

STRONG YOUTH: PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' PERSPECTIVES ON YOUTH, VIOLENCE AND GANGS

Sergio Argueta, Executive Director, S.T.R.O.N.G. Youth, Inc.

Workshops and Presenters

SESSION I

Workshop A (Two-Part Workshop; registration for both sessions required)

Part I: Discipline Philosophy on How to Curtail Drug Use, Violence and Bullying in Our Schools and Communities

Focus on bullying – identification and intervention. Creating a safe environment in the school is incredibly important in facilitating a positive experience for youth. How do parents and teachers respond to the bully and the bullied? How do you build a positive school culture for youth and effectively address violence and antisocial behavior. How can these "lessons learned" apply to a community setting?

Presenters: Dr. Richard G. Shear, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Locust Valley Central School District; Lieutenant Ronald Walsh, Nassau County Police Department/President, Locust Valley Central School District, Board of Education

Part II: High-Tech Threat: Cyber Bullying and Social Networking – Identification and Intervention Strategies

This workshop will focus on Internet dangers that make youth vulnerable to bullying and what parents, teachers and community members can do to keep youth safe.

Presenters: Daniel Dowd, Program Director, Playing It Safe, Big Brothers/Sisters of Long Island; Valerie Drakos, Director, Project Excel, Town of Huntington Youth Bureau; Cindy Pierce Lee, Assistant Director of Community Services, SCOPE Education Services

Workshop B (Two-Part Workshop; registration for both sessions required)

Part I: Bias-Related Crimes

Best practices from multiple school districts on school-based strategies that work in reducing bias-related incidents. **Presenters:** South Shore Anti-Bias Consortium, East Meadow, Baldwin, Oceanside, Bay Shore, Central Islip and Huntington School Districts

Part II: Experts from Nassau and Suffolk County Police Departments will provide up-to-date information on bias-related crime as well as efforts being utilized to combat bias-related crimes.

Presenters: Detective Sergeant Gary Shapiro, Nassau County Police Department, Bias Crimes Coordinator; Detective Sergeant Robert Reeks, Suffolk County Police Department, Commanding Officer, Hate Crimes Unit

Workshop C (Two-Part Workshop; registration for both sessions required)

Female Gangs on the Rise. Now What?

This two-part workshop will include gang initiation methods for females, roles of females in various gangs, a look at female gang leaders, role of the girlfriends of male gang members and the mind-set of female gangsters. Young women on the periphery or gangs involved will join this workshop.

Presenters: Leslie Anderson, JLC Associates of New York State; Corey Alleyne, JLC Associates of New York State; Detective Deborah Bershad, Nassau County Police Department

Workshop D (Two-Part Workshop; registration for both sessions required)

Drugs and Gangs - The Feds Are Coming

This two-part workshop will include field program specialists from the National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC), U.S. Department of Justice, who will discuss national drug trends with a special focus on Long Island. This NDIC team will provide a threat assessment for Long Island communities and give law enforcement, schools and community agencies an analysis on the threat of drugs, gangs and violence, as well as an overview of promising prevention and intervention strategies. Presenters will alert workshop participants to the latest drugs used by young people, the short- and long-term effects (physical and mental) caused by each particular drug's use and intervention strategies used.

Presenters: Ed Beach and Mike Geraghty, Field Program Specialists, U.S. Department of Justice

Workshop E A Parent's Role: Youth Violence and Gang Prevention on the Home Front

Parents/caretakers of children who want to be in a gang, children in a gang, and children who have left the gang behind participate in a guided conversation on the role of parents and the strategies they can use in violence and gang prevention. A question-and-answer period will follow.

Presenters: Parents Who Care

Workshop F Policy and Legal Implications of Youth Violence and Gang Behaviors

What are the laws and policies that impact violence and gang behavior in school and community settings? What are the responsibilities/liabilities of parents? What is the Federal Gang Deterrence Act of 2005? This workshop will explore some of the current and pending policies and laws related to youth, violence and gangs that impact youth, families and communities.

Presenters: Officer Moses Robinson, Rochester Police Department, President, Western New York Chapter, East Coast Gang Investigator's Association; Cacilda Ropa-Simpson, Esq.

Workshop G

Ghosts From the Nursery: Tracing the Roots of Violence

Where do the violent kids who join gangs come from, and what do we do with them now that they are here? This workshop will first explore proven strategies for dealing with the existing gang problem and then look at what we know works to shut off the pipeline delivering new kids into gangs. While the causes of violence are highly complex and multifaceted, a growing body of scientific research demonstrates that abuse and neglect in the earliest months and years often lead to violent older children and adults. Using a case study, the workshop will give an overview of the research on early brain development and what we know works to get children off to a good start in life and keep them from joining gangs.

Presenter: Meredith Wiley, State Director, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, New York

Workshop H

Project Safe Neighborhoods - A Strategic Approach to Combating Gang and Gun Violence

In February 2006, Attorney General Gonzales unveiled his plan to combat gang violence across America. The cornerstones of the attorney general's program are an expansion of Project Safe Neighborhoods to include new and enhanced antigang efforts, and a new comprehensive anti-gang pilot program to be rolled out in six cities. Workshop facilitators will present and discuss the comprehensive enforcement, intervention and prevention strategies including local initiatives of the U.S. Attorney's Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Presenters: John Lenoir, Administrative Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District, NY; Terence Dunworth, Director, Justice Policy Center, The Urban Institute, Washington, D.C.; Rene P. Fiechter, Assistant District Attorney, Director of Community Affairs, Community Oriented Prosecutors, Nassau County District Attorney's Office

SESSION II WORKSHOP SESSIONS A, B, C, D Part II

Workshop I

Lessons Learned: Best Practices and Programs to Prevent and Intervene With Youth Violence and Gangs

This workshop will provide an overview of the core ingredients of effective youth violence and gang prevention/intervention strategies, identify current and promising research-based models, and discuss community mobilization in addressing these issues.

Presenter: Dr. James C. (Buddy) Howell, Senior Research Associate, National Youth Gang Center, Tallahassee, Florida

Workshop J

Impact of Youth, Violence and Gangs: A Psychological Profile

This workshop will present a psychological profile of gang members, in addition to vignettes containing issues and concerns for treatment professionals, prevention workers, educators and outreach workers. Methodologies, concepts, patterns of treatment and prevention strategies that "work" and "do not work" will be presented.

Presenter: Wayne Rothwell, Director, Adult Psychiatric Unit, South Oaks Hospital

Workshop K The Aftermath: Change Ain't EZ, But It's Possible

Is change possible? Come and listen to the trials and tribulations of young people who have been able to leave gang life behind. You will learn some of the issues and strategies that are currently being implemented to help young people who want to change. You will learn and develop an understanding of the difficulties and concerns a young person trying to leave gang life behind deals with.

Presenter: Sergio Argueta, Executive Director, S.T.R.O.N.G. Youth, Inc. and Company

Workshop L Gang Members Anonymous – A Self-Help Recovery

Gang membership fills a void – but the consequence is death, prison and/or injury. Recover from the addiction to destructive behaviors with Gang Members Anonymous 12-Step Program. Learn how to overcome community obstacles and sponsor a self-help program in your area.

Presenter: Andrew Eichhorn, L.C.S.W., Supervisor, Nassau County Probation Department, Gang Unit

DIRECTIONS: By automobile, Hofstra can be reached easily by main east-west and north-south roads. The Meadowbrook Parkway is the closest, running north and south between the Southern State Parkway and the Northern State Parkway. Exit the Meadowbrook Parkway at M4, Hempstead Turnpike. Proceed west on Hempstead Turnpike to the third traffic light; turn right onto the North Campus (just before the second pedestrian bridge that crosses Hempstead Turnpike). The Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center is on your left; parking is just beyond the Student Center.