



Get involved...

Apopka United Against Gangs is a grassroots initiative that needs **everyone** to get involved. Join us today!

- Visit our web site at: www.ApopkaUAG.com
- Subscribe to our monthly newsletter
- Join our Community Information Database to stay informed with the latest gang related information
- Attend town hall meetings and workshops
- Spread the word
- Become a mentor for at-risk youth
- Invite us to speak at your organization, club or church

Together, we CAN make a difference in our community!

What is a gang?

Apopka United Against Gangs has defined a gang as:

“A youth gang is a tight-knit alliance of two or more individuals that share an on-going relationship with one another. They are bound together for a common cause and support one another individually or collectively in the recurring commission of delinquent and/or criminal acts.”



Apopka United Against Gangs

Web site: www.ApopkaUAG.com

Email: ApopkaUAG@gmail.com

Phone: 407-865-3493

Apopka United Against Gangs



**Not on my street
Not in my
neighborhood
Not in Apopka**



A Guide for the Families



Criminal gangs steal and destroy property, sell drugs to our children and commit acts of violence and brutality that threaten the safety and security of our citizens. The city of Apopka and north-

west Orange County are not immune to this threat, and in fact have active gang members operating in our community and recruiting our children.

In his book, "Into the Abyss", Dr. Michael Carlie talks about how suppression alone will not reduce gangs in a community. The initiative must be targeted, comprehensive and collaborative to be successful, and it **MUST** begin at the grassroots level, with the entire community getting involved.

Here are some quick tips on how you can help:

- Start a neighborhood watch program
- Report graffiti of ANY kind to the police department
- Become a mentor for at-risk youth
- Report suspicious activity to the police immediately

Together, we CAN make a difference in our community!

What EVERY parent should know...

Following are some of the warning signs that your child may be getting involved or is involved in a gang:

- Withdrawing from family
- Declining school attendance, performance or behavior
- Staying out late without reason
- Unusual desire for secrecy
- Confrontational behavior, such as talking back, verbal abuse, name calling and disrespect for parental authority
- Unusual interest in one or two particular colors of clothing or a particular logo
- Interest in gang-influenced music, videos and movies
- Use and practice of hand signals to communicate with friends
- Suspected drug use, such as alcohol, inhalants & narcotics

For a complete list of the warning signs visit our web site at:
www.apopkaUAG.com



The 4 "R's" of Graffiti...

Gangs thrive when they think a community is not paying attention. For example, they will paint graffiti on walls, fences, etc. If left unnoticed, gangs believe it's a sign that no one in the community cares or is willing to do anything about their activities. By knowing what to do, YOU can help keep our community clean and send our message to gangs that their activities and their graffiti are NOT welcome in Apopka! Here's how...

READ...Recognize that you're looking at graffiti. Whether it is or isn't gang graffiti it's not supposed to be there, so it's important to take the following action:

RECORD...Take a picture with a cell phone or digital camera. If no camera is available, draw a picture or write down what it says as best you can.

REPORT...Contact the Apopka Police Dept. at 407-703-1771 or 407-703-1772 and ask how to send them a copy or report where the graffiti is located. You CAN remain anonymous.

REMOVE...If the graffiti is located on private property it is the responsibility of the property owner to remove it. However, PLEASE contact the proper authorities before removing. Graffiti tells a story. If the graffiti is on public property it will be removed by the proper agency.

