



Introduction to Gangs in America

Ronald M. Holmes, Richard Tewksbury, George Higgins

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Gangs have long been a social and criminal threat to society. **Introduction to Gangs in America** explains how gangs are addressed as a criminal justice and public policy problem, providing a student-friendly, easily accessible, concise overview of the role, place, structure, and activities of gangs in American society. The book describes what gangs are, what differentiates them from each other, how they share similarities, and how they fit into contemporary American culture.

The authors explore the history and structure of gangs, reveal their clandestine activities, and analyze their social impact. The book also includes information on gender issues in gangs, and provides insight into how gangs impact American educational institutions

Offering an insider's account, the book provides in-depth profiles of specific gangs, including:

- Europe's five major biker gangs
- The Outlaws
- The Hell's Angels
- The Bandidos
- The Pagans
- Bloods
- Aryan Brotherhood
- Black Guerrilla Family
- Mexican Mafia
- Texas Syndicate
- Neta

Discussion questions appear at the end of each chapter, stimulating debate and classroom discussion.

It may never be possible to eradicate gangs from our culture. But by understanding their structure, their strengths and vulnerabilities, and how they operate, law enforcement can better protect the public from their nefarious activities. This text gives future law enforcement professionals rare insider insight into a subject typically shrouded in secrecy.

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