

San Diego County Probation

Juvenile Institutions Core Training

Unit 7.0: Gangs and Cultural Awareness

Module(s): 7.1-Ethnic and Cultural Considerations

7.2-Gangs and Gang Subcultures in Institutions

Instructional Time: 8 hours

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Objectives
  - a. Module 7.1: Ethnic and Cultural Considerations
    - i. Identify reasons for maintaining an awareness and sensitivity to the variety of cultures that the juvenile population represents.
    - ii. Given the ethnic, religious and cultural diversity found in facilities, discuss problems or opportunities that might arise while interacting with a juvenile and/or family.
  - b. Module 7.2: Gangs and Gang Subcultures in Institutions
    - i. Explain the history and scope of criminal gangs in California.
    - ii. State the legal definition of a criminal gang pursuant to California Penal Code Section 186.22.
    - iii. Explain the dynamics and structure of gang culture.
    - iv. Describe the major types of gangs found in a juvenile detention facility.
    - v. Given a description of a juvenile, evaluate and describe the possible characteristics of a juvenile's behavior and appearance when affiliated with a gang.
    - vi. Describe verbal and non-verbal methods gang members use to communicate with each other in a detention setting.
    - vii. Discuss current trends in signs, symbols, emblems, tattoos and/or graffiti that indicate gang affiliation or sympathies.
    - viii. Explain the relationship between local institutional gangs and/or subcultures with members in other facilities (e.g., state and federal).
    - ix. Describe the importance of a cooperative and collaborative relationship between other agencies and field staff to advance knowledge about gang trends.
3. Definition of a Gang / Definition of a Gang Member
  - a. California Penal Code 186.22
4. Risk Factors-Gang Involvement
5. History of Gangs in California and San Diego
6. Gang Structure
7. Gang Culture
8. Ethnic and Cultural Awareness
9. Interactions with Law Enforcement
10. Media and Entertainment Influences
11. Recruitment
12. Females in Gangs
13. Tattoos
14. Clothing
15. Methods of Communication
16. Contraband
17. Prison Gangs
18. Review / Questions / Evaluations