**Research Proposal**

**Summary/ Purpose**

This proposal presents the research that I would like to preform about the topic of (adolescent gang participation and violence). After explaining the background of the issue, I have developed a method and timeline to explore this topic.

**Areas to be Studied / Background**

 One of the biggest problems facing American cities and families today is when kids get involved with gangs. This is a problem because it damages their future, hurts the community, increases the chances of being thrown in jail, and causes financial issues for their family. These negative effects have been studied, but the reasons for gang activity are less obvious. I want to research what causes kids to get involved in the first place when they know the damage gang culture causes and why the government or community is unable to find a solution to this problem.

**Methods**

In order to research this topic and collect helpful information, I am going to do the following things:

* First, I will analyze the literature on this topic, and read academic articles. I will use the universities online database to make sure I get a deep understanding of this issue.
* In addition to the literature, I will visit local police stations and courthouses. If possible, I will interview professionals in the area to get their perspective on the topic.
* After reading many articles, I will follow the writing process to complete my research paper, including writing, editing, and polishing.

**Timeline**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Step | Topic | Date Started | Date Finished |
| 1 | Background research and literature review | 9/4/2017 | 10/2/2017 |
| 2 | Interviews | 10/3/2017 | 10/16/2017 |
| 3 | Outline paper and collect needed data | 10/3/2017 | 10/16/2017 |
| 4 | Write first draft | 10/16/2017 | 10/30/2017 |
| 5 | Edit and write second draft | 10/31/2017 | 11/7/2017 |
| 6 | Final edit | 11/8/2017 | 11/13/2017 |

**Qualifications**

As a criminal justice student, I have experience with topics related to this. After doing many research projects, I have confidence that I can follow the timeline and complete this project on time.

**Formal Requests for Approval**

If my proposal is accepted, I will be able to further explore this topic. Further research in this area will help lawmakers make better laws that help the kids affected by gangs. If we can understand why kids get involved with gangs in the first place, we can make changes in the community to reduce gang violence. This will have positive effects on the community on a whole and the individual families that are affected by this problem.