

FACTS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE, BULLYING AND GANG VIOLENCE

- ◆ *Every hour*, more than 100 U.S. children are found to have been abused or neglected.
- ◆ *Every day*, more than 10 Long Island children are found to have been abused or neglected.
- ◆ Nationwide, one in 10 students in grades six through 10 report being bullied "sometimes" or "weekly."
- ◆ In the average classroom, two to three students spend every day in fear of being bullied, harassed or worse.
- ◆ All nationally known gangs now exist on Long Island, with as many as 10,000 members.
- ◆ Nearly six in 10 boys classified as bullies in grades six through nine were convicted of at least one crime by the age of 24; four in 10 had three or more convictions by the age of 24.
- ◆ A "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids" report concludes schools can adopt programs to reduce bullying and thus reduce student compulsion to join gangs for protection.
- ◆ The same report says bully-prevention programs which teach youths to reject being bystanders to bullying increase the chances that at least one student will report imminent gang activity and other school violence.
- ◆ The National Criminal Justice Reference Service reports "anti-bullying school programs may have the added benefit of preventing gang victimization."