

GANG COLORS ROLE PLAY

BACKGROUND

There has been an increasing amount of gang activity at Central High School. Members of gangs are identified by the wearing of “colors” of their appropriate gang. The wearing of “colors” has created a number of problems at Central High including:

1. Increased awareness of gangs.
2. Fights and name-calling between members of different gangs and between gang members and students who are not members of gangs.
3. Students who are not members of gangs being threatened by gang members.
4. Increased numbers of students joining gangs because of heavy peer pressure.
5. Increased criminal activity on school grounds.

These problems have brought about the proposed rule by the school administration that gang members cannot wear their colors to school. There is a lot of opposition to the rule from various groups. An open school board meeting will be held in which the “no colors in school” proposal will be debated.

GROUPS TO PRESENT ARGUMENTS

1. School Administration and Officials: Feel the rule furthers legitimate interests and concerns and should therefore be implemented.
2. Gang Members: Feel the rule should not be implemented.
3. Students who are not Gang Members, but are Members of Other Groups: Do not support gangs wearing colors, but feel if the rule is implemented, their First Amendment rights will be in jeopardy.
4. Students who are Neither Members of Gangs or Other Groups: Are in favor of the “no colors” rule.

Directions

Each group should take 5-10 minutes to prepare an argument to present to the School Board. After preparing your argument, a designated person should present the argument to the School Board (made up of other students). Following the presentations, the School Board will debate the proposal and vote on whether to accept the proposal.