



# Contents

*Preface, xiii*

## 1 Introduction, 1

What Is a Gang? 1

Gang Organization, 4

Why Join a Gang? 5

Bonding and Control Theory, 6

Opportunity and Strain Theory, 7

Labeling Theory, 7

Cultural Conflict or Subcultural  
Theory, 8

Radical Theory, 8

Other Theories, 8

Social Factors, 12

Racial/Ethnic Gangs, 13

Hispanic Gangs, 13

African-American Gangs, 13

Asian Gangs, 13

White Gangs, 14

Gangs in Affluent Areas, 15

Females in Gangs, 15

Growth of Gangs and Increasing

Levels of Violence, 16

Guns, 17

Territory, 17

Drugs, 18

|                                                                 |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Police Departments and Gangs, 21                                |  |
| Legislation and Gangs, 23                                       |  |
| Other Legal Responses to Gangs, 24                              |  |
| The Role of Schools in Preventing<br>Gang Activity, 25          |  |
| Intervention and Prevention, 26                                 |  |
| Why Youths Leave Gangs, 27                                      |  |
| Positive Functions of Gangs, 27                                 |  |
| Outlook for the Future, 28                                      |  |
| References, 28                                                  |  |
| <br>                                                            |  |
| 2 Chronology, 35                                                |  |
| <br>                                                            |  |
| 3 Biographical Sketches, 57                                     |  |
| <br>                                                            |  |
| 4 Facts and Statistics, Documents,<br>and Quotations, 71        |  |
| Facts and Statistics, 71                                        |  |
| Major National Surveys, 72                                      |  |
| Scope of the Problem, 74                                        |  |
| Demographics, 75                                                |  |
| Documents, 78                                                   |  |
| State Laws, 78                                                  |  |
| Federal Initiatives, 111                                        |  |
| Quotations, 112                                                 |  |
| What the Experts Say about Gangs, 112                           |  |
| What Gang Members Say about Gangs, 118                          |  |
| References, 120                                                 |  |
| <br>                                                            |  |
| 5 Directory of Organizations, 123                               |  |
| Private, State, and Local Government<br>Organizations, 123      |  |
| Federal Government Programs, 148                                |  |
| Assistance for Delinquent and At-Risk Youth, 149                |  |
| Local Crime Prevention Block Grant Programs, 149                |  |
| Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT)<br>Projects, 149 |  |

National Community Economic Partnership, 150  
Ounce of Prevention Grant Program, 150

## 6 Selected Print Resources, 151

### Books, 151

Books on Gangs, 151  
Books on Gangs (Young Adult Sources), 164  
Books on Violence and Youth, 165

Articles, Manuals, and Training Materials, 168

State and Local Government Reports, 189

## 7 Selected Nonprint Resources, 203

Videos, 203

Online Searches, 221

Internet Resources, 222

*Index, 227*

*About the Author, 239*