



Sean McEvoy

Teacher Scott Bacon **School** Mount Pleasant High School | Wilmington, DELAWARE

Issue Our project was created to see the impact of illegal gang participation in our state. In Delaware, we have a large amount of gangs and all the attributes of their presence. There is a great number of cases involving gangs with violence and drugs.

Project Description At first we struggled with researching the problems with gangs specifically to our state. Once we felt we had gathered enough information about their activities and solutions other places had in place, we created three possible solutions. Our first was to create a non-profit organization that would target gangs main target demographic, teenagers. This organization would push for kids to stay in school and either go to college or go into a good job. The main problem with this is it would cost too much for the state to fund. Our second solution would be increasing the amount of police devoted to the investigation of gangs and to have more police on the street. This would cause more problems than it would fix with increased confrontations between gangs and police. The third option, the one we chose, was to change the current law that increases any punishment for a class felony E to C is raised to the next level if done so in affiliation with a gang and our group wanted to make the change in punishment more drastic. For some help deciding which of the solutions is most practical, we talked with the State Trooper in our school along with a Delaware State Representative.

Project Outcome My group finally decided the best plan of action is to modify some of the current laws in place around gang participation. This option was the most likely to get completed and had the least amount of costs in terms of time and money. Our discussions with the state representative showed how easy the bill would be to introduce. Upon looking at past revised laws, the revision itself would be easy

Request I would like to see if we could get your help, if you agree with our plan, to possibly help draft it or I am sure your support alone would be help enough to get this passed. If you do not agree with our plan, if there are any changes you would make they would greatly be appreciated.