

## Causative Factors

1. **Event:** At 14 years old my parents were having marital problems.

**Thinking:** I thought my parents didn't love me, and that my life had ended.

**Emotion:** I felt confused, sad, lonely and angry.

**Behavior:** I started to seek attention from the gang in my neighborhood. I fought other gang members, and ditched school.

**Core Belief:** I learned that being rebellious, and willing to fight and stand up for my gang associates earned me respect, love and attention.

2. **Event:** I was initiated into the ~~Reds, Greens, and Blues~~ Gang.

**Thinking:** I began to think that I was invincible, tuff and untouchable.

**Emotion:** I felt confident, loved and excited.

**Behavior:** I lied and deceived my parents because I didn't want them to know, I was a gang member.

**Core Belief:** I learned to be defiant, and deceptive to authority figures to avoid consequences.

3. **Event:** At 15 years old, I moved in with my aunt.

**Thinking:** I developed a "I can do what I wanted to do whenever I pleased, and I didn't have to answer to no-body" mentality.

**Emotion:** I felt relieved, and care-free.

**Behavior:** I hung out in the streets t night, and came in the house when I wanted to. I used alcohol and marijuana a few times to fit in, but I didn't like the way they made me feel.

**Core Belief:** I believed I was above the law, and that I could do what I wanted, and not suffer the consequences.

4. **Event:** I started selling drugs.

**Thinking:** I thought by selling drugs, I would become wealthy, powerful and important. My peers would look up to me because I had money.

**Emotion:** I felt excited and arrogant.

**Behavior:** I sold cocaine and marijuana, broke the law daily, and violated my community.

**Core Belief:** I believed that selling drugs was ok as long as I was earning money, and my gang associates respected and praised me for the money, I made selling drugs.

5. **Event:** I bought a gun. ~~the~~ hand-gun / ~~the~~ hand-gun.

**Thinking:** I told myself, I would shoot and murder anyone who violated me and my gang associates.

**Emotion:** I felt powerful.

**Behavior:** I carried a gun, and I shoot at rival gang members.

**Core Belief:** Whenever I had a disagreement with other gang-members, I was willing to murder them.

All of these events in my life made it ok for me to murder Mr. ~~Robert [redacted]~~, shoot Mr. ~~Robert [redacted]~~ attempting to murder him, and attempted to murder Mr. ~~Robert [redacted]~~, I know and completely understand that my thinking was flawed, and I am sorry for the horrific crimes, I committed.

I've caused a tremendous amount pain, shattered a lot of dreams, and harmed a lot of innocent people from my selfish and callous actions. I apologize to everyone affected directly and indirectly from inhumane behavior.