

ACTIVITY 2 WORKSHEET (Teacher copy)

CHARACTER: KATELIN (Jake's girlfriend)



Using the diagram from Activity 1, what is this character's association to the gang?

- Reluctant associate (partner of runner before his affiliation to the group).

What were the reasons they became involved?

- As a result of her relationship with Jake.

What are the consequences of their actions? (including the emotional consequences)

- Katelin ends up being controlled by the gang. She could be forced to deliver drugs, or made to pay off debts in others ways, which could include prostitution. Females in gangs may be treated as sexual objects and used for hiding drugs both externally within clothing and internally within body cavities. Katelin would almost certainly witness physical violence toward Jake throughout this. She is also at high risk of violence herself, particularly if she speaks out against the gang.

So there are both legal and emotional consequences.

Who can protect them?

- Katelin's home life suggests that she has very little support structure and could quite easily disappear without raising any alarm bells. She had already stayed at Jake's house for two weeks with little concern from her mother or other family members

What crimes have they committed?

- Other than the shop theft, in the film clip Katelin was taken to distribute drugs in other areas (a method often used so that Police have less knowledge to associate her with the Elders/faces of the gang itself.)

Could they be of interest to the police?

- This is a constant risk. Gangs are organised in a way that allows the main perpetrator to disassociate from street level violence and crime. This helps them reduce the risk to a minimum (by avoiding police attention), while making the maximum amount of money (by supplying the market). Katelin could easily end up with criminal convictions for her actions. This could prevent her from getting certain jobs and travelling to other countries.

CHARACTER: JULIE (Jake's Mum)



Using the diagram from Activity 1, what is this character's association to the gang?

- Julie is Jake's mother. She becomes a reluctant associate who becomes drawn in as a result of Jake's involvement.

What were the reasons they became involved?

- Julie is worried about her son and tries to help remove him from the gang's clutches by obtaining money to pay off his debt.

What are the consequences of their actions? (including the emotional consequences)

- Emotional and financial. Julie is very worried about Jake and herself and the film shows she is already struggling financially. We see her selling items important to her, like her ring. Ultimately, she risks her job and getting in trouble with the police by stealing from her employer.

It's not always less well off households who suffer. Where runners come from more affluent families, gangs exploit this by setting the debt or blackmail stakes at a higher level. These families may try to hide the issue and end up getting sucked in even deeper as they seek to avoid embarrassment in their community.

Who can protect them?

- Julie has no one to turn to other the authorities. She has been clearly warned that Eddie is only interested in the money and is not fearful of being caught as the soldiers take all the risk.

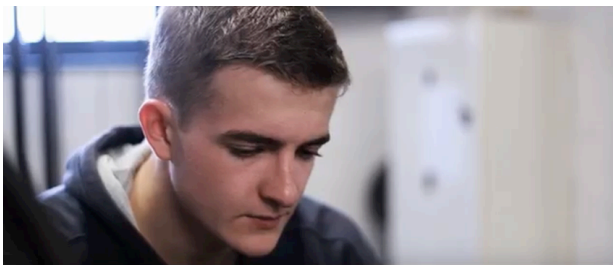
What crimes have they committed?

- Theft from her employer.

Could they be of interest to the police?

- Julie could easily be prosecuted for stealing from the till. This could prevent her from getting certain jobs and travelling to other countries.

CHARACTER: JAKE



Using the diagram from Activity 1, what is this character's association to the gang?

- Jake's situation is complicated. He took up the invitation to raise money but he did so out of desperation, so he was reluctant. Jake's motivation was financial but for others it may be because they are dependent on drugs or belonging to a gang makes them feel part of something and so fulfils an emotional need.

What were the reasons they became involved?

- Jake received an invite from a current Face/elder/runner/soldier, who saw that Jake was vulnerable because of his desperation to obtain money and met him in person. However some organised groups recruit via social media. Displays of luxury items and references to lots of wealth all give the impression that you can aspire to a lavish lifestyle and sucks people in. However, in reality only those above street level will get this and they don't want to share.

What are the consequences of their actions? (including the emotional consequences)

- There are obvious criminal consequences with Jake being at risk of prosecution for dealing drugs. If he was convicted, he'd never achieve his dream of going to America with his talent.

Jake is also at risk as a victim. In the film Jake is robbed. The gang exploiting him then question him about the money he owes/a package that Eddie says he had given. Police have dealt with many cases of low-ranking gang members like Jake being victims of knife crime for debts as low as £20-30. They've also cases of deliberate scalding. This is because the gang twist ideas about honour and debt and routinely use violence to enforce those ideas. They will find ways of adding to the debt (e.g. adding interest or increasing the amount owed because of someone's actions) so the person remains forever indebted.

Emotionally, Jake will be feeling trapped and possibly guilty. Although he has been exploited and he is a victim, he may well feel that it is his fault that his girlfriend has been drawn into the situation and that his mother has stolen money for him.

Who can protect them?

- In the film, there is no one Jake can turn to in order to protect himself from the gang. His friends/family are also vulnerable. The adult he turned to for help at the beginning of the film ended up directing him towards the gang. There are lots of children in Jake's position. Jake's only real sources of support would be to turn to the police or one of the children's charities aimed at helping teenagers like him.

What crimes have they committed?

- Drug supply.

Could they be of interest to the police?

- This is a constant risk. Gangs are organised in a way that allows the main perpetrator to disassociate from street level violence and crime. This helps them reduce the risk to a minimum (by avoiding police attention), while making the maximum amount of money (by supplying the market). Jake is the face on the streets that local police will become familiar with, so he carries all the risk.