

**Task Force Model:**

A pseudo-family, is what a gang becomes to thousands of very young at-risk youths each year. Gang members recruit kids from broken homes and broken family units by giving them a sense of identity within the "group" (Morgan). According to numbers reported by the Department of Justice, approximately 1-3% of the population nationwide are gang members. These same members commit approximately 13% of the homicides reported in the US (Morgan).

The South Bay area is no different. LAPD Chief Michel Moore reported in June 2021, people struck by gunfire was up 59%, and there was a 37% increase in the number of murders attributed to street gangs (Leonard). The South Bay area includes several different law enforcement agencies, Inglewood, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, Redondo Beach, Hawthorne, Gardena, and Torrance.

Recruiting youth at young ages, homicides, and gun violence are not the only concerns with gangs in this area. Gangs have started to use social media, such as Instagram, to recruit women into trafficking. Women are slowly lured in by one of the male gang members with gifts, etc. until they are branded and have been trafficked into the gang for sex.

With so many communities and agencies experiencing gang recruiting, violence, and sex trafficking in the area, a multijurisdictional task force is essential to combat this problem. The South Bay Gang Task Force (SBGTF) will include all the law enforcement agencies with LASD represented as our lead agency.

Calgang was a beneficial tool for those agencies and officers that had access to the information. As Calgang has gone by the wayside and violent crimes and human trafficking are on the rise, the South Bay area agencies need to regularly share information, assist each other on investigations and work with at-risk youth to help prevent their recruitment into the gang life.

Each agency will be equally represented in the SBGTF. The task force will work together to combat crime in the South Bay area, assisting each agency on arrests, investigations, and operations. A database will be developed to house gang and gang member information. Weekly briefings will be held for information sharing.

In addition to law enforcement officers, SBGTF will also work with area schools, counselors, and child and family workers, to identify at-risk youth and families to give specific attention to families that are in the most need.

South Bay has the great privilege of hosting Super Bowl 56 in February 2022. This opportunity will bring many visitors and tourists to the area, a much-needed revenue stream as the region recovers from a pandemic. South Bay is a wonderful area with much to offer its citizens and visitors. Businesses, city leaders, and law enforcement agencies in the South Bay area want visitors to feel safe and comfortable while visiting the area's cities.

SBGTF will assist in making this a safe area by not only working gang information but educating residents and visitors about the signs and risks of human trafficking. SBGTF will also focus on educating youth about the dangers of gang life. By working together, the South Bay Gang Task Force will work to make South Bay a safer area and help prevent youth from joining gangs.

**References:**

Morgan, Greg (2021). Module 2: Greg's Takes the Pseudo family.

[https://ole.sandiego.edu/bbcswebdav/pid-2230534-dt-message-rid-35364741\\_1/xid-35364741\\_1](https://ole.sandiego.edu/bbcswebdav/pid-2230534-dt-message-rid-35364741_1/xid-35364741_1)

Morgan, Greg (2021). Module 2: Greg's Takes The Chronic

1%.[https://ole.sandiego.edu/bbcswebdav/pid-2230534-dt-message-rid-35364742\\_1/xid-35364742\\_1](https://ole.sandiego.edu/bbcswebdav/pid-2230534-dt-message-rid-35364742_1/xid-35364742_1)

Leonard, Eric. (2021). 2021 Violent Crime in Los Angeles Continues to Outpace Recent years. [2021](#)

[Violent Crime in LA Outpaces Recent Years – NBC Los Angeles](#)