

Crime and Social Media

What you post can lead to violence and arrest

When an argument starts on the street, just a few people might see it.

When it goes online, it seems like the whole world is watching.

This makes it less-likely that someone will back down, and that often leads to violence...

Specific posts that **put you at risk for becoming a victim and getting arrested include posting, liking, sharing, or commenting** on posts that promote violence or crew/gang activity, such as:

- Calling out rivals:
 - Naming rivals with Ks, pictures of rivals, posting court documents & info.
 - Pictures in rival turf.
 - Nasty messages to rivals.
 - Threatening to kill or shoot someone or a rival group.
 - Pictures/videos with **guns**, weapons, cash, drugs, gang signs, **fights**, mobbing, robberies, & other crimes.
 - Buying & selling guns over private messages, chats, or secret groups.
 - Threatening, provoking, or taunting others.
 - Promoting a crew or gang.
- These posts have led to people **getting hurt, killed, fired, suspended, expelled, and arrested.**

What should you do if someone threatens you or starts a fight with you online?

- **Walk away** from the computer and/or phone.
- Distract yourself and do something to **calm yourself down**. For example: shower, yell into a pillow, workout, or take deep breaths.
- **Talk to someone**, such as an outreach worker, community leader, and/or family member.
- **Pay attention to your body when you're angry**– jaw clenching, hands tightening, sweating, etc.
- Think about how **responding may hurt you** or those close to you.
 - *If you post back or retaliate what could happen? What could happen to your friends or family?*
- Ignore them or **de-friend and block them**. Don't be "friends" online if you don't get along in real life.
- Take **screen shots** of the posts so you can show them to someone who can help you.

