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Do The Write Thing Challenge

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Violence has affected my life because in my neighborhood, people are being shot and killed. People are being abusive to each other. All I hear are gunshots and people screaming. I also hear people crying, saying to stop. All of this violence makes me feel scared. It makes me feel like no one cares for each other. Teenagers, adults, toddlers and seniors are being shot because of the things people say that they don't like, being bullied or being abused. Everywhere I go, I see people upset and frustrated. That makes me scared that they might do something violent. I do not like going outside because it makes me think that I might get shot or killed at any moment. I'm afraid that any of my friends might get shot or killed. I am scared that my family members might get shot or killed at home, work or anywhere else. When I look out the window, I think of what would happen if no one would hurt other people because of their feelings. When this happens and I see someone else crying about it, I start to feel really bad for that person. I've seen and heard people being hurt.

Some causes of youth violence are being bullied, watching violence on television, watching violence around them, drug use, gang violence, mental illness, depression, being abused at home, insecurities, being hated and peer pressure. This makes me feel upset because people don't have to do violent things because they are upset or not feeling good. If you are upset you can talk it out, not by using guns or fists or any other weapon. Some people hurt themselves

because they see someone else hurt themselves. Then that becomes other people doing that same action.

All of this violence is picking us off one by one. Instead of hating one another, we should love one another. If you see someone being bullied, let a trusted adult know. Just watching may make things worse for the person being bullied. If you are being abused at home or anywhere, let a trusted adult know. If you are feeling insecure about yourself, let a trusted adult know, they may make sure you don't have any suicidal thoughts or actions. If someone you know is feeling suicidal, let a trusted adult know immediately. Things may escalate very quickly. If you are being bullied by a gang, try to stay away from them and let higher authorities deal with the situation. Put your guns down. Put all of your weapons down. I will protest to make sure the people will not sell items that will cause more violence. We need to stop promoting violence around children. This needs to stop because some younger children watch these events happen and grow up getting accustomed to these horrific events. So when they see violence as an adult, they may not be affected by the violence. Don't join a gang because you see someone else doing that. Try to encourage them to not join the gang. Every little bit helps. I will persuade others to not bully or hurt themselves or others. I will stand up for people who cannot stand up for themselves. I will encourage others to stand up for themselves. If I can get a group of people who believe me, we can get others to believe us and change the world!