

# Anaheim Police Department's *Truancy...Ditching a Life of Crime*



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# Anaheim



Centrally located in Orange County, California

One of 34 cities in Orange County

10<sup>th</sup> largest city in CA, with population of 348,467 (2009)

15 miles from some of the most scenic beaches in California



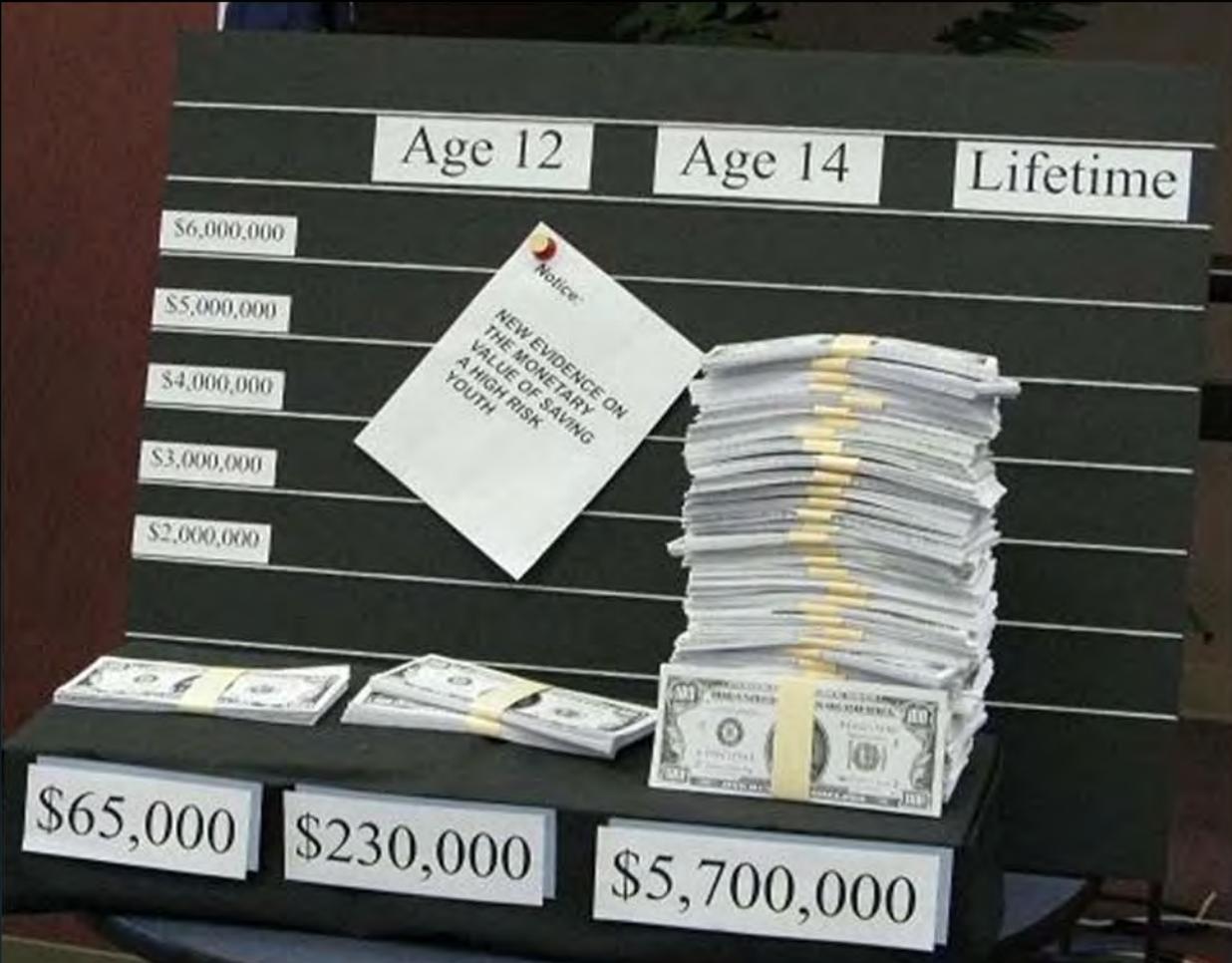
# Orange County Gangs

**13, 158 Documented Gang Members**

**303 Separate Gangs**

**19 Gang Homicides  
in 2009**





# THE COST OF CRIME



Grand Jury  
*Orange County*

# Anaheim Gangs

Over 35 documented gangs

Over 2,500 documented gang members

2 gang injunctions in place



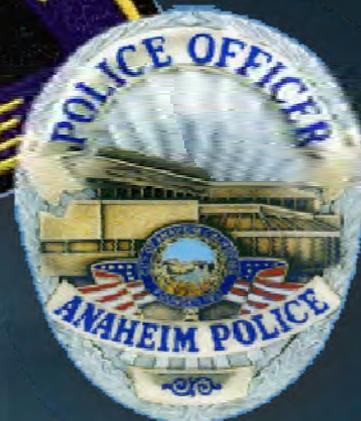


# Anaheim Police Department



# Anaheim Police Department

## GRIP Collaborative



# Information Gathering

76 percent of all CA inmates committed truancy as their first crime

On average, most CA inmates have a 7<sup>th</sup> grade level of education

65 percent of students who are truant are more likely to commit criminal offenses

Lack of parent participation affected academic success and increased juvenile delinquency

Truancy efforts fragmented and incohesive.



# Scanning

Nine separate school districts

Increased truancy , discipline and suspension issues

Schools suffering from loss of Average Daily Attendance (ADA)

Increase crime on campus



# Esther L. Walter Elementary



**One of the most under achieving schools in Anaheim**

**Little or no parent participation**

**English as 2<sup>nd</sup> language**

**Primarily low income community**

**Lowest attendance in district**



# ANALYSIS

## QUANTITATIVE

- School administrative records such as student attendance records, disciplinary records, and California's Accountability Progress Reporting (APR) system provided significant quantitative data.

## QUALITATIVE

- Interviews and input from school administrators, teachers, parents and other community stakeholders.
- Chief's Advisory Board focus group.

# RISK FACTORS

## INDIVIDUAL

- Prior delinquency
- Desire for group rewards
- Anti-social attitudes
- Exposure to violence or victimization.





# RISK FACTORS

## PEER GROUP

- High commitment to delinquent peers
- Street socialization
- Consistent interaction with delinquent peers
- Limited exposure to teens who are positive role models
- Early exposure to stressors



# Risk Factors

## SCHOOL

- Truancy
- Poor school performance/low achievement
- Low educational aspirations
- Negative labeling by teachers
- High levels of anti-social behavior
- Few teacher role models
- Educational frustration
- Low attachment to school
- Learning difficulties

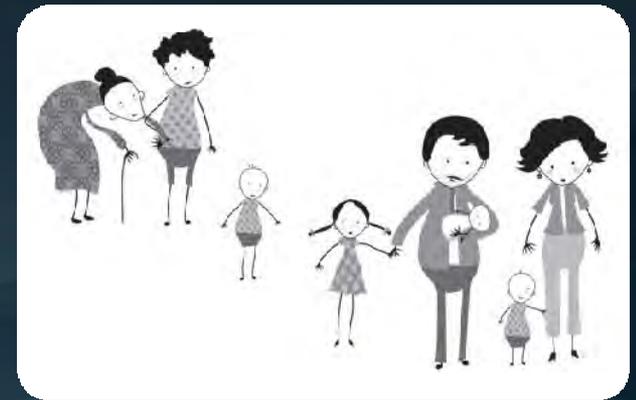




# Risk Factors

## FAMILY

- Family disorganization
- Family violence and neglect
- Family members in a gang
- Lack of adult and parental role models
- Parental criminality
- Siblings with anti-social behaviors
- Extreme economic deprivation





# Risk Factors

## COMMUNITY

- Social disorganization, including high poverty and residential mobility
- High crime neighborhood;
- Presence of gangs in the neighborhood
- Availability or perceived access to drugs in the neighborhood
- Cultural norms supporting gang behavior
- Feeling unsafe in neighborhood

**Source: Adapted from  
Howell (1998, 2005).**



# GRIP

## A Gang Prevention Partnership

The GRIP Program is currently operating in:

Anaheim

Buena Park

Orange

San Juan Capistrano

San Clemente

Stanton

County Unincorporated

Areas

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO POLICE SERVICE



# ORANGE COUNTY GRIP PARTNERS

Orange County District Attorney's Office

Anaheim Police Dept.

Buena Park Police Dept.

Orange County Probation Dept.

Orange County Sheriff's Dept.

Orange Police Dept.

12 School Districts

Social Services

CSP- Counselors

Pepperdine University



# Community Partners

**Mission Hospital**

**Orange County Bar Foundation**

**Faith-based Partners**

**Costco**

**PTA**

**Community Groups**

**Horace Mann Bike Shop**

**White House Restaurant**

**Anaheim Angels**

**LA Galaxy**

**Big Brothers and Big Sisters**





# PREVENTION

Faculty Education

Parent Education



Student Education

# INTERVENTION

## STRIKE Team

- Family Intervention
- School, DA, Police Department, Probation, Counseling services
- Accountability



# ENFORCEMENT

Truancy Sweeps

Curfew Sweeps

Prosecution

# COMMUNITY BUILDING

## Incentives

White House Dinner

Mentor Party

Angels Game

LA Galaxy Game

Boys/Girls Day

Soccer Camp





# RESULTS

Crime Reduced in targeted areas up to 30%

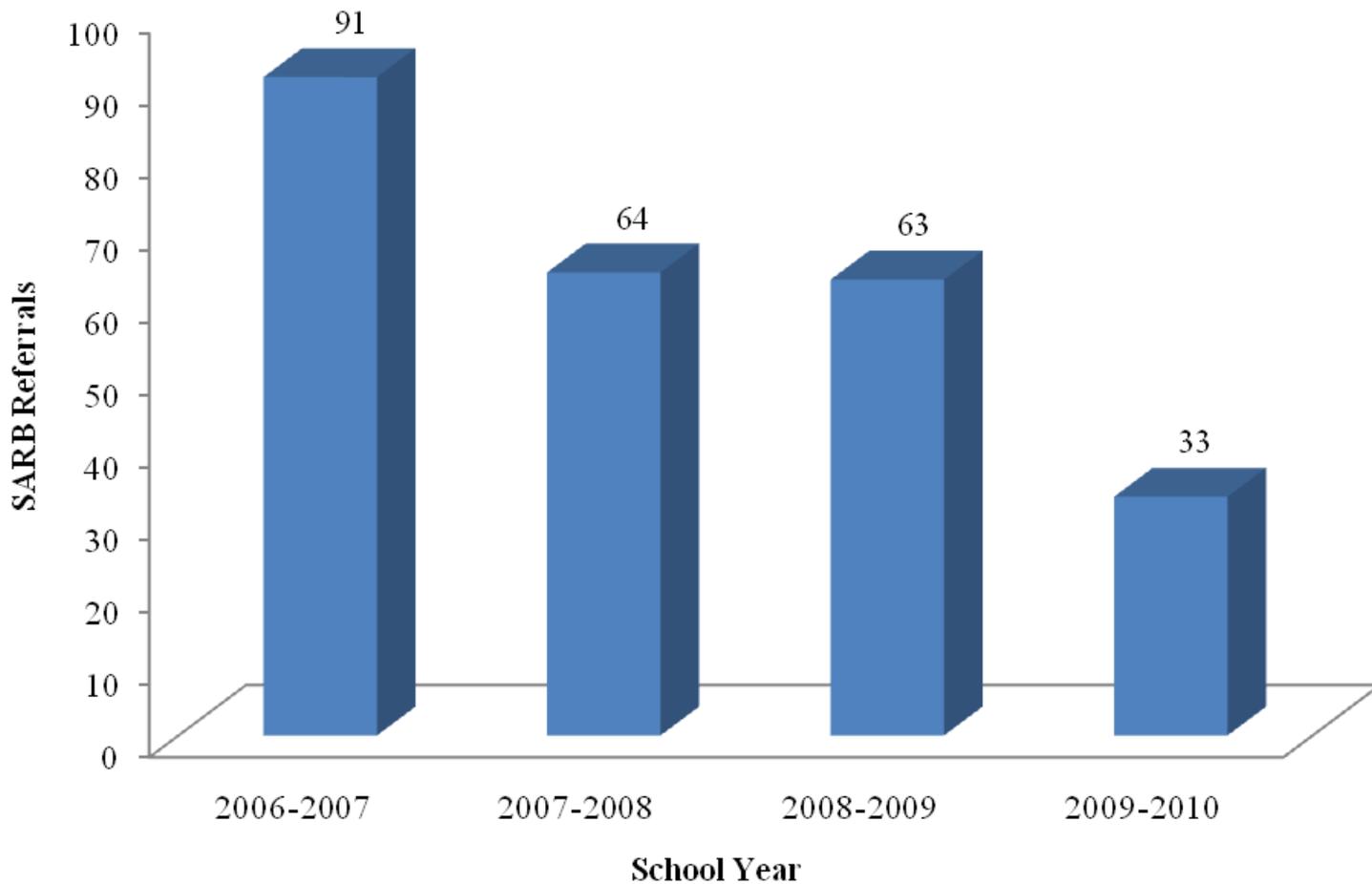
Orange County Grand Jury Recognized

Educated and mobilized thousands in community

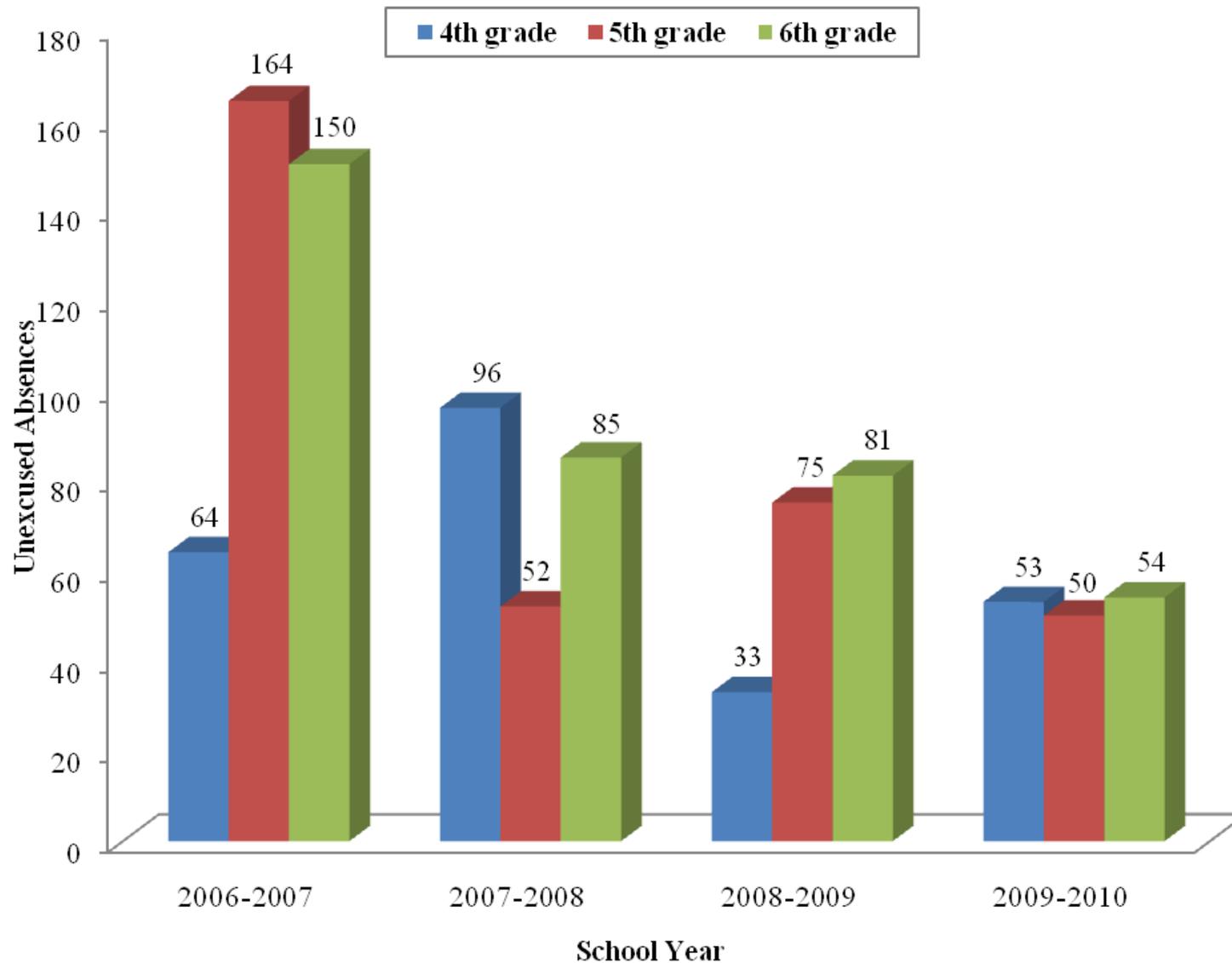


Grand Jury  
*Orange County*

## Walter Elementary School SARB Referrals



# Walter Elementary School Unexcused Absences



## Magnolia School District vs. Walter Elementary Unexcused Absences

