

YOUTH GANG TRENDS AND MYTHS

James C. (Buddy) Howell, Ph.D.^a

^a National Youth Gang Center, Tallahassee, FL

Session Overview

This presentation covers three topics. The first topic is Important Youth Gangs Trends, including reported gang activity nationwide (in NYGC's National Youth Gang Survey). The second topic, Major Myths about Youth gangs, includes the presumed migration of gangs across the country and the belief that youth gangs are highly organized criminal operations. The third topic, What Works with Gangs addresses another popular myth about youth gangs – that nothing is effective with them. School-based programs, such as G.R.E.A.T. will be featured.