



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# DO THE WRITE THING CHALLENGE

STUDENT ESSAY EXCERPTS, 2020



"In the youth community we can stop violence by using words and talking about things before taking it to another level."

*Amari*

"Nothing can explain the pain you feel, waking up seeing that your close friend or family has died due to a horrible act of violence."

*Sieade*

"More than one person needs to do something to stop youth violence."

*Neftali*

"Violence can change anyone[']s life in a second."

*Oree'ona*

"Teens can benefit from using the arts, including painting or music, as a way to counteract the effects of violent acts."

*Isyah*

"So here's the deal here's how we're gonna fix it, love is the glue that we all have been missing."

*Ambriah*

"This is not just a news story this is real life... it is my life."

*Zyonna*

"Looking both ways isn't even just for the traffic light, now I look both ways just out of fright."

*Chidiire*

"The only way to survive is to strive for greatness."

*Kendall*

"We do not have to go out shooting and stabbing or even beating others because we [cannot] control our feelings."

*Deyonna*

"When someone dies they stop sharing emotions, they become entirely cried out."

*Jorden*

"You can't stop thinking about if the bullet really was for you."

*Maurice*

"We can prevent school violence in many ways. Some ways are to make students feel safe to talk to staff, to address the risk of violence, and parenting skills."

*Tiaret*

"I believe that my responsibility is to stay away from all the violence and guns and I think that people should do the same."

*Asia*

"Young kids are looking and searching for a better way. Hopefully they will be able to find it."

*Daniel*

"Building more community centers and recreation centers can build a bond around the community and keep kids safe."

*Aniya*

"It is bad for young people because if a young child sees violence occur they act out in violence. So when they go to school and have disputes with a person, they would use violence because they don't know or have the skills to talk things through. Then the chain reaction starts over again."

*Nasir*

"Gun violence is something I plan on trying to put an end to."

*Jazzi*

"This is my story and I hope it makes a change."

*Ramyah*

"Tomorrow is not always promised for most of us youth in this society today, so it's best we act on the problem now before it's too late."

*Imani*

"We as a district need to do better and stop the gun & gang violence."

*Danae*