

EUGANGS Trainer Case Study – Mark Stephen

Mark’s work as a detached youth worker in the Aldridge area of Walsall meant he was well placed as a trainer to share his experience and skills relating to:

- mentoring young people
- organising activities
- school visits,
- safe working.

On the VET programme itself, Mark delivered sessions on safe working, and gang typology. Mark shared with participants his knowledge of the biker gang movements in the USA and the UK. In this way he gave a different perspective from which participants could consider the motivations and psychology behind gang affiliation in the Black Country.



Example of delivery

Mark wanted to help participants develop their understanding of the nature of gangs: what were the commonalities between different types of gangs? To do this, he showed sections of a Youtube [documentary](#) on the early days of the Hell’s Angels, and answered students’ questions on biker gangs. As they listened, students completed a writing frame, noting down key characteristics of biker gangs in a central column. They then discussed in pairs gangs or groups of youths they were familiar with. In the left hand column they wrote down what was similar between their gang types and biker gangs, and in the right hand column, what was different. The group then used this as a basis for revisiting the definition of the term ‘gang’ – one of the thorny questions trainers and students alike had grappled with from the beginning of the EUGANGS project.

Similarities with your gang type	Cycle gangs – key features	Differences with your gang type
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • • 	

If you would like to find out more about Mark’s involvement in the EUGANGS project, you can contact him at: markstephen650@outlook.com

New skills and competences to address skills gaps and mismatch within the sectors working with Gang and Youth Crime across Europe (EUGANGS). (539766-LLP-1-2013-1-UK-LEONARDO-LMP/ Grant Agreement 2013 3382 /001-001). This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.