

## Police and Gangland Violence

### Correspondence with Kim Bolang<sup>1</sup>

Though my writing is triggered by your VS item of January 6, "Wounded Gangster..." I have long thought about the issue. Even wrote a short letter to one of the smaller dailies, but it was not accepted for publication.

The police are very busy keeping order and investigating crime, so busy that "smaller" stuff like "petty" crimes are bypassed mostly, even though they can be traumatic in the lives of victims. So, how about freeing them from responsibility for shootings and killings *within* the cultures of violence such as gangs and drugs? If a shooting or killing takes place *within* those circles, why not just let "natural" justice prevail? They have chosen that lifestyle; leave them to what they sow. That's one less useless harmful human being to worry about and spend millions on. That's time and money saved that can now be devoted to protect the ordinary peaceful citizen.

In other words, let the underworld "police" themselves. If they execute each other, we are the safer for it. Thank God for the end of a terror, bury the guy and move on. If our criminals realize they will not be pursued for killing a colleague, shooting and killing may increase and, with fewer practitioners, serious crime could decrease over time. By protecting criminals against each other, we may actually be aiding the expansion of that culture.

If a person has chosen the life of violence, let him reap what he sows and we move on to more constructive things.

John Boer

=====

Thanks for taking the time to forward this, but there is no way anyone should be advocating these guys killing each other off as a reasonable solution. It is not. And what about the innocent people who get caught in the cross-fire, like the two in the Surrey Six slaughter?

Kim Bolan

=====

Kim ,

I did not mean to shock you! Remember I bolded the term "within." People get caught in the crossfire even now too often. When that happens, we should pull out all the stops to apprehend the murderer.

---

<sup>1</sup>Kim Bolang, 7 Jan/2009. Bolang is a crime columnist for the VS. Her blog is "The Real Scoop" at [vancouver.sun.com/blogs](http://vancouver.sun.com/blogs).

I do realize my suggestion is odd and perhaps seems cruel and heartless. But the police cannot and do not cover all the bases even now. They have **chosen** to ignore the so-called petty stuff that traumatizes ordinary people and have **chosen** to spend their time and money on the more exciting world of crime. They are forced to prioritize and have made the wrong choice. What is so virtuous about ignoring what traumatizes more people and protecting those who have chosen violence for themselves?

John

---

It doesn't shock me. Check out my blog. People say similar things, but it is never going to happen and not worth serious debate.

Kim Bolan

---