

# VOICES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUTH JUSTICE

## WHAT IS THIS INFO??

In 2016 the Commissioner for Children and Young People asked young people who had been in the youth justice system in WA about:

- the things that got them in trouble
- how they could have avoided getting in trouble
- what help they need to stay out of trouble.

This is a summary of what they had to say.

## WHO WAS INVOLVED?

**92 young people** who had contact with the youth justice system and **10 family members**

Of the young people

80% were male

20% were female

72% were Aboriginal

## WHY DID WE DO THIS?

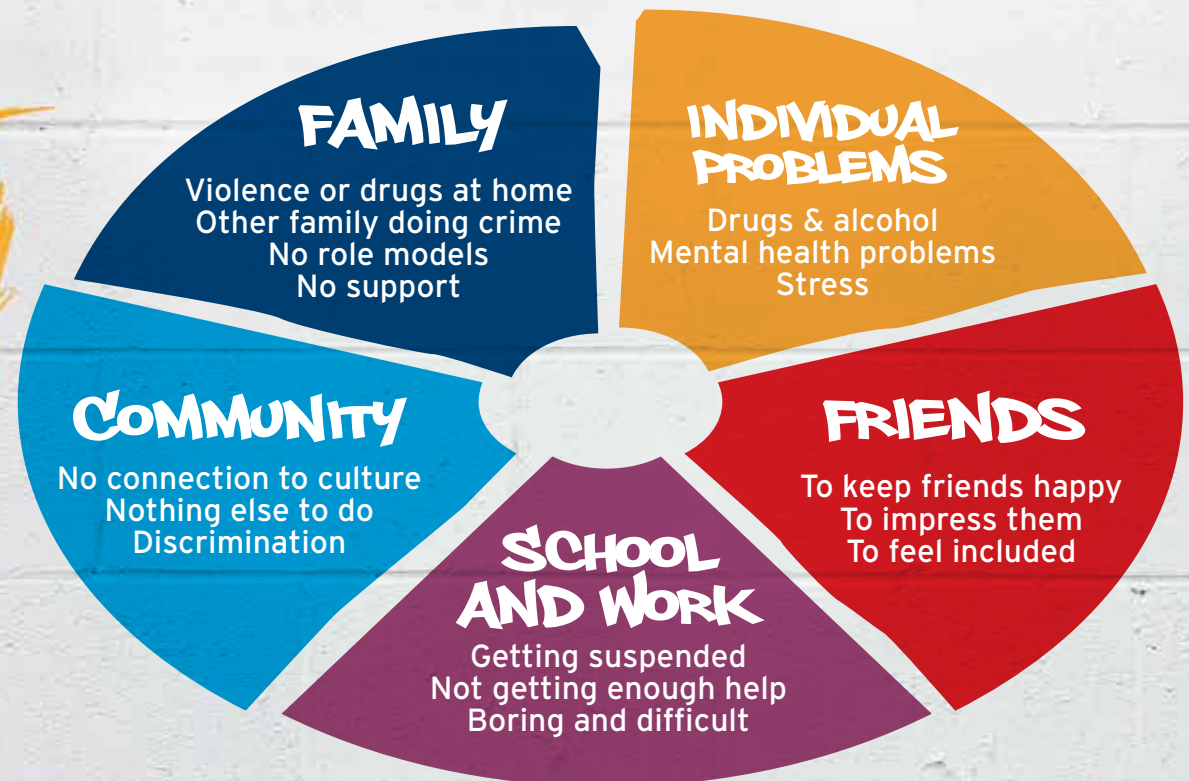
It is important for everyone in the community to live in a safe and crime-free environment.

Young people who commit crime need support to turn their lives around.

To do that, we must listen to young people's stories and their ideas on what needs to change.

## WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT LEAD TO TROUBLE?

Young people gave five main reasons for getting involved in crime.



**“A SAFE PLACE TO STAY”**



A safe place to stay if things are bad at home.



**“ROLE MODELS”**

Adults to look up to and show you how to do things.



**“CULTURE”**

Creating strong connections with culture and where you live.




## WHAT CAN BE DONE?

**“ACTIVITIES”**



Fun things to do that are free and not just for young kids.



**“STAYING IN SCHOOL”**



Better support at school and help finding a job.

## WHAT NEXT?

The Commissioner has written a longer report about the things the 92 young people told us.

It is called **Speaking Out About Youth Justice** and it is on the Commissioner's website [www.cyp.wa.gov.au](http://www.cyp.wa.gov.au)



The Commissioner is encouraging Government to listen to what young people said in the report and give them the help that they asked for.

**DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Contact the Commissioner's office  
 Phone: 6213 2297 Freecall: 1800 072 444  
 Email: [info@ccyp.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@ccyp.wa.gov.au)



Commissioner for Children and Young People  
 Western Australia