

JDC NEWSLETTER



The Power of Courage, Friendship, and Respect

During this month, the Positive Peer Leadership Mentoring Program partnered with male teenage residents at the Regional Miami-Dade Juvenile Detention Center and participated in a group reading of the book "Just One Flick of a Finger" by Marybeth Lorbiecki and David Diaz. The story was read aloud to the group and a discussion critiquing the book and reflecting on the events followed the reading. The young men shared an array of perspectives and opinions exploring alternative actions and problem solving strategies. Published in this issue of the JDC Newsletter is a brief summary of the events described in "Just One Flick of a Finger" and critical reflections based on the events in text.

How did the book Begin?

"The book began by someone persuading another person to bring a gun."

"It began with a boy that was being gangster and taking his dad's gun."

What was the crucial thinking mistake?

"He shot his friend for no reason."

"He was thinking about how to steal his father's gun."

"That he brought the gun to school and tried to shoot someone."

*Creating an
Empowering Culture
of Thinking*

A CRITICAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

What happened after that?

“He brought the gun to school and shot his friend by mistake.

Correct the crucial thinking mistake and write a different ending with your own positive peer advice.

“When someone said he’s a fool if he can’t get his hands on a gun, he should’ve ignored it. Instead of him bringing the gun, he should’ve brought a news article about a time when kids were playing with a gun, then shot each other by accident.”

“That everyone should be more friendly and not rude with one another, because that’s how violence starts fights.”

“I think things are good the way they are, that’s how life is. God likes the world to be I call it ‘diversity.’ It’s a wonderful thing, it keeps the world in rotation. Sometimes it is peaceful and sometimes it’s not, but it’s life you ‘live and you learn’ - that’s the greatest motto I’ve ever learned.”

“He took the gun to school and he was aiming it at his friend then his friend had hit him and then the gun had fired off. He could of at least said let’s fight or something.”

“Someone caught him with the gun and called the police before anything bad could have happened.”

“He took the gun to school and shot his friend.”

“He should of never took the gun and never should of took the gun from his pop’s stash.”

What did you learn today?

“I learned never to play with a gun, because it is very dangerous.”

“I learned that not to mess with guns and about eradicating the school to prison pipeline.”

“I learned alright.”

How did you learn today?

“I learned by listening and paying attention to the choices and consequences.”



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