

**IF YOU ARE A PARENT IN
NEED OF ASSISTANCE CALL
211 FOR RESOURCES IN
YOUR AREA.**

Did You Know?

Graffiti is a crime that can be charged as a felony or misdemeanor. If damage is \$400 or more it can be charged as a felony. (PC 594(b)(1))

Anyone convicted of a graffiti offense may lose their drivers license for one year. (VC 13202.6)

Possession of graffiti tools (spray paint, felt tip markers, etc.) with the intent to commit graffiti is a crime that can be charged as a misdemeanor. (PC 594.2)

Parents can be held civilly liable for all costs to remove graffiti, all law enforcement costs, city staff costs, attorney's fee and court costs incurred by their child's graffiti. (LAMC 49.84.9(A)(2)(c))

In addition to the above costs, parents can be charged an additional penalty fee of \$1,000 per incident. (LAMC 49.84.12(B)(1))

A lien can be placed on parents and minor's property (house) to pay for the damage. (LAMC 49.84.11)

FOR SUPPORT SERVICES DIAL 2-1-1

For information on support services (counseling, afterschool programs, tutoring, job training, child care, etc.) please contact 211 LA County by dialing 211 or visit their website at www.infoline-la.org. Operators are available in many languages.

TO REPORT GRAFFITI DIAL 3-1-1

For more information on resources and programs on how to keep Los Angeles beautiful please contact the Office of Beautification by dialing 311 or visit their website at www.laocb.org.

Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney
200 N. Main Street, 8th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 978-8100
Fax: (213) 978-8312
www.lacity.org/atty

**OFFICE OF THE
LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY
MIKE FEUER**



**Graffiti Awareness
Information for Parents**

Is your child a tagger?

Most likely, your child will not leave a home looking like this. But if you find two or more of these implements among his or her things, your child is probably writing graffiti in your neighborhood.



How do I find out if my kids are tagging? You Ask.

- A simple investigation can reveal whether or not your child is involved with tagging
- Doest your child create and keep cartoon - like art in art folders or sketch books?
- Does your child have a nickname that is primarily used by their friends?
- Does your child scribble works with a marker on items of their personal property, like their shoes and/or notebooks?
- Look for similar writing on walls and curbing in your neighborhood or near the school that your child attends.
- Does your child have access to aerosol spray paint? Do they have a collection of paint can spray tips?
- Does your child sneak out of the house late at night to spend time with their friends?

Importance of knowing whether your child is tagging

- Tagging is dangerous and criminal behavior.
- Tagging leads children to sneak out of the house at all hours of the night
- Taggers expose themselves to great danger, "tagging" freeway overpasses, train tracks, billboards and multi-story buildings
- Confrontations with other taggers may involve violence
- Most importantly, "tagging" public and private property is a "gateway" crime that leads taggers to truancy, to dropping out of school, to gangs and gang membership, and to a criminal record and even incarceration.