

Street knowledge. Stories, codes and street life

Andrea Landi

Lawyer, Criminologist, Italy

ABSTRACT

This work, besides making a careful examination, represents a real journey inside of a world that has gone through times and places, broke patterns of the past to live without, has undergone changes and revolutions, has known love to destroy hatred, is the knowledge of the movement, the movement of the body and mind ... is the hip hop!! The word "hip hop" contains the term "movement", that it is not only part of its meaning, but is what it represents. The hip hop, in fact, is born and begins to move from a road, or rather from a more restricted and circumscribed place, a house in the neighborhood between you forgotten and abandoned, the Bronx, to spread and take over the entire world. The importance of this phenomenon resides in the factor, that in the early 70s its creators and founders were all teenagers. The world of hip hop, which now affects and imposes itself in the world of fashion, music, language and society, was founded by young people. The hip hop was born from young adolescents of New York and took the world by storm. Over the years he has found a way to break down the barriers that surrounded him, being able to fit into so universal culture and to influence it and change it profoundly. It changed the way we live and stand in the street: from clashes and territories conquests, to a no more shots of gunfire, but sound of scratch and spray. It moved the people making them move and do not die. It moved crew and no gang. It moved minds to create and invent steps, rhymes and lines. It moved fashions, cultures and thoughts uniting and not dividing them. This journey from the gang to the crew begins by providing the reading and analysis keys with which is possible to understand and thoroughly investigate birth, origin, causes and evolution of the gang going from New York suburbs up to the main Italian cities. The route continues by examining how many of these gangs have abandoned the path of violence undertaking a new way of re-socialization through the hip hop culture and how this phenomenon is rooted in the world. Through calligraphic analysis, interviews with writers, life stories of street people and contributions on DJing and legality, the journey ends interpreting and expressing the thoughts on the studies and on the investigations examined.

RIASSUNTO

Questo lavoro, oltre a compiere un'attenta disamina, rappresenta un vero e proprio viaggio all'interno di un mondo che ha attraversato tempi e luoghi, ha rotto schemi del passato per vivere senza, ha subito evoluzioni e rivoluzioni, ha conosciuto l'amore per distruggere l'odio, è la conoscenza del movimento, il movimento del corpo e della mente... è l'hip hop!! La parola "hip hop", contiene al suo interno il termine "movimento" che non solo fa parte del suo significato, ma è ciò che rappresenta. L'hip hop, infatti, nasce ed inizia a muoversi da una strada, anzi da un luogo ancora più ristretto e circoscritto, una casa nel quartiere tra i più dimenticati ed abbandonati, il Bronx, per diffondersi e conquistare il mondo intero. L'importanza di questo fenomeno risiede nel fattore che nei primi anni '70 i suoi creatori e fondatori erano tutti adolescenti. Il mondo dell'hip hop, che oggi influenza e s'impone nella moda, nella musica, nella lingua e nella società nel suo complesso, fu fondata da giovani. L'hip hop nacque tra giovani adolescenti newyorkesi e prese d'assalto il mondo. Nel corso degli anni ha trovato il modo di abbattere le barriere che lo circondavano, riuscendo ad inserirsi nella cultura in modo universale ed a influenzarla e mutarla profondamente. Ha cambiato il modo di vivere e stare in strada: da scontri e conquiste di territori, a non più spari di pistole, ma a ritmo del suono di scratch e spray. Ha mosso le persone facendole muovere e non morire. Ha mosso crew e non gang. Ha mosso menti per creare ed inventare passi, rime e linee. Ha mosso mode, culture e pensieri unendoli e non dividendoli. Questo viaggio dalle gang alle crew inizia fornendo le chiavi di lettura e d'analisi con le quali è possibile comprendere ed approfondire accuratamente nascita, origine, cause ed evoluzione delle gang passando dalle periferie newyorkesi fino ad arrivare alle principali città italiane. Il percorso prosegue esaminando come molte di queste gang abbiano abbandonato la strada della violenza intraprendendo un nuovo modo di risocializzazione attraverso la cultura dell'hip hop e come questo fenomeno si sia radicato in tutto il mondo. Attraverso analisi calligrafiche, interviste di writers, racconti di vita di gente di strada e contributi sul Djing e sulla legalità, il viaggio si conclude interpretando e esprimendo delle riflessioni sugli studi e sulle indagini prese in esame.

RESUMEN

Además de una cuidadosa análisis, este trabajo cumple un verdadero viaje en un mundo que ha recorrido el tiempo y el espacios, no ha seguido los patrones del pasado, ha sufrido evolución y revolución, ha experimentado el amor para destruir el odio; se trata de la comprensión del movimiento, un paso del cuerpo y de la mente... es el hip hop! La palabra "hip hop" no sólo significa "movimiento", sino es también lo que representa. De hecho, el hip hop tiene origen en la calle y de aquí empieza a moverse; en realidad, el hip hop nace de un espacio confinado y limitado, una casa en un barrio olvidado y abandonado - el Bronx - y a partir de ahí se difunde y conquista el entero mundo. El valor de este fenómeno es que, a principio de los setentas, su creadores y fundadores eran jóvenes. El mundo del hop hop, que hoy influye y se impone en la moda, la música, el lenguaje y la sociedad en su conjunto, fue fundado por jóvenes. El hip hop nació entre los adolescentes neoyorquinos, difundándose en todo el mundo. A lo largo del tiempo, ha roto las barreras que lo rodeaban, se ha integrado en la cultura universal, influenciándola y cambiándola. El hip hop ha mudado el vivir y el estar en la calle, substituyendo el enfrentamiento y la conquista de territorios a sonidos de disparos por scratch y aerosol. El hip hop ha animado la gente a moverse y no ha dejado morirle. Ha traslado equipos y no bandas. Ha conuido las mentes para crear e inventar pasos, rimas y líneas. Ha movido modas, culturas y pensamiento, uniéndole y no dividiéndole. Este viaje, que empieza con las bandas y termina con equipos, tiene su inicio mediante claves de lec-

tura y análisis con las que se puede entender e investigar el nacimiento, origen, causas y evolución de las bandas que van desde los suburbios de Nueva York hasta las principales ciudades italianas. La ruta continúa examinando cómo muchas de estas bandas han abandonado el camino de la violencia, empezando una nueva forma de resocialización a través de la cultura hip hop y cómo este fenómeno tiene sus raíces en el mundo. A través del análisis caligráfico, entrevistas con escritores, historias de vida de gente de la calle y ayudas de DJing y legalidad, el viaje se concluye con interpretaciones y reflexiones sobre los estudios, las investigaciones y las opiniones examinadas.

Introduction

The gang was born, interwoven and identified with the history of the city and although each has specific traits and a time and a reference framework, but the constant that unites all bands is that they are born from a commonality of the class of membership, social status or working class and forms of exploitation and social inequality experienced by young people of every age and place.

Going back to the etymology of the word “gang”, it derives from the Old English verb “gangan” (a going, journey, way, passage), initially describing a set of work tools, then a company’s workers, and then an itinerant group of people and finally criminals (that “go” together). This old Anglicism has always referred to individuals whose lifestyle is the constant.¹

The gang is not only a gang, is a group of friends, especially when particularly gregarious, noisy and who are always on a spree movement.

Taking the concept initially expressed, namely that the gangs were born and have grown along with the city, is the etymology of the word “gang” through its first meaning of “travel”, “things that go together,” “keep moving in group “to explain how they originated and developed as a result of migration of many small groups of people, coming from the same reality, which also initially clashing and fighting with each other then gave rise to a single large actually, the city.

The extent of the gang may be more universal and ancient than is commonly thought. Always, in every age and society, there have been groups of young adults and gangs engaged in the same kind of activity of today’s bands.

The speeches of the Roman orator Marcus Tullius Cicero contain references to armed gangs led by Publius Clodius and Titus Annius Milo, who faced each other in struggles for years engaged the Roman policy.

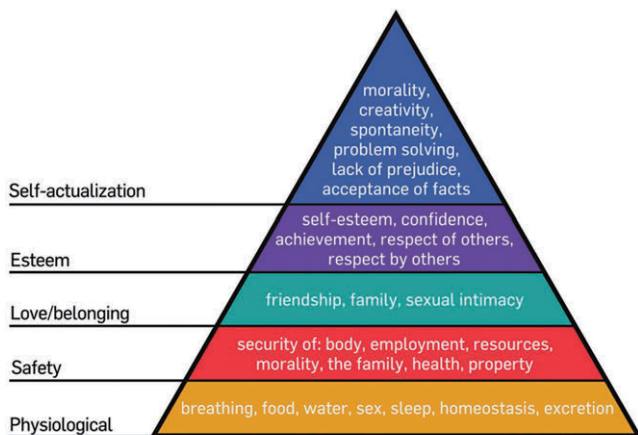


Figure 1. Maslow’s hierarchy of human needs.

Similarly, in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries, the violent gangs of street generated concern and dread, as Georgian England Mohock, which were feared as much as the Crips and Bloods in Los Angeles in the ‘90s.²

The explanation of the origin of gangs, often, is the need to meet the lacks of the members, who have given birth.³

Many of these necessities were identified by the American psychologist Abraham Maslow, in his pyramid of human needs (Figure 1).

Lower-level needs:

- Physiological (hunger, thirst, shelter, sex and other bodily needs);
- security (security and protection from physical and emotional damage);

and the highest level of needs, featuring:

- membership (affection, belonging, acceptance and friendship);
- estimate (self-respect, autonomy, realization, recognition of the status);
- self-realization (the thrust to meet their potential).

The gangs are born for a specific purpose. They are functional. Their members “receive psychological benefits from the recognition and respect” and derive an own personal benefit in terms of “self-esteem and social status” as a result of being members of a gang.

Racial and ethnic discrimination are the principal reasons and causes of the birth of gangs, but many of the motivations reside and relate to issues arising from different social institutions: family, school, faith, trade, justice. The presence of gangs suggests that one or more of the various above-mentioned realities, lived by the gang’s members, they might have failed.

It is also possible to make a classification grouping the gang based on the factors that are common to each other, what are the prerequisites for inclusion, where they are born or which are the group activities:

Gang ethnic

These bands are defined by nationality or race of the band members. A band of ethnic category is defined less by members of the same ethnic group, and more often from ethnic groups who hate them. Bands neo-Nazi, skinhead gangs and white supremacist gangs come together because of their hatred for Christians not to Protestants, Jews, blacks and Hispanics.

¹ Online Etymology Dictionary - <https://www.etymonline.com>

² G.D. Curry, S. H. Decker. Gang Crime. <https://www.britannica.com>

³ M. Carlie. Into the abyss: A personal journey into the world of street gangs. 2002. http://people.missouristate.edu/MichaelCarlie/site_map.htm

Gang territory

The local bands are defined by the territory they control. The same gang members usually live in that territory. There may be common ethnic group within the band simply because some neighborhoods have a certain amount of ethnic homogeneity. These bands are named based on the area they control, such as the 10th Street Gang or the East Side Cobra. If members of other bands stray into their territory, the punishment is usually the beating or death. This can trigger deadly wars between rival gangs.

Gang of jail

When the gang members go to jail, not necessarily renounce their membership in the band. The street gangs continue to exist (and fight other gangs) inside the prison walls. But there are some bands that are born in prisons and only later expand outside, in the street. These bands obviously require that members have been imprisoned and are particularly hard and brutal.

In his work "Politics", Aristotle defines man as a "social animal", absolutely unable to live in isolation from others. Man's need to join with other human beings is determined not only by material needs (such as self-defense, the procuring nourishment and ensure procreation, *etc.*), But above all by the fact that, as an individual outside a community, man could never realize his innermost nature, that is, the development and the exercise of reason.

There are forms of association, such as the family and the neighborhood, which precede the state. The state, however, does not consist of individuals who, as it happens in the family, have between them a "natural" relationship, or of members that, as a band, are associated interest, particular reasons. As early as the Paleolithic, when man was still nomadic, it lived in groups whose first job was survival. Some aspects that characterize most of today's social organizations, such as private property, the division into social groups, the presence of a political power center emerging already own from Neolithic and chased with the urban revolution.

The man, as evidenced by his history, is "the animal" that evolved more than any other species. He possesses the specific faculties that distinguish him, both physically and mentally, is able to reason, that is, to formulate ideas about the world around him; he is also able to invent tools to perform complex or heavy work, new hobbies, or create works fruit of his imagination or imagination as: music, literary and artistic works, they need to express and communicate ideas and feelings. The man spoke on the natural environment and changes it at will according to his needs: build buildings, sometimes deforesting green areas, use the forces of nature to produce energy, reclaiming marshland then using the space for agriculture, he digs tunnels, he extracts from the land that is needed for its products. He also knows how to express himself with words and gestures, and relate to others, and to disclose or communicate in an understandable way what he feels and lives. The man has feelings that can affect his character and condition him in decisions especially in relation with others.⁴

The man is also able to distinguish between "right" and "wrong" and can, therefore, choose to act for good or evil. It is important and necessary to investigate and explain, because this time you choose or make evil, individually or in groups. The first scholar to take care of the psycho-analytic crime problems was Freud. He believed that there were two kinds of crime: chronic and occasional. The first encompasses the criminals who commit their violent actions as a result of their physical structure and is divided into four sub-categories:

- criminals per organic causes;
- neurotic criminals;
- ordinary criminals;
- pure criminals.

While the occasional crime, all parties can commit criminal acts and these crimes are divided into intentional and accidental: culpable are acts "missing" with criminal and accidental consequences when it comes to crimes committed when a person is in pain conditions, as in self-defense.⁵

The superego represents the moral conscience, a moral censor that judges acts and instincts, the "superego abnormally structured as criminal, the ego ideal and the internal representation of social consciousness are reversed, structured in antisocial way and the subject adjusts its criminal conduct to the distorted structure superegoic".⁶

To deeply understand the nature of the gang is essential to examine the environments, the background, the reality in which individuals live and relate, relationships and interpersonal relationships, the factors that influence and impact their lives, and thus determine the causes and the etiology of delinquency.⁷

The gang that came to be created in colonial America and the history of the American Revolution cannot be understood without underlining the action of violent street gangs in Boston, who were allied with the Patriots. This pattern of alliances between criminal structures and policies characterized the history of American bands until the twentieth century. In this political machine model, street gangs were used to intimidate opponents, to mobilize votes and recruit future leaders both for politics and for the criminal underworld. From the nineteenth century onwards, the gangs in the United States were more active in cities, such as Philadelphia, which had over 100 street gangs in 1870 and Chicago, which had more than 1000 gangs were operating in 1920. Often the bands to defend and to assert the interests of new ethnic groups, the company or the local region, as the most visible and violent gangs in each period have their roots in the latest immigration wave. For example, the Irish gangs in the United States in the mid-nineteenth century, followed by Jewish gangs in the early twentieth century and Asian and Latino gangs in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century.

The gangs largely vanished from the American landscape during the Great Depression and the World War II only to emerge in the late '50s, reaching the '80s and '90s, where US law enforcement officials argued that the bands were a threat to public safety stronger than ever. The crime statistics in the '90s suggested that gangs were responsible for a large percentage of murders and for about two-fifths of sales of illegal drugs in the urban areas. At the beginning of XXI century, the esteemed researchers that there were 750,000 active gang members in the US and who adhered to some 25,000 gangs. The gangs have been documented in every state, in large and small cities and in urban and rural counties,

Even in Britain, Germany, the Netherlands and France as well as in Russia and the countries of eastern and central, is significant activities of gangs are exercised. In Europe after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the rest of the world, youth gangs exist wherever there are cities, and often operate in association with organized crime. At the end of the twentieth century, the bands appeared in Africa and Latin America. The gangs in Asia, particularly Tong, the Chinese triads and various secret societies, may be linked to similar groups in the US.

⁴ L. Guidetti, G. Matteucci. The political philosophy - Grammars of thought. Zanichelli.

⁵ Psychoanalysis and criminal behavior. <http://www.inftub.com>

⁶ I. Vitale. Criminal psychoanalysis: As a born criminal according to Freud. <http://www.igorvitale.org>

⁷ V. Mastronardi. Manuale per operatori criminologici e psicopatologi forensi (Manual for criminologists and forensic psychopathologists). Chap. III, pp. 167-175. Giuffrè; 2012.

⁸ G.D. Curry, S.H. Decker. Gang Crime. <https://www.britannica.com>

The following are the ten most important gang of the world history.⁹

The term “baby gangs” defines each group of youth who commits abuses and crimes against peers and adults, usually made up of teenagers aged 12 to 18 who want to get distracted by the family and regain the support group, the affinities and sharing of experiences and problems of the world around them.

The baby of the gang phenomenon, as groups of young people to commit crimes, was born in the United States in the 50's and 70's, but has more ancient origins, because already in 1927, with the title “The gangs,” F.M. Thrasher and J.F. Short published the first study on the topic of youth gangs, with reference to the situation in Chicago where, in well-defined areas such as suburbs, the bands were a favorable environment to act and develop. Issues such as economic poverty and social disorder, and in addition the combination of other components, such as persons belonging to minorities, personal discomfort, difficulty tapping into public services and resources, means that it creates fertile ground for the emergence of youth gangs of the road. Usually these guys, sometimes even children, were brought up by a single parent, often alcoholic, unemployed or drug addict. The gang replace the role traditionally played by the family and in the absence or the absence thereof, increases the emotional connection, the safety value and protection offered by the bands.

Like all phenomena of the dominant American culture, even the baby gang arrived in Europe. It initially spread in England, with a gang of twenty / thirty components, the largest count to a hundred members, armed with guns and knives and broken down according to ethnicity and distinctive clothes and tattoos, which allow to identify its membership.

The bands tend to develop within a territory and symbolic environment, very precise: the curve of the stadium, the pub, the street or a corner of the neighborhood, the disco and their borders must be safeguarded from “raids” or “invasions” of rival groups.

In France, the phenomenon grows in poor and marginalized areas of the suburbs of large cities, where a high concentration of young, unemployed for most children of immigrants, combined with the degradation and lack of facilities, has favored the emergence of gangs and development, sometimes of riots with the very form of urban warfare. In Italy, the problem of groups of young teenagers deviated is so limited compared to America and other European countries, since the early '50s but in Italy there are not real gangs, but more likely youthful affiliation to criminal organizations or simple groups of boys who commit delinquent acts in a non-organized way. With the arrival of mass immigration, since the '90s, are forming groups of teenagers, generally characterized by ethnic bond, organized in gangs, they begin to commit petty crimes. Except in rare cases, if we analyze the characteristics of the youth groups in Italy, it turns out that, in reality, it is not about gangs. In fact, most of these lacks to typical characteristics of a gang, such as a defined hierarchical structure, rules of conduct, good cohesion between the members and the control of territory. So although among young Italians deviance and group crime is very frequent, especially in the suburbs abandoned the cities of the province, real gang, as they are in the United States, are not yet so widespread.

The baby gang go beyond the “simple” bullying, but it is a group which acts in a more organized and systematic, with an emulation mafia, a defined hierarchical structure and rules of conduct. It should also be said that not always members of gangs come from disadvantaged social backgrounds. Often, however, the main characters are boys from good families, sick of boredom and being in the gang who try the tool to gain a certain social status. The gangs have now assumed unprecedented visibility. The question becomes

meaningful push to understand what causes these groups to commit deviant acts.¹⁰

Gangs offer:¹¹

- Acceptance: young people join them because they are discriminated against and want to be accepted and to develop a sense of belonging.
- A surrogate family: the need for a family of adult role models.
- Power and responsibility: to overcome the sense of inferiority and impotence.
- Security: joins us to reduce feelings of fear and insecurity:
- Gain / money: to earn money and get out of a situation of economic hardship.
- Alternative school or other social realities far or not accessible: there is associated with a band for a sense of frustration.
- Estimate of themselves: to gain greater self-esteem and a sense of greater respect others.
- Step adulthood: to become / adults feel.
- Activities: for lack of better alternatives (in free time).
- Environment where free up to its aggression to vent anger.
- No other choice: growing really difficult, often you do not have any choice.

The environment in which we grow is a very important factor. They are boys abandoned to their fate, just, who do not have authoritative references and are not afraid of anything. The area does not offer anything, live without points of reference, at the mercy of their impulses. Sports, music, theater and all kinds of extracurricular activities, and would help to steer children towards a better future, but there are no places of aggregation, are not the functional meeting spaces to uproot the children from certain deviant reality. If you do not invest and work in the territory, on the recovery and integration of these kids we should limit to make the counting of damage they cause to themselves, to others and to society. The discomfort of teenagers requires constant preventive measures, words.¹²

To become part of a gang, all potential members are required to perform an initiation ceremony to show gang members who “have what it takes”.¹³ Well, at least that is what it is thought. It is not true. Some bands have initiation ceremonies, others do not. Some bands require that prospective members pass through the initiation ceremonies, while others require that only a few people pass through them while leaving others to join the band without ceremony. Those who can avoid an initiation ceremony, people are “blessed”. Those who are blessed have brothers, fathers, mothers or other older relatives who were already in the band.

There are other ways to get in a band, how it is tested prior to entry, a “test process” as it was called.

The following are some of the rites of initiation.

⁹ A. Short. 10 Badass Gangs From History. July 30, 2013. <https://listverse.com/2013/07/30/10-badass-gangs-from-history/>

¹⁰ M. Puleio. Baby gang: what lies behind the phenomenon, what are the causes and preventive measures. January 17, 2018. <https://www.palermomania.it>

¹¹ M. Carlie. *Op. cit.*

¹² M. Manca. Perché nascono le baby gang (Why baby gangs are born). January 19, 2018 https://www.agi.it/blog-italia/idee/gomorra_baby_gang-3390471/post/2018-01-19/

¹³ M. Carlie. *Op. cit.*

Initiation by cop

Kill a police officer, now rarely used.

Being jumped in or beat in

Having to fight a number of gang members for a given period of time and be able to take the beatings and know how to fight back.

Sexed in

Used to start the females in gangs dominated by men, where started providing sexual services to one or more members of the gang set.

Jacked in

Committing a robbery.

The line, lined in, or the gauntlet

The individual being initiated is in the middle of a circle and has to fight to reach the way out, or has to run between two lines of gang members (Curry and Decker, 1998, p.66). The initiate must be able to stand up from the beginning to the end.

Drive-by-shooting

It engages a drive-by-shooting as assigned by the gang.

Russian roulette

Playing Russian roulette and win. Russian roulette involves loading a pistol's cylinder with **one** bullet, spinning the cylinder, closing it, then pointing the gun to one's head and pulling the trigger. If the player wins, they're in the gang.

Blood in or blood out

Blood in: commit murder to join the gang. Blood out: commit murder to leave the gang.

Catching a rag or catching a flag

Fighting a group of gang members to grab a rag or a flag that was placed on the other side.

Rim

Fight to the center of a circle of members of a gang.

Courted in

Being invited in, as are some doctors (for their medical skills which may be performed without reporting to the authorities), lawyers (for their legal advice and plea-bargaining ability), and electricians (many skills may be needed for gang enterprises).

In dedeed

Having sex with a girl or a boy who has a sexually transmitted disease and not getting the disease.

Frein' Hoover

Collect six cents which have been thrown on the ground while being physically assaulted by the gang members. When all six pennies have been gathered, the beating stop.

Punched in

Being hit once, and very aggressively, on the sternum - right over the heart.

On the contrary, to get out of a gang, two of the possible

options are "beaten down" or "jumped out". They are similar to the initiation rite "jumpin 'in", it must survive severe beatings, often so violent as to cause serious injury. If a member refuses to leave the band without being beaten or thrown out, his former friends (gang members) may resort to extreme violence. When a member is able to get out of a gang with dignity, definitely lose the band-width protection, but does not lose his former enemies.¹⁴

An important resource and source of analysis and understanding of the gang world cinematography. There is a large segment of the film devoted to the bands and the realities of the street. Among the most important films we include: Rebel, Gomorrah. Gangs of New York, Warriors of the night Clockwork Orange.

Another significant and unavoidable aspect is the analysis of how many of these gangs have abandoned the path of violence embarking on a new path through the re-socialization of hip hop culture and how this phenomenon is rooted in the world.

The term "hip hop" was coined by rapper Cowboy Keith Wiggins, a member of the group *Grandmaster Flash and The Furious Five*. Literally "hip" means knowledge, knowing, and "hop" means jump, movement.

Hip hop is the set of four disciplines: DJing, MCing, Writing, Breaking.

- DJing: a DJ is the one who manipulates sound using a mixer and two turntables connected to an amplifier, which in turn is connected to the speakers.
- MCing: is the art of speaking or singing in rhyme a text with a strong rhythmic accompaniment, the one who sings is called MC (master of ceremony) or rapper. In the hip hop genre, most MCs rapper the lyrics they write themselves.
- Writing: is the first discipline that has developed (around the late '60s), even before the birth of hip hop as a movement. Originally graffiti was used as a form of expression by political activists and some gangs to mark their territory.
- Breaking: also called B-boying or Breakdance, is a dance style which was developed as part of hip hop culture. Breaking comes from the union of several forms of dance: Afro-Brazilian dance, Russian folk dance, Asian martial arts, Michael Jackson's dance moves, James Brown's dance moves and other styles such as the Californian Funk.¹⁵

The hip hop is how they have evolved, in part, the gangs that existed in the '60s, only in the Bronx there were more than 100 gangs formed by young people, young people who were killing for control of even one road. If in the early sixties clashed with the passage of time began to struggle even with firearms. It was now reputed such a violent neighborhood, and considered "no man's land" which the kids could burn whole houses without any intervention of the authorities to extinguish the fire.

From this war, which led to a major escalation of deaths, the same bands, realizing that this conflict would have brought nothing but killing their own brothers, they managed to find a meeting point, stripping off their jackets, symbol of recognition of each band.

The writing is one of the four disciplines of hip hop, born in the late sixties and early seventies. The "legend" has it that it all began because a Greek origin boy, he used to sign himself Taki 183, he began writing on the walls to the walls of metropolitan New York his signature.

Public opinion did not remain indifferent, many wondered who it was, even the "New York Times" took care of this phenomenon

¹⁴ Edmonton Police Service. <http://www.edmontonpolice.ca>

¹⁵ <https://www.produzionehiphop.com>

dedicating the first page titled “Who is Taki183?” and was the inspiration for Bob Clark for the movie “Turk 182!” on 1985.

Soon the phenomenon literally exploded, were besieged mainly the districts of Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx. Many young people began to write his signature, what would later be called “tags”, first with markers with large spikes, then with the instrument, become unavoidable, the spray can.

The writers slowly begin to congregate in groups, the so-called “crew”, and so their name was running as much as possible for the city, began to draw in the New York subways, so began the comparison between the various crews, which They challenged in style strokes and technique.

Over the years, many writers reached excellent levels of technique, and the letters were often accompanied by comic book characters or backgrounds.

What fundamentally distinguishes the writing of any other kind of art it is:

1. place: usually it is the city wall which is used as a canvas, or wagon of a train to share the “piece” even faster;
2. the subject: the writing is clearly writing the name. The Franciscan friar Girolamo Maria Moretti, author of the first book on graphology in Italian, taught that the existing tensions in the psyche of the result in graphic signs and then as in handwriting are deduced all the contradictions and harmonies of human nature, so also in writing, signing, reveals all the subtle nuances (pressing, bending, size etc.).
3. technique: the main support is definitely the spray, but the writer can use other tools, such as pens brushes or rollers.¹⁶

Over the years the writing phenomenon has exploded worldwide. There is no state in the world where it has not spread. Individuals from all walks of life and all ages have approached this culture, and created many styles, from the Wild style to Bombing style, 3D style, Bubble style. The writing is a continuous search of technique and style, and the styles are varied.

The reasons for a writer to draw your name may be the most diverse: from simple to high-octane evolution pursuit of vandalism taste technique itself, but also for mere show or who has made it a real profession.

Public opinion was divided almost always found with regard to this discipline, some of the frame as a true art form, others as mere vandalism and others do not despise, but criticized the means and media used by the writer and based on these judges whether it is legal or illegal work.

Actually, the real writers, or “pure writer”, is born and dies illegal, someone has framed as the last poet of our time, a young man who approaches for the first time in this discipline cannot help but start illegally rehearsing techniques already proposed by others for the purpose of marking his territory and make her recognizable style.

Trains, subways are still a fundamental point of writers, it is obvious that in this environment a person who can do the most possible pieces of cars in Member States as possible, receive the estimate of this world, and the legal discourse or not legal it does not care, just bring and spread their identity and tag everything with your signature to become almost an obsession.

In the United States, where there was a first huge explosion of this phenomenon, in all areas, but especially on subway cars, the institutions began to try to make a stop to this exponential spread.

In the eighties, a real hunt for writers started, enhanced later by the mayor of New York City, Rudolf Giuliani, through a law called “zero tolerance”, who established a real task force against graffiti, were embittered prison sentences, the heavy fines and even was banned the sale of spray cans to persons under twenty-one years.

Despite these strict laws, many writers continued to carry forward this culture. By now, even if only a few people are likely years

in prison for painting a car, sometimes more than the freedom you can lose even their lives, as has unfortunately happened several times in Italy. Painting in an illegal manner, especially on the wagons, there is no doubt that puts you in a risky condition both from a legal point of view, both from the physical point of view.

We can safely say that some writers, looking for strong emotions combined with the knowledge to run very big risk, it is strongly approaching the “sensation seekers” theory studied for the first time by Marvin Zuckerman in the seventies that no express provision for a mental disorder, but It leads to a personality trait.

Zuckerman has classified four aspects predominant which would determine the traits of a “sensation seekers” personalities:

- **Voltage research and adventure:** need extreme or hazardous activities;
- **Research experience:** need to try different emotions than usual;
- **Disinhibition:** need to act unchecked;
- **Susceptibility to boredom:** Intolerance for boring situations.

The writers who work illegally trying to sign the walls of cities or train carriages could enter them in the first case, or those looking voltage and / or adventure, need to perform outside activities that do feel strong and new sensations, with awareness that these experiences can lead to risks to their safety.¹⁷

Thanks to the valuable contribution of Prof. Monica Calderaro, it was possible to examine the personality of an individual through the tags (signatures) of the writers. The handwriting analysis together with the clinical/behavioral interpretation, confirm that for artists like the Tag Writers the writing, which is much closer to the non-verbal language, is an expression and manifestation of their personality trait; in the case of the subjects examined, although characterized by a same narcissistic and provocative background, their writing with different graphical gestures, highlight a different personality, thus finding their way -albeit unconscious- to communicate to the world.

The MCing is an expression of the English language which literally means “master of ceremonies”.

During the seventies, New York City was invaded by street gangs. One of the biggest bands in that period was the Black Spades. A leader of the gang was Afrika Bambaataa. He realized that the young could not continue to grow by violence associated with gang culture, so in November 1973, he formed the Zulu Nation, as a means to channel their energies in a positive and constructive way. He was able to influence his peers and offer them a healthier option to express their competitive desires. Bambaataa used the movements and steps that are made to parties as a catalyst to help young people to express themselves. Subsequently, Bambaataa I group into four groups and named them, by associating the four elements of the movement. Later he added a fifth, which he called “Knowledge” to encourage his peers to seek knowledge in the world around them to make them better people. These five elements, MCing, DJing, B-Boying, Graffiti Writing and Knowledge have been labeled as a whole as Hip Hop and the movement was officially born. The term Hip Hop was taken from rhymes and chants used by Luvbug Starski and Kool Keith Cowboy, who were both former members of the Black Spades.

In addition to Kool Herc and Afrika Bambaataa, along with Grandmaster Flash and Grand Wizard Theodore contributed to the hip hop training.

¹⁶ A. Ferri. Theory of writing, the search for style. Professional Dreamers Publisher; 2016.

¹⁷ <https://www.lostudiodellopsicologo.it>

The breakdance is a style of dance born in America in the late sixties, although the exact origin is still uncertain; it is one of the four elements of the hip hop culture. DJ Kool Herc, one of the founders of the movement, called these dancers “B-boys” and “B-girls”, in fact during the performances of the first hip hop Dj is often felt “B-boys go down” or wondered dancers to open the dances.

At the end of the sixties, the suburbs of New York were the theater of war between the various gangs, no one could find a solution terror and violence had taken control of the streets, there were numerous deaths wars if counted a hundred for a total of eleven thousand teenagers, of which 70% Puerto Rican blacks the rest.¹⁸

Some gangs, including the Ghetto Brothers, Black Spades and Skulls, decided to meet to try stopping all this violence, they succeeded in their aim and came to a peace treaty called “*Peace between all gangs and a powerful unity*”.

The fights between gangs stopped, even if the violence did not end the sudden, and certainly did not stop the aggression and the desire to compete among American youth of the ghetto, but fortunately all this anger was channeled into the dance, and everyone the disagreements that exist among the various gangs were solved in dance challenges, in fact originally the dance steps, resumed dueling between gang.

Among the first B-boys we can remember Klark Kent, James Bonf, The Nigga Twins, and many more.

The breakdance, which was initially reserved for the black population, over the years spread to the Latin and white, then exploded all over the world enjoying great success as much as the B-boys and B-girls were present even in television and cinema; there are in fact many movies that tell of young dancers’ stories, including “Breakdance” “Beat street” “Wwild style” “Flashdance”. The company Sony launched even a video game in 2006 named “The game”.

In Italy this phenomenon arrived in the early eighties, walking hand in hand with the other disciplines of the hip hop world. The reasons why in Italy the hip hop world is different from the American one, is that these disciplines grow mainly in the *social centers* of Bologna and Rome, and then spread to all over the country. The Italian style was also popular abroad: NextOne (Maurizio Cannavo, 1969), one of the best Italian breakers, was awarded the title of world master and originator of the “power footwork technique”.

Forty years ago, the youth of the Bronx, New York, created a new musical genre. Initially, their intention was not to affect the dominant culture, but to find ways to be creative and stay out of trouble. At the time, the school system had very little money for music and art programs. As a result, a good number of young people in New York City had very little musical and artistic training. Nevertheless, the youth had a creative mind and a passion to express themselves. They had no access to trumpets, guitars and flutes, but they had access to collections of records, turntables and microphones of their parents. In August of 1973, a boy of Jamaican origin named Clive Campbell, alias Kool Herc (short for Hercules), decided to organize a party to raise money to buy school supplies for her little sister and decided to play the party in the recreation room of Sedgwick Avenue, 1520.

During the party, while playing the disc, the young Kool Herc wanted to introduce something new, compared to the usual parties, something that would have wowed the crowd. Normally, the Djs play the discs entirely, reproducing them from one side. Herc made an observation, as he noticed that every time there was a “pause” in a disc, the crowd became more excited and energetic on the

dance floor. Herc was the maker of the “creation of the sound”, which is the basis of hip hop. At this festival, he found a way to isolate the break and merge it with other rhythms from various musical genres. This has created an entirely new sound that people until that moment had never heard before. Soon after, other DJs have started copying melting and mixing created by Herc.

The interviews of writers Nash and Nut, the life stories of street people and the contributions on the legality and DJing in a meeting with Don Luigi Merola express important ideas and offer an even broader context and deeper on studies, surveys and the views considered in this paper. From what has emerged from previous research, a gang is an organized group, complex and that even sometimes for structure and violence approaches the mafia, such as Latin King or La Mara 18. The herd is instead a group of boys who performs deviant acts which often acts without apparent reason.

We examined how these bands, in almost all cases, are born as a refuge and defense from their rights to become real crime labs, such as the Crips or MS13 based on good values but had an abrupt change of route.

The evidence examined in our possession, it was possible to examine the phenomenon of gangs is booming and it appears a widespread reality in Italy. Many of the violence committed are recorded around the age of eighteen, but what makes it all more worrisome is that the age tends to fall quickly.

The family, schools and institutions, even though for years they have begun work different methods and measures to curb this increasing violence, do not seem to know how to stand up to this phenomenon. The family must be able to detect all possible alarm bells, speaking before a young man manages to get in a baby gang, also re-educating parents through the rediscovery of roles. The school, which has a crucial role in the growth of a young, where you begin to compete with the adult world and to build the first relationships, must continue to act more vigorously in non-school projects, of course, everything must be done together with the family. Of course, movies or video games do not create a criminal, but a young man already “weak” can be groped to emulate those protagonists, seeking in them the charm of the criminal, where everything seems easy.

The problem, therefore, is extremely complex, requires action at several levels; surely, movements such as hip hop, which was born to pacify the wars among the New York gangs, is an excellent means of rehabilitation. Thanks to the culture of writing, of rap, and of the break of DJing, it may indicate a new way for a young man now bored with his life which is running more and more lonely and fast.

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Correspondence: Andrea Landi.
E-mail: landiandrea@hotmail.it

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