

## **My Two Cent's Worth**

By: Joseph Andalina

### **What gang affiliation?**

This is how seriously Chicago takes the gang violence. After a nearly 70+ shootings with 12 killings on one recent weekend and continuing murders, another cry for help went out from community activists.

And with all the finger pointing and blame, the press, citizens, and activists want something done — especially to the racist cops and police departments they accuse of all kinds of misconduct.

Chicago, like many departments, have a gang database which identifies all the thugs, purported thugs, and potential killers, as well as being able to predict who may be on the “hit list” for the next killer.

Thirty-three thousand juveniles arrested over the last two decades have been identified as gangbangers, along with countless adults. It's an important tool in fighting gang violence in a city overrun by it.

Now I don't have to tell you what gangs do besides killing each other (just watch the Sopranos). Gangs are involved in a myriad other illegal and harmful activities. But the press and others, especially attorneys for the MacArthur Justice Center, filed a class action lawsuit against Chicago, stating “We don't think there is a need for gang intelligence on this scale.”

Others state the database is racially skewed. I guess since the Mafia is virtually dead that means there are few Italians or white folks in gangs nowadays.

Hey, the “Outfit” had their day and blew it! You don't think Chicago PD or the FBI had databases on Murray “the Camel” Humphreys, or Joe “No Nose” or “Big Tuna”? Of course they did. Police track the bad guys. It isn't rocket science.

Others say the databases point to the risk for youths who could wind up permanently labeled a gangbanger... (and this is my favorite quote ever) for an impulsive decision. Oh my, yes. An impulsive decision to shoot an 11-year old in the face while in a viaduct or playing in the park.

That's what this has become. A press who is more than willing to demonize everything cops do. We can't help people unless they want to be helped, and the people running the show are cowards and bow to the fanatics and PC culture because it's all about votes. And the carnage continues.

Vita é bella.