



# Crime and Violence: Where does it begin and where does it end?

May 2004

Issue 1

## Message From SIV National Coordinating Committee

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### SIV Week is Monday 24th–Saturday May 29th. Activities Include:

- Monday—School Visits
- Tuesday—Interview with Von
- Thursday—Launch of SIV Internet Center
- Friday—Trip to St Kitts
- Saturday—Conchshells on Radio Paradise 'Impact' Program

I take great pleasure, on behalf of the SIV National Coordinating Committee, in congratulating the SIV Conch Shells and their Managers (teachers) on the publication of the premier issue of the **Back Chat** Newsletter.

The nine (9) Conch Shells who have been selected from the respective high schools in Nevis along with their counterparts in St Kitts have all pledged to “**Give A Voice**” to meaningfully address the issues and concerns of people living in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) like St. Kitts & Nevis. They will also collaborate, through the internet, with young people in other islands throughout the World to tackle these issues/concerns.

In 2002, some 25 students of Form 6B of the CSS Sixth Form College assisted the SIV National Coordinating Committee in conducting a survey to determine the social, developmental and environmental issues facing the residents of Nevis. The views of the 125 respondents, representing a wide cross-section of the population, were wide

ranging.

Foremost among the responses were crime and violence, deterioration of moral/cultural values, unemployment/underemployment, disparity in educational achievement and lack of effective youth/community development programmes.

Our SIV Conch Shells have been armed with the findings of the survey and will be attempting to find ways of alleviating these problems over the next several months, through interaction with other youths, Radio/TV Programmes, use of the internet and a monthly issue of this **Back Chat** Newsletter.

We crave the support of the general public as the team of Conch Shells and their teachers embark on this significant project.

Let us all wish them every success!!

**Halstead Byron**

**SIV National Coordinating Committee**

## The Nevis *Back Chat* Family Who is Who

CHARLESTOWN SECONDARY

GINGERLAND SECONDARY

LYN JEFFERS SECONDARY

### PROGRAM DIRECTORS

*Conch Shells*

**Tamicia Nisbett**

Tinari Chapman

Monique Evelyn

Sandra Hector

**Otencia Hanley**

Shane Browne

Asha Bailey

Rushella Isles

**Alison Owens-Hill**

T-Jay Finch Oba

Michelle Lawrence


Monique Liburd



## OVERVIEW: SIV 'BACK CHAT' PROGRAMME

The **Small Islands Voice** Project focuses on the overcoming of the isolation of small islands by building capacity and strengthening local, regional and inter-regional communication throughout the islands of the Caribbean Sea, Indian Ocean and Pacific regions. This initiative, launched in 2002, aims to combine new information and communication technologies involving print, radio, TV, internet and other media, to promote the effective participation of the general public in issues of the environment and development towards the 2004 review of the SIDS Programme of Action and beyond.

The following islands currently play active roles in the SIV Initiative: St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Dominica, Bahamas and San Andres Archipelago in the Caribbean; Seychelles, Maldives and Mauritius in the Indian Ocean; Cook Islands, Fiji and Palau in the Pacific Ocean. Activities in the island included opinion surveys, meetings and workshops, debates, radio/TV shows, interactive displays and newsletters. Inter-regional activities include two internet-based discussion forums: one for the general public and the other for youth.



**“Back Chat seeks to lend a voice to the many social problems facing the Federation”**

The **Back Chat Programme** was launched in March 2004 by the SIV Coordination Committee as an educational initiative for the youths of the Federation. The **Back Chat Team** consists of three students (Conch Shells) and a teacher (Programme director) from each of the nine secondary schools in St Kitts & Nevis.

**Back Chat** seeks to lend a voice to the many social problems facing the Federation and to use all aspects of the media to espouse the views of the SIV Project. The **Back Chat** programme of activities will include visits to all primary and secondary schools, publishing a monthly newsletter, monthly radio and TV talk shows, environmental and heritage tours and an Award and Recognition Ceremony at the conclusion of the programme in December 2004.

# Reality Check

- *Rushella Isles* -

Once you've started it's hard to stop  
But then your head feels like it'll PoP  
Drinking, smoking and illegal stuff  
May at the time be your pillow of fluff.  
You may think it's a Serta bed  
But then you might just end up dead.

High on violence, drunken by crime  
Would make anyone float on cloud nine  
You may eventually fall into a deep trance  
But the question is, Would you be able to wake up and  
dance?

On the contrary I am afraid to say NO  
You've fallen into a bed of death, not a bed of roses!

Well now I'm sure you've chosen to lend an ear  
And give this message to all who didn't hear  
Get rid of Drinking, Smoking and illegal doing  
Before you put your life in ruins



# Crime and Violence: Where does it begin and where does it end? Here is what some residents of Nevis had to say ...

Crime and violence go way back to the past and basically as much as people try to stop it, there will always be grudge and hatred from one human towards another. I would think that violence and crime mostly begins in the home when a parent or parents beat a child or children. The children usually become angered when they cant get their own way and usually takes it out on someone else. To try and put an end to this, the people should know of the punishments that will face them if they are caught which might make them think twice if the punishments are severe.

- Nuffthings

I don't like it for real. When these things going on I does keep far, 'cuz I want to die peacefully and not have somebody jumping up all over me tekin' me life.

- Superman

Crime and Violence doesn't just begin in one place but mostly in the minds of people, at home and on the streets. If this violent behaviour is continued they will either end up jail

or in the cemetery.

- Teacher

For me, I think that the mentality of leaders in society contribute to either an increase or decrease in this growing problem. As long as people continue to exist it will never end 'cuz crime and violence is like a circle, no end. I think changing the mentality of people can control it.

- Angel Eyes



young people are looking at too much violence and the evil spirits are taking over their lives. Drugs and alcohol are also to blame for the rise in violence. To control violence I think that the death penalty needs to be reinstated and there should be more gospel influence.

- Silver Sparks

It starts when people are being offended, whether physically or emotionally, which cause anger to build especially when they are not paid much attention. When it becomes too much for them, they act on their rage mostly without giving their problem any thought at all. To decrease violence, the people need to become more observant of the reactions of people to certain things. It's more likely for them to follow a bad example rather than a good example, so we the older ones shouldn't display violent natures

- Babisitta

Television, DVD's and VHS are to blame but not fully because once people are buying them, they will continue to exist. The



# Hey put some music to this

*Violence violence*

*Violence causes a lot of commotion  
And leaves us with a lot of emotion  
Tender lives taking in portions  
Leaving mothers crying of exhaustion  
Last night I dried my eye with a tissue,  
Just because of a little issue,  
Its pitiful how we die over drugs,  
And cold hearted people with no love,  
Anger leads to many things,  
Controlling it leads to better themes  
Live your life without the V and the C,  
And see how good your life could be,  
If I had words to say,  
It would be peace and love,  
Please rain today.*

# WORD SEARCH: Crime and Violence

s n o p a e w r e y w a l e  
c c o n s e q u e n c e s x  
r i n j u r y n o s i r p t  
i s a l t e r c a t i o n r  
p v s e v i t a n r e t l a  
p h w i t n e s s e s q g c  
l o b f p r o t c o d c a u  
e s p r o s e c u t i o n r  
h p e e l o d r u g s u g r  
d i s c i p l i n e k r s i  
y t u n c x t m r a y t z c  
i a b e e i d e a t h m n u  
t l a f m t u s y m r t e l  
r o l e s n u o c r r e l a  
n s t d s u i t b i u x o r  
a r r e s t j r a p e j r g  
h l w t n i a l p m o c a f  
k p p t j t c n i c e r p d  
g r i e v a n c e d s w a l

abuse

altercation

alternatives

arrest

complaint

consequences

Suit

cripple

laws

defence

discipline

doctor

drugs

extra curricular

gangs

crimes

jury

weapons

lawyer

parole

police

precinct

prison

court

injury

trial

witnesses

rape

grievance

counselor

prosecution

hospital

time

death