

**REA 2014 Workshop Outline****Title:** On the Streets of Chicago: African American Youth in the Midst of Violence, “To live or die?”

That is the Question

**Date:** Saturday, November 8, 2014 – 3:30-4:45 pm

<b>Module</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Duration</b>
3:30-4:25	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator introduces herself to audience</li> <li>• Facilitator gives brief overview of the workshop</li> <li>• Facilitator invites participants to introduce themselves and share their learning expectations</li> <li>• Facilitator discusses proposed learning objectives</li> <li>• Facilitator invites participants to ask questions throughout the workshop and at the end</li> </ul>	15 mins
	<b>Icebreaker</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>	10 mins
	<b>Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator will engage participants with in-depth theories and practices regarding topic.</li> </ul>	30 mins
4:25-4:35	<b>Video</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator shows video: <i>Silent Screams</i> and ask participants give feedback.</li> </ul>	10 mins
4:35-4:45	<b>Conclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitator invites participants to ask questions</li> <li>• Facilitator encourages participants to reflect on workshop.</li> <li>• Facilitator distributes handout and evaluation</li> </ul>	10 mins

In this workshop, I plan to discuss how violence is plaguing the urban streets of Chicago, but reveal that there is hope. However, before there is hope, I will look at how evil is displayed through violence. James Poling defines evil as the abuse of power in personal, social, and religious forms that destroys bodies and spirits. It is evil because the power of life comes from God, and all power should be used for good. Whenever power is used to destroy the bodies and spirits of God's creation, there is evil.

Theologically, John 10:10 states, "The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." So what is the root of violence? Where is the hope? The most difficult task in urban ministry is to remain optimistic, creative, hopeful, and full of humor. I will reference an urban church and two non-profit organizations, which are making an impact to combat violence in the streets of Chicago. The works of Religious Educators will be used as a practical practice of how Christian Educators can understand and work with African American urban youth.

## **Resources**

Cone, James, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, 2011

Poling, James, *Deliver us from Evil: Resisting Racial and Gender Oppression*, 1996

Pronthrow-Stith, D., Weissman, M., *Deadly Consequences*, 1991

Hill, Shirley, *African American Children, Socialization, and Development in Families*, 1999

Wimberly, Ann, *Keep it Real, Working with Today's Black Youth*, 2005

National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, *Final Report: To Establish*

*Justice, to Insure Domestic Tranquility*, Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1969 in Brownstein, Henry, H., Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 2000