

Table 1*Description of studies included in the meta-analysis*

Authors and year of publication	Sample size	Gender	Place of study	Type of study
Wechsberg et al. (2015) Predictors of gang involvement: history of sexual abuse; history of physical abuse; low social support; low emotional support; witness to gun battles; the occurrence of a murder in the neighborhood.	237	female	North Carolina	Cross-sectional
Weitzel et al. (2020) Predictors of gang involvement: lack of shelter; staying in temporary housing.	2443	50.8% male	UK	Cross-sectional
Lachman et al. (2012) Predictors of gang involvement: instrumental purposes (e.g. joining the group in order to obtain protection).	200	55% male	Montgomery County & Washington, DC	Cross-sectional
Mendez, Mozley, and Kerig (2020) Predictors of gang involvement: trauma exposure (callous-unemotionality being an explanatory factor).	817	25.93% female	Western USA	Cross-sectional
Cepeda, Valdez, and Nowotny (2014) Predictor of gang involvement: physical neglect.	75	male	West Side, San Antonio, Texas	Cross-sectional
van Dommelen-Gonzalez, Deardorff, Herd, and Minnis (2015) Predictors of gang involvement: age (those affiliates were older than those unaffiliated); to live with a family member who receives social assistance; affiliation of some family members to gangs; having close deviant friends (truants, who spent a night in custody etc.).	162	44.87 female affiliated 57.14 female unaffiliated	San Francisco	Cross-sectional
Kubik, Docherty, and Boxer (2019) Predictors of gang involvement: childhood maltreatment; childhood neglect.	611	52% female	USA	Longitudinal

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Ang et al. (2015) Predictors of gang involvement: proactive aggression; delinquent behavior; behavioral disengagement from school.	1027	58.2% male	Singapore	Cross-sectional
Reed et al. (2014) Predictors of gang involvement: having military parents (in the case of girls); having parents deployed in combat zones (in the case of girls).	9952	2782 female	Washington	Cross-sectional
Katz and Fox (2010) Predictors of gang involvement: perceived availability of hand guns; high level of residential mobility; parents who favor antisocial behaviour; early initiation into antisocial behaviours; intention to use drugs; antisocial peers; peers who use drugs.	2206	59.6% female	Trinidad & Tobago	Cross-sectional
Gilman, Hill, Hawkins, Howell, and Kosterman (2014) Predictors of gang involvement: living with a gang member; antisocial neighborhood; influences of antisocial peers in the previous year.	808	51% male	Seattle	Longitudinal 1985-1993
Voisin and Neilands (2010) Predictors of gang involvement: lower levels of student-teacher connection; male gender; risky rules imposed by colleagues.	563	38.89% male	Midwestern	Cross-sectional
Lenzi et al. (2018) Predictors of gang involvement: low levels of behavioral self-control; low levels of emotional regulation; low levels of empathy; limiting access to social support (within the school); limiting exposure to prosocial behaviors (within the school).	11753	59.6% male	California	Cross-sectional
Ventura Miller, Barnes, and Hartley (2011) Predictors of gang involvement: low level of grades obtained at school; drug availability in the neighborhood; low levels of acculturation; low levels of school satisfaction; perceiving a higher degree of marginalization based on ethnicity.	1633	66% male – belonging to the gang	South Texas	Cross-sectional

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Beaver et al. (2010) Predictors of gang involvement: low activity alleles of the monoamine oxidase A gene (only carrier men are at increased risk of joining the gang).	2196	52.59% female	USA	Longitudinal 1994-2002
Lenzi et al. (2014) Predictors of gang involvement: associating with deviant peers; perceiving the school as an unsafe environment; type of school (special, vocational, alternative vs. comprehensive).	26232	53.4% female	California	Cross-sectional
Petering (2016) Predictors of gang involvement: childhood sexual abuse; witness to family violence; childhood physical abuse; witness to interpersonal violence.	505	27.72% female	Los Angeles	Cross-sectional - homeless population
Wood et al. (2014) Predictors of gang involvement: the value attached to social status; levels of dominant social orientation; anti-authority attitudes; moral disengagement; threat levels (before incarceration); individual delinquency levels (before incarceration); levels of involvement in group crime (before incarceration); group support on streets; longer current punishments.	188	male	UK	Cross-sectional
Barnes et al. (2010) Predictors of gang involvement: low levels of self-control; greater involvement in delinquency; more victimization experiences.	<i>Wave 1</i> - 20745 adolescents, 17700 carers <i>Wave 2</i> - 14738 <i>Wave 3</i> - 15197	50.51% female	USA	Longitudinal
Ha, Kim, Christopher, Caruthers, and Dishion (2016) Predictor of gang involvement: maltreatment.	998	52.7% male	Northwestern USA	Longitudinal
Gilman, Howell, Hipwell, and Stepp (2016) Predictors of gang involvement: peer victimization.	2450	female	Pittsburgh	Longitudinal 2003-2011

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Mfidi et al. (2018) Predictors of gang involvement: improper handling of emotions (anger – the most common emotion experienced).	347	169 male	Eastern Cape, South Africa	Cross-sectional
Smith, Gomez Auyong, and Ferguson (2018) Predictors of gang involvement: delinquent peers; social disorganization in the neighbourhood (graffiti, presence of stray dogs on the streets, vandalized objects etc.); drug use.	15445	50.6% male	Avon, UK	Longitudinal 1991-2019
Dmitrieva et al. (2014) Predictors to be a low-level gang member: low temperance; low perspective; low responsibility; low self-esteem (in early adolescence). Predictors to be a gang leader: low temperance; low self-esteem (after 19 years); high self-esteem (after 17 years); grandiose-manipulative traits (after 17 years).	1354	male - in detention	Maricopa & Philadelphia	Longitudinal
Hautala et al. (2016) Predictors of gang involvement: low income for each family member; low parental monitoring; low links with school (increased risk only for gang initiation); early conduct problems in primary school; risk factors at peer level (increased risk only for initiation); early negative events increase the risk for initiation into the gang; early perception of racial discrimination; anger (risk for initiation); depressive symptoms; hyperactivity / Impulsivity; substance use; high level of delinquency before involvement in the gang.	646	50.5% female	USA & Canada	Longitudinal 2002-2011 - Indigenous population
Frisby-Osman, and Wood (2020) Predictors of gang involvement: high levels of conduct problems; moral disengagement; ruminations; symptoms of anxiety; symptoms of depression; higher levels of exposure to violence (being a victim of violent attacks).	91	64.8% male	England	Cross-sectional
McDaniel (2012) Predictors of gang involvement: belonging to an ethnic minority; male gender; depressive state; reporting suicidal ideation; alcohol or drug use; delinquency; experiencing peer victimization.	4131	51.49% female	-	Cross-sectional
Petering et al. (2017) Predictors of gang involvement: childhood sexual abuse; physical childhood abuse; exposure to community violence; witnessing family violence.	495	71.30% male	Los Angeles	Cross-sectional -Jugалlos

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Vasquez et al. (2012)	310	185 male	London	Cross-sectional
Predictors of gang involvement: ruminal thinking about aversive events; male gender.				
Vuk (2016)	5935	48% male	USA	Cross-sectional
Predictors of gang involvement: low self-esteem; authoritarian parents; negligent parents; permissive parents; delinquent peers; low levels of self-control; increased levels of rationalization; low levels of guilt.				
Hennigan et al. (2015)	391	67% male	Los Angeles	Longitudinal
Predictors of gang involvement: antisocial tendencies; impulsive risk-taking; neutralization of guilt; parental monitoring; influence of the family gang; negative influence of friends; delinquency of friends; critical life events in the last six months; self-reported delinquency.				
Shelley and Peterson (2018)	1730	55% female	USA	Longitudinal 2006-2012
Predictors of gang involvement: being a bully; being a victim of bullying; being a bully-victim.				
Voisin et al. (2014)	188	female	Atlanta Georgia	Cross-sectional
Predictors of gang involvement: low self-esteem; emotional dysregulation; trauma history, deviant colleagues; low parental monitoring; low level of parental communication; housing instability; poor quality of the neighborhood.				