

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS
FOR THE
"DO THE WRITE THING CHALLENGE" PROGRAM**

The following guidelines for the preparation of student writings have been distributed to all participating principals and teachers:

Students may use any form of written expression (e.g. essays, poems, plays or songs) as long as the language is positive and not derogatory. Students may submit only one entry per year. All entries must be the work product of only one student.

Student entries, at minimum, should address three questions:

How has violence and drug abuse affected my life? What are the causes of youth violence? What can I do about youth violence?

Writings that do not address these questions will not be advanced in the selection process.

Entries should be approximately 500 to 1000 words in length. Written forms of expression such as poetry that by their nature may be shorter may contain fewer than 500 words.

Entries must be typed or written legibly in black ink on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Only one side of the paper may be used and the pages should be numbered.

Entries must be in English.

Teachers, please submit all students' writings.

[Here](#)

</mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/WomensCommission/Programs/DoTheWriteThing/Documents/DTWT%20Questions.pdf>

are the national DtWT questions and prompts to help students write about the impact of violence and drugs on their lives. The prompts are reflective of the Common Core Standards.

If you require more information, please

[Contact Us](#)

</mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/WomensCommission/Programs/DoTheWriteThing/Pages/Contact-Us.aspx>

Forms:

[Cover Sheet & Consent Statement Form](#)

/mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/WomensCommission/Programs/ProjectSafeNeighborhoods/Documents/DtWT_Parent%20Consent%20Form.pdf

[School Participation Form](#)

</mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/WomensCommission/Programs/DoTheWriteThing/Documents/School%20Participation%20Form.doc>

Resources:

National Campaign To Stop Violence

Resources for Educators [\(http://www.atwl.org/\)](http://www.atwl.org/)

CDC-Violence Prevention

[\(http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/youthviolence/\)](http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/youthviolence/)



Address

Mailing Address:

Community Support Services
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Charlotte, NC 28202

Office Location:

Hal Marshall Services Center
700 N. Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m - 5 p.m.

Contact

CSS Communications

704-432-7233

[Send an Email \(mailto:CSSCommunications@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov\)](mailto:CSSCommunications@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov)



National Questions

Question #1: How has youth violence and drug abuse affected my life?

Prompt: What strategies do you use to resist violence and drug use in your life? How and why do the strategies work for you?

Question #2: What are the causes of youth violence?

Prompt: How do you involve other people in positive alternatives to drug use and/or violence?

Question #3: What can I do about youth violence?

Prompt: Consider a specific person OR community organization that has been instrumental in addressing the anti-drug and/or anti-violence movement in your community. Explain their contributions and justify your choice.