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The article I read on CNN.com was about a $55 million program to reduce the amount of violence in Chicago. Although some are arguing that this program was just a way for Pat Quin to get elected as the governor, the program still had many admirable qualities. Part of the program was educating teenagers in Chicago about violence and ways to reduce it. Under the program teenagers were given $8.75 an hour to hand out fliers and preach against violence in the community.  
 Pat Quinn won the election by less than 1% of the vote and many believe it is due to the fact that he started this program, gave funds, and said the rest of the money would be allocated after the election. Many signs point to this program as being a way to buy votes, but Quinn denies these allegations. When asked about these claims Quinn told CNN "That's a lot of baloney, and you know they know that," as well as "As a matter of fact, the people making those charges were all running against me. It's all politics." Quinn went into detail and explained that the violence in his city has been growing at an alarming rate and something need to be done about it.

Despite Governor Quinn's motives, the fact remains that Chicago's violent crime rates are among the highest in the country. Complaints that this program is a waste of taxpayers' money is far from the truth. Although the funds should have been more strictly regulated, the program was able to reach out to a small portion of the youth in Chicago and educate them on ways to make the community less violent.

We learned in class that there are many different teaching styles that are utilized in educational settings. In this program they used both small groups and discussion to educate teenagers that they employed. The teenagers took to the streets with their newly learned information and walked, handing out fliers and preaching their anti violence agenda. This was a magnificent way to not only employee teens but spread a positive message throughout the community.

This educational program gave the teenagers a sense of empowerment, helped their socialization skills, and helped develop their social identity. The teens, who were shown in a video that went along with the article, appeared to be very happy with the work that they were doing and it was easy to see they had a sense of accomplishment. They became better at socializing by actively talking to Chicago residents about crime and the grow rates of violence in the city. This program helped to develop the cultural identity of all the young teens involved by giving them a positive social experience that will always be part of their identity and play a role in their life.

In conclusion, Pat Quinn proposed a $55 million program to lower the violent crime rate of Chicago. The program was not closely regulated and some of the funds were misused. Although his motive for the program could have been just to win his election for Governor of Chicago, the program still had many positive aspects. It employed some of the city's youth and educated them about the major issues with violence in Chicago. They then went out on the streets and spread the word to the community speaking not only on the problems they are facing, but giving ways to solve them. Finally, this program gave the teens a sense of empowerment that they were making a difference, helped them with socialization skills, and went a long way in developing their cultural identity.

Work Cited

**CNN News Article and Video:**  
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