



Kids count distributed copies of the Knife Crime document launched in Westminster on the 15th July 2008 at the party conferences of 2008.

We understand that we need to save the trees.... But we also need to save our young people and our communities!

The aim of the document is “to identify a way forward” and assess the factors that are contributing to a growing epidemic in Britain and arguably world wide.

Kids count has for over three years been investigating the foundations of the knife crime crisis currently gripping the UK. The think tank has teamed up with a number of voluntary organisations and young people from across the UK to develop the “knife crime: Bringing the voice of the street to the house” report.

Linda Lawrence, founder and director of kids count said, “this report is distinctive in that it combines established current research evidence from a wide variety of sources, including parents’ and young people’s accounts of the impact of knife crime whether as victims or perpetrators and the views of small community organisations who have first hand experience of tackling the problem on our streets. There have been numerous reports looking at the issues of knife crime in recent months, but far too often, the vision has been viewed from a narrow vantage point and a ‘big vision’ has been lacking.



The pinprick solutions offered have proved too limited.”

She continues to argue “this publication provides some potential answers. It is the fruit of a unique collaboration that has brought together a great concert of expertise. The views of victims’ families, youth groups, relevant charities, senior police officers, council activists and academics, among others, have united to create a composite vision. It is a crucial first step in identifying the problems and understanding the context. It explores how we have found ourselves in a society, confronted by the steel on our streets and discusses how we can begin to gauge the answers Britain’s young people are looking for.”

The document is one to be considered when addressing our growing problem of knife crime, informed and accurate, **you won’t find another like it!**

Lawrence concluded, “Kids Count is determined to continue its work with young people and to search for the long term solutions to these issues.

We highly commend this vital study to colleagues in Westminster and to all those in positions of responsibility across the country, and we look forward to its next phase in its timely programme of research and programme pilots which will identify and evaluate solutions.”

If there are any enquiries about the document, feel free to get in touch and we’ll send you a copy via email or by post if that is what you would like.