

# D.A.R.E. – A Quick Look

**Description:** Officer-led, in-classroom anti-drug, anti-gang, anti-violence program for school children around the world.

**Founded:** September 1983

**Headquarters:** Los Angeles, California

**Development:** D.A.R.E. originated as a cooperative effort of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).

**Mission:** D.A.R.E.'s primary mission is to provide children with the information and skills they need to live drug-and-violence-free lives. Additionally, it establishes positive relationships between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents, and other community leaders.

**Curriculum:** D.A.R.E.'s innovative and highly effective curriculum was developed by LAUSD health education specialists. Police officers receive 80 hours of special training to be equipped with all the tools they need to teach a course in drug resistance and violence avoidance techniques.

**D.A.R.E. Lessons Focus On:** Providing accurate information about

- Alcohol and Drugs

- Teaching students decision-making skills

- Showing them how to resist peer pressure

- Giving them ideas for alternatives to drug use, violence, and drugs

**Grade Levels Reached:** Originally designed for elementary school students, D.A.R.E. has been expanded to reach students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**D.A.R.E. + PLUS:** After school, on-campus program that offers middle and high school students safe, enjoyable, educational alternatives to the local streets.

**Participating States and Countries:** All 50 states, U.S. Department of Defense Schools worldwide, and 44 countries around the world.

**Trained Officers:** About 40,000