

## Drug-dealing Detroit gang is focus of film

Detroit News, The (MI) - Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Author: The Detroit News ; Rhonda Bates-Rudd

If we don't look at our past and learn from it, we are likely to make the same mistakes in the future.

That's why, former Detroiter Marc Cayce, says he **is** producing an independent feature-length **film** titled Young Boys Inc., after the murderous **drug dealing gang** from **Detroit** .

"I really want to show young people what can happen if you decide to choose this lifestyle," Cayce said.

Young Boys Inc., aka YBI, was planted and cultivated in the 1970s by Milton "Butch" Jones in an east side low-income housing community. The **gang** allegedly earned \$100,000 a day from illegal drugs sold by youth on the streets **of Detroit** . Many **of** the members, including Jones, were eventually convicted and did prison time.

However, Detroiters are split in their opinions about revisiting this part **of** the city's ugly past.

"I have no interest in going to see a movie that portrays the city and its residents in a negative light," said La Terelle Small, 35, **of Detroit** , who added that you couldn't pay him to see the movie.

"We know that **gang** -banging has always been a problem in **Detroit** and it's one **of** the problems that needs to be fixed, not glorified on the big screen."

But Detroiter John Rivers, 61, said he supports the production and will be interested to see if the filmmaker **is** looking to send a moral message.

"If the movie **is** going to be about making choices and the consequences or the benefits to be reaped from the choices we make, then I think this movie will be one that young people can learn something from," Rivers said.

"I understand that this **is** a part **of Detroit** 's past that people would rather forget about, and people are always looking for redemption and forgiveness for things they've done in their past, it's no different for former Young Boys leader Butch Jones, who has a new lease on life and wants to communicate that through this **film** ."

Like it or not, about 100 extras and just under 50 crew members will get a chance to work on location as the production for the **film is** set to begin on Sept. 29.

Producer, director, scriptwriter and independent filmmaker for Orion Pictures, Cayce anticipates that it will take him no longer than three weeks to shoot the **film** in **Detroit** . He hopes to release it next year.

Cayce said when he was first approached a year ago to do a screenplay by John Muhammad, the author **of** Jones' autobiography titled YBI, he had no interest in the **film** .

But Cayce said he had a change **of** heart after he and his brother read the book. He decided that as a **Detroit** native he owed it to himself and to the city to do a **film** about a rehabilitated ex-con and father who didn't want his son to grow up and make the same choices.

"I think viewers will be satisfied when they see the finished product, which will be laced with a strong moral content that deals with learning from our past mistakes, as well as address some spiritual and Christian values," he said.

Movie sparks debate about showing part **of** city's negative past.

About the **gang** Young Boys Inc.

Founded: 1978

Leader: Milton Butch Jones

Known for: Selling illegal drugs on the streets and enlisting brutal tactics to hold down their territory.

Sales: Estimated by police at \$100,000 a day.

Other noteworthy info: Became popular for using pre-teen boys to peddle the drugs on the street.

Caption: Scores **of** aspiring **film** extras turned out recently hoping to be chosen for a bit part in the upcoming movie, "Young Boys Inc.," which will be filmed in **Detroit** by director Marc Cayce. Former Detroiter Marc Cayce **is** producing a **film** named after a **gang** from **Detroit** .

Edition: No Dot

Section: OnDetroit

Page: 03S

Index Terms: MOVIES ; REVIEW ; DETROIT; DRUG TRAFFIC ; LIFESTYLES ; CRIME

Record Number: det8689191

Copyright (c) The Detroit News. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.