

16-YEAR-OLD MOM SLAIN AS FIGHT ERUPTS AT RINK SHOTS HIT BYSTANDER

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Tuesday, December 5, 1995

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With traces of a McDonald's cheeseburger smeared all over his face, 20-month-old Dorian Orlando ran around the living room of his northwest Detroit home Monday, laughing and whispering his favorite word: "Mama."

But **Asia Orlando**, his 16-year-old mother, did not return home Sunday night. Police say the innocent bystander was killed in a barrage when two rival gangs opened fire in the crowded Northland Roller Rink parking lot.

"This appears to have been an incident between two rival gangs. It started inside the rink when somebody apparently tripped someone," said Lt. Joan Ghougoian, who heads the Detroit Police Department's homicide section. "A fight began. They took it outside to the parking lot where the shooting began. The preliminary investigation indicates the victims were innocent bystanders."

Also shot was a 16-year-old Detroit youth, she said, who was treated at Henry Ford Hospital for a gunshot wound to the leg and released.

Ghougoian said police hope to arraign as early as today three suspects, ages 16, 17 and 18, who were arrested Monday.

The shooting occurred around 11 p.m. at the rink, located in the 22300 block of West 8 Mile Road between Telegraph and Lahser.

India Orlando, 15, said she and her sister were waiting for a ride around 10:30 p.m. when the argument ensued outside.

"She wanted to see the fight but I told Asia, 'C'mon, let's go before they start shooting.' Then this boy popped his car trunk and pulled out an AK47, another gun, too, and people started shooting everywhere," she said.

She said she looked back and was horrified to see someone wearing a coat just like her sister's on the ground. The Ford High School junior was declared dead of a wound to the head at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills.

"I didn't want to believe it was her. I ran back and pulled her hood off her head. She had blood gushing all over. She didn't say nothing. She was dead."

The sisters had skated at the rink on several occasions.

"There are fights all the time, but you never think it's you who's going to get hurt," India Orlando said.

Rink co-owner Herman Davis said metal detectors prevent individuals from entering with any type of weapon. He said the rink also provides an internal and external security force.

"The problem is, you don't know what might be in someone's car. You don't know who may be bringing a weapon to start something up outside," Davis said Monday.

Metal detectors and security can prevent people from bringing guns in but police say that too often disputes are simply continued at a different time and different place. Somewhere, where the angry party has access to a gun.

"We feel comfortable that everything we do, provides the utmost safety for our customers," Davis said. "What we'd like to see (is) greater police presence like (at) Cobo Hall or the Fox Theatre."

AVOID FIGHTS The Detroit Police crime prevention section gives the following advice to young people to avoid getting caught in the middle when arguments erupt into gunfire:

- * Don't hang around if an argument starts.
- * Try to travel in large groups of friends. Stick together and watch out for each other.
- * Take an adult, big brother or sister along. Or have them drive you directly where you're going and pick you up at a pre- determined time.
- * Arrange to be picked up as close to the door as possible. Stay in the building until you see your ride, then head directly for the car.

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Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS

Page: 3B

Record Number: 9502080540

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