

## The Bill: Dale Smith and the Gangs



**Carly & Smithy**

The story in *The Bill* is really up to date and is about teenage gangs.

The Sunhill team is trying to deal with gang crime on the Jasmine Allen Estate. Dale Smith has made friends with a young teenager, Carly Samuels, and is upset when she gets killed by crossfire in a gang shooting. Smith has been trying ever since to get justice and to stop the gang wars. A youth has been put on trial, but a vital witness has changed his mind and won't go into court. Smith gets Carly's friend, Alicia to testify, but on the way to court she and her father are run off the road and trapped in the car. Carly's mum goes to see a psychic, Dawn Stanley, hoping to get closer to her daughter. Dawn had a vision of someone with the initials T.M. getting into a dark Audi just before the drive-by shooting.

The murder rate among teenagers in London is high and some of the filming was done in estates which have seen real violence. Alex Walkinshaw plays the part of Smith and said that Smith is a caring man. Alex said that they tried to be respectful of the local community and the fact that people do not want to put up with gang violence any more. He said that he was worried about his own children, who live in another part of London.

'I do worry about what it's going to be like for my kids in 10 or 15 years time,' he said.

Picture from <http://www.thebill.com/> February 2008

## Questions

1. On what local estate has there been a lot of gang crime?
2. Who is Carly Samuels?
3. What happens to her?
4. Why is Smithy upset?
5. Who is a vital witness to the shooting?
6. What does Carly's mum do to try to reach her daughter?
7. Why is Alex Walkinshaw worried?
8. Who do you think murdered Carly and why? Was it Alisha, Tito or Dwayne?
9. Do **you** think Carly's mum should go to a psychic?
10. What do **you** think can be done to stop the gun culture?