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	Autore	Weisel Deborah Lamm
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	Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -- 1 INTRODUCTION -- 2 Understanding Gangs: Contributions Of Research And Theory -- 3 RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH -- 4 ORGANIZATIONAL FEATURES OF FOUR GANGS -- 5 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION -- APPENDIX -- NOTES -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX.
	Sommario/riassunto	Contemporary gangs are persistent despite efforts to control them. Theories of gangs explain the emergence of gangs but offer little insight into their persistence and growth. Weisel examined the

organizational characteristics of four criminal gangs. Although large gangs appear disorganized, they are not ephemeral groups. Instead the gangs feature characteristics of organic-adaptive organizations rather than hierarchical or bureaucratic organizations. As such, these gangs feature blended goals, shared decision making, a structure based on subdivisions, and a generalist orientation. Such features promote efficiency in a highly volatile environment and contribute to increases in the size and number of contemporary gangs in America.
