Reflective Essay

Whilst filming the first section of my documentary entitled 'The Truth Behind Drill Music' I have stumbled across a few problems whilst also having many successes.

The first main problem which I encountered was finding an opposing view, or in other words a subject who would give the other side of the story as opposed to a drill artist. For this part of the documentary I contacted several MP's, councillors, charities and journalists who either work with young people in their community or those who have given opinions on this topic. Two conservative MP's rejected my request of a chat saying that they didn't hold enough knowledge on the topic. From this, I went on to further my targeted opinions to charities and journalists. I then secured an interview with Ciaran Thapar, a music journalist and youth worker.

One obvious success that I have had is the contacts in the music industry. At the very beginning of my research on this topic, I was introduced to Drillminister who has now become the main voice in this documentary. Since then I have spoken with M-Lo, a drill artist who recently left jail as well and the managers of a drill duo (Skengdo x AM) who have just been sentenced to nine months in jail due to a breach in their music rights.

Another problem which I came across in the process of filming was lighting. As many of my interviews and gv's were filmed in studios. Due to sound proofing, studios have very low lighting with dark walls. Due to this, I took two sets of lighting to each shoot. This improved the lighting significantly, and I like the way that these shots came out.

With the recent rise in murders and violent crimes, I come to realise the sensitivity of the topic I have chosen. Drill music comes under scrutiny a lot, mainly for the believed connection with knife crime. As a result of this, I found that councillors and MP's were more reluctant to speak on the topic.