

Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events



Outline

- Disaster Response Psychology
- Active Shooter Events (ASE)
- Civilian Response to ASE

Disaster Response

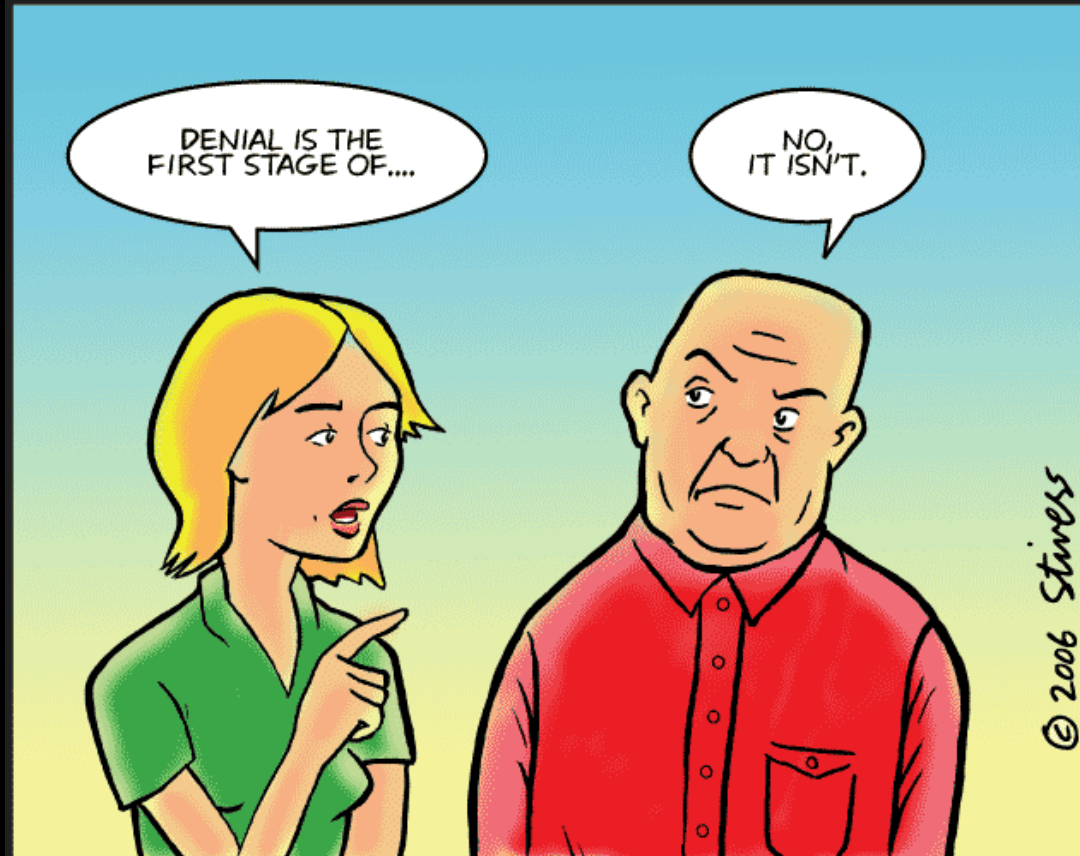
The background science of how people
behave in high stress events

Three Stages of Disaster Response

- Denial
- Deliberation
- Decisive Moment



Denial

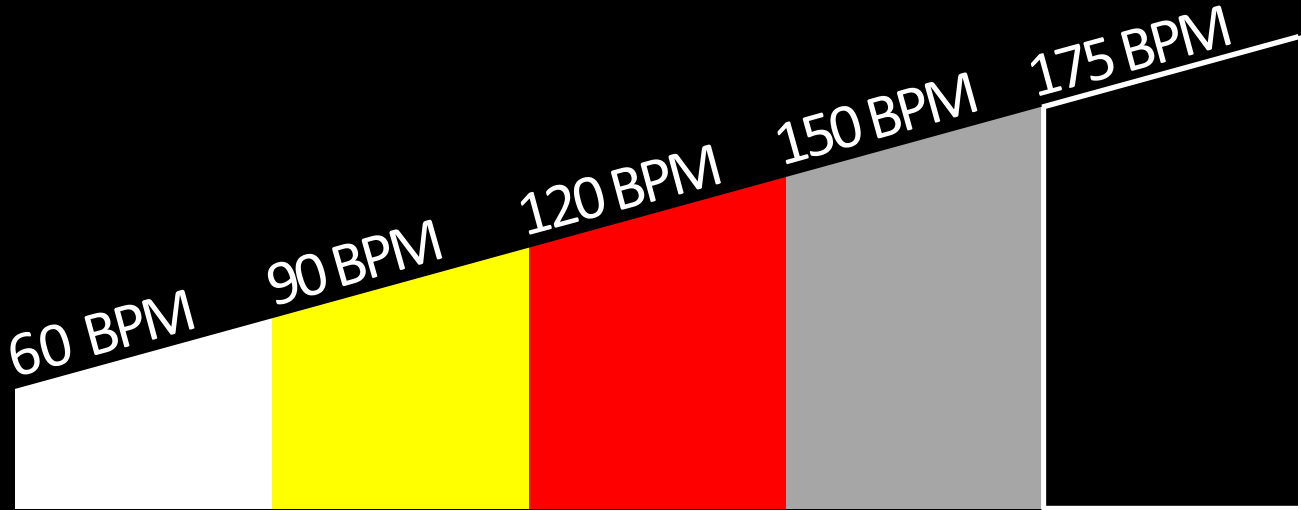


Deliberation



Stress Response

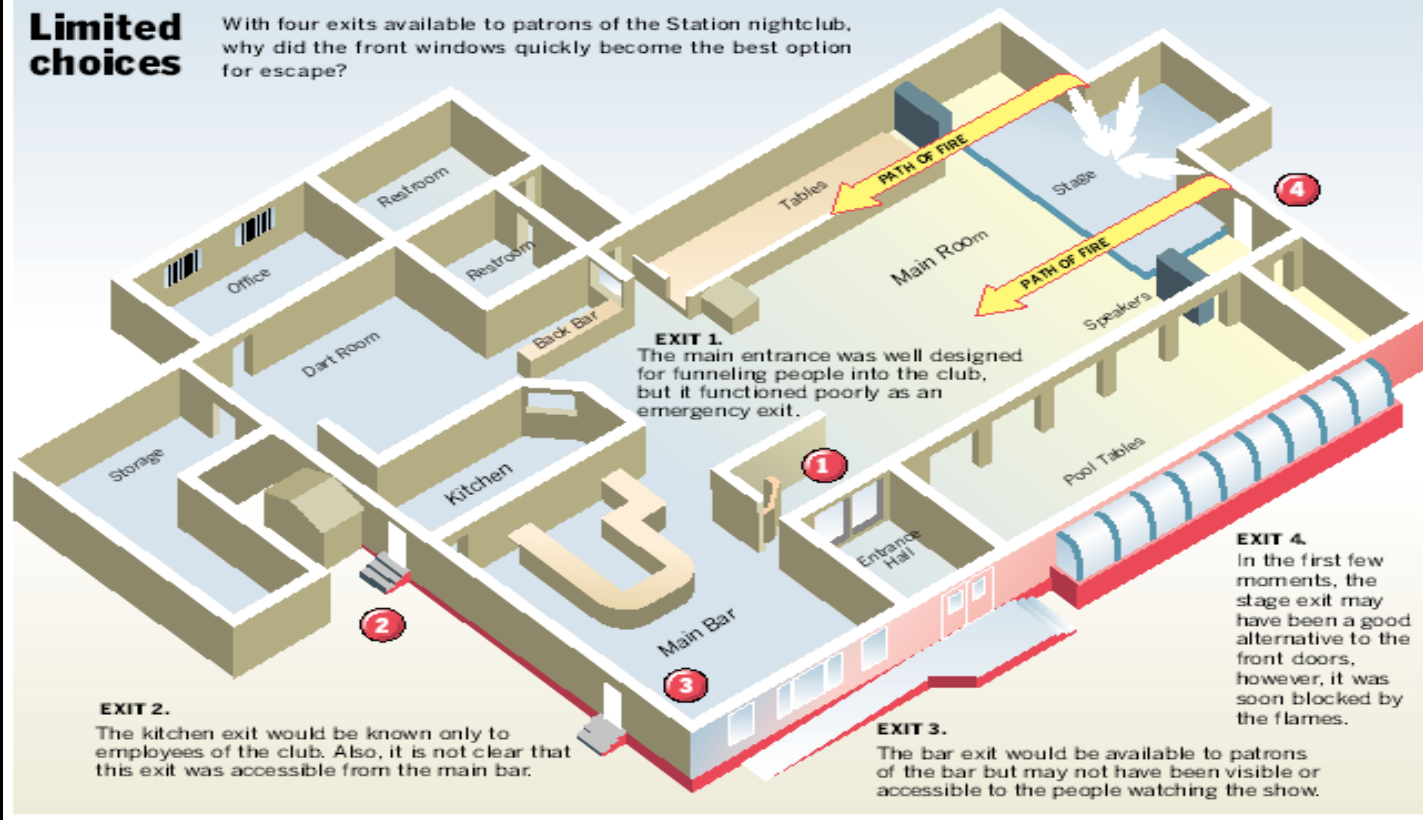
Heart Rate



Deliberation

Limited choices

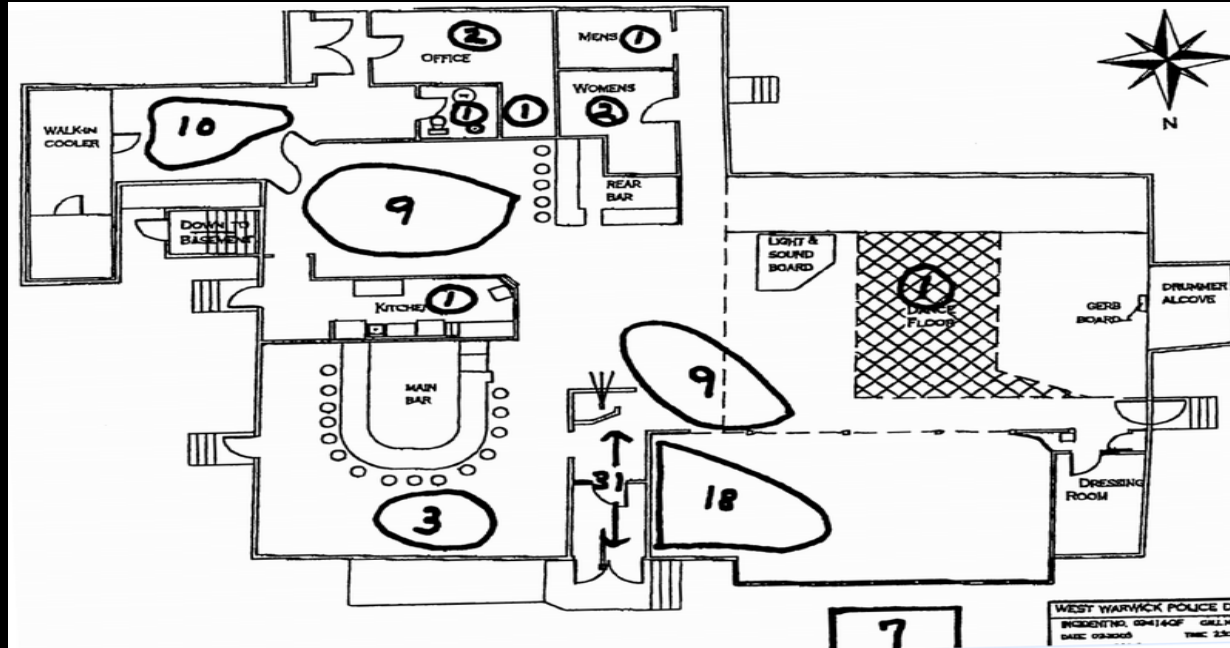
With four exits available to patrons of the Station nightclub, why did the front windows quickly become the best option for escape?



Station Night Club Fire



Deliberation



Deliberation

- Calm yourself
- Combat breathing
- Shift your emotion
- Mental Scripting



Deliberation

- Script
- Practice



Rick Rescorla

IN 1993, RESCORLA WAS VICE-PRESIDENT OF CORPORATE SECURITY FOR THE DRAN-WITTER-MORGAN-STANLEY COMPANY WHEN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER WAS BOMBED THE FIRST TIME. HE LED THE EVACUATION OF THE BURNING BUILDING FOR 12 HOURS HELPING FIREFIGHTERS RESCUE TRAPPED SURVIVORS.

AFTER THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON 9-11-2001, RESCORLA AGAIN LED THE EVACUATION OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER. HE WAS LAST SEEN GOING UPSTAIRS INTO THE BURNING BUILDING, CONDUCTING A FINAL SWEEP FOR SURVIVORS. HE WAS KILLED WHEN THE SOUTH TOWER COLLAPSED. HIS ACTIONS THAT DAY SAVED MORE THAN 2,700 LIVES.



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Decisive Moment



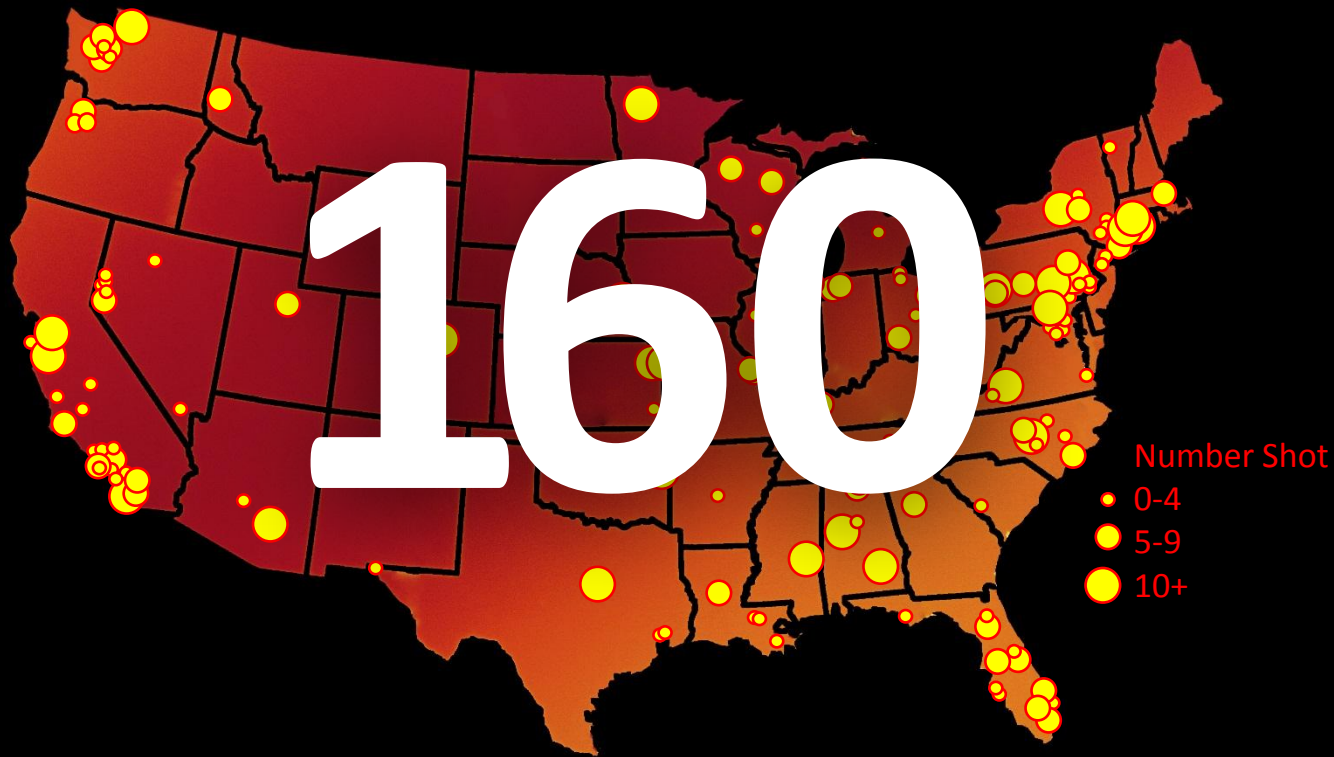
Active Shooter Events

Active Shooter Event Definition

- An active shooter event involves one or more persons engaged in killing or attempting to kill multiple people in an area occupied by multiple unrelated individuals.



2013

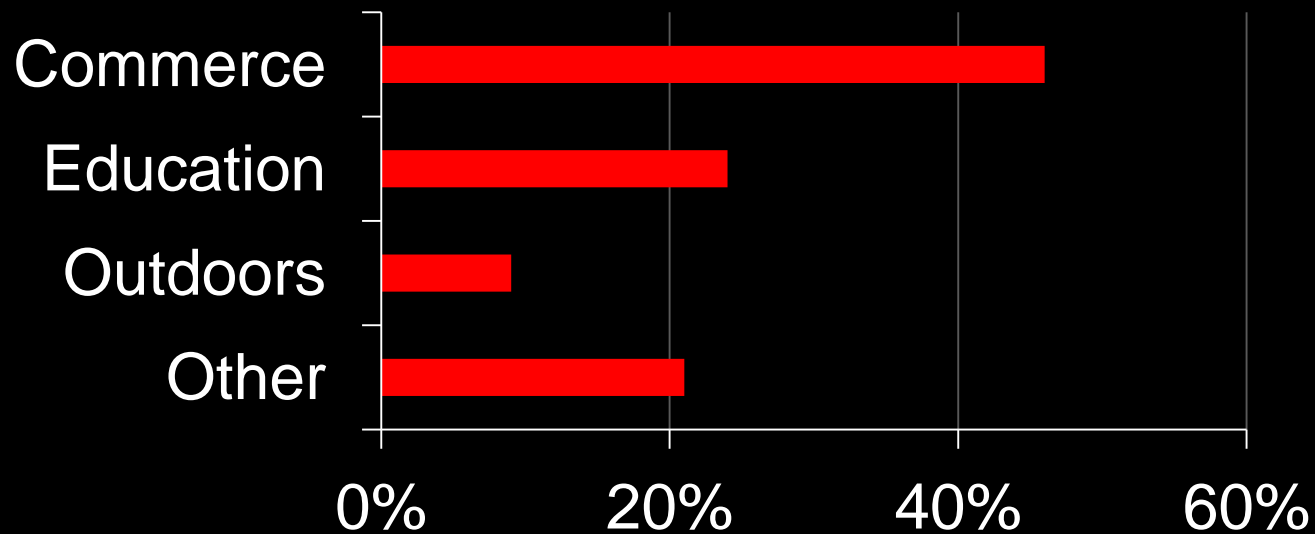


The Shooter

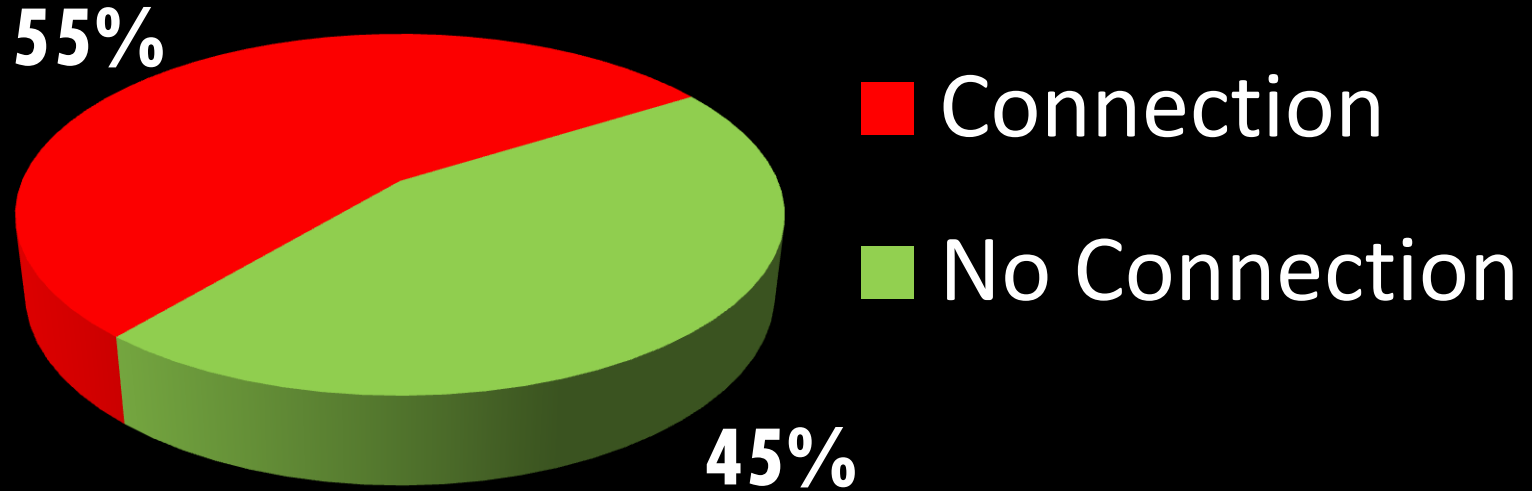
- No “Profile”
- Avenger Mindset
- Some broadcast



Location of Attacks



Shooter Connection



Fort Hood, TX (2009)





Reliable Metals, AL (2009)



Edmond, OK (1986)



Menasha, WI (2015)

Not Normal

- Trust your instincts
- See something, say something

if you
SEE
something

SAY
something™

Not Normal

Columbine

- 76 IED's
 - 30 detonated
 - 46 unexploded



Not Normal

Aurora

- Suspect
 - Dressed in militaristic gear
 - Several weapons



Not Normal

Neenah

- Suspicious Package
 - Suitcase in lot
 - Car sped away



Number of Deaths

Target availability until police arrive



3 Minutes



Civilian Response

Denial

- Don't Deny
- Hear Gunshots
- Go to deliberation





Hide & Hope

Deliberation

- Avoid
- Deny
- Defend

Avoid

- Situational Awareness



Avoid

- Leave ASAP
- Know your exits
- Call 911



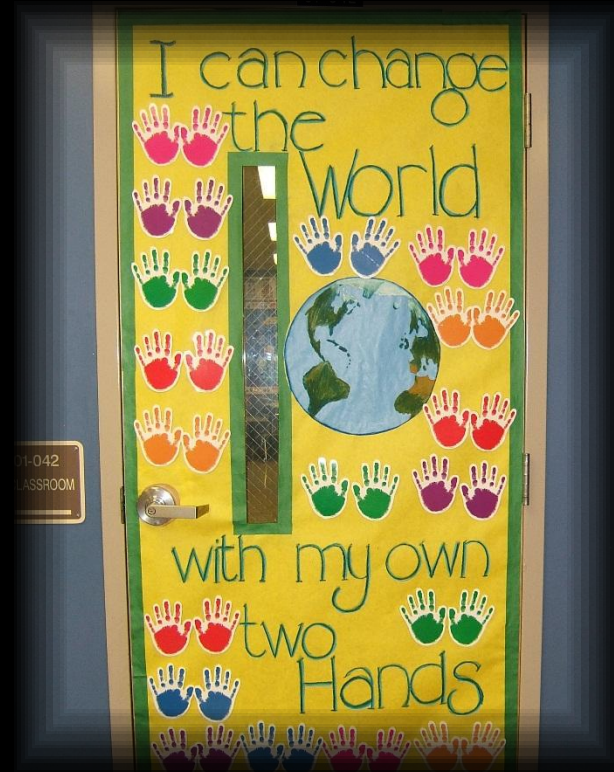
Avoid

- Consider Secondary Exits



Deny

- Lock the door
- Lights out
- Out of sight



Deny

- Barricade
 - Heavier = Better
 - More = Better
 - Doorstops = Better?



Deny

- Outward opening
 - Ropes
 - Tactical Cinch



Defend

- Positioning
- Grab the gun
- Fight



Defend

I'm not going out in a parking lot. I'm not going out like this. I'm not gonna let my wife down. I'm not gonna let my daughter down, and I'm not letting my step-kids down.

– Lt Brian Murphy



You are not helpless

Priority of Work

- Stop the Killing
- Stop the Dying
- Evacuate the Area



When the Police Arrive

- Follow commands
- Show your palms
- Do not move



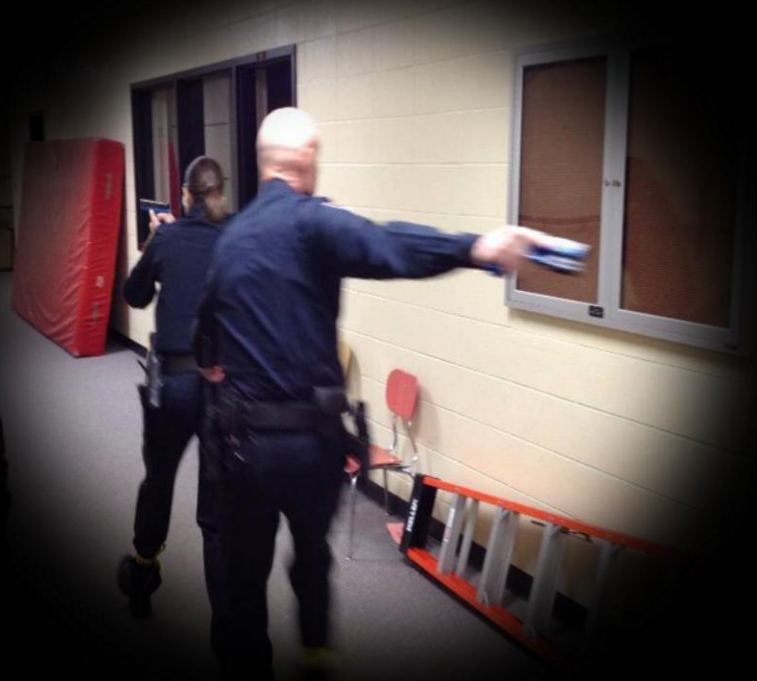
Medical

- EMS Delay
- People Need Help
- Seek training



Plan ahead

- Risk Assessment
- Work with local police



Personnel Issues

- Expect mental trauma
- Develop a critical incident stress management plan



Schools

- No curriculum/one answer fits all!
 - *“It depends”*
- Accountability
 - Next to impossible
 - Kids are smart



Schools

- Practice!
 - Regular and at odd times
- Situational awareness
 - Strategize



Questions?

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