



Scenario One: Active Shooter

A key element to successfully responding to and recovering from a major disaster is the overall preparedness of individual citizens and their families. With that in mind, we invite you to participate in a series of ‘What would you do?’ scenarios with your loved ones to assess your level of preparedness. These tabletop activities are intended to be low-stress conversation starters to be discussed, as the name implies, around your dinner table. We do not want to know your results. Following the situation, we have included some discussion questions for the activity, as well as some helpful links to enhance your individual preparedness.

Scenario: Imagine yourself at the local shopping center with your family picking up a few last-minute items for an upcoming party. A sudden, loud sound draws your attention to the main entrance. At first you are not sure what it is, but then panic sets in when realize that someone entered the shopping center with a handgun and started shooting. What would you do?

Discussion Questions:

1. Do your loved ones know the phrase “Active Shooter”? Have they learned anything at school, work, from TV, or the Internet about what to do in this situation?
2. What do you think your initial response should be? Talk about when to run, when to hide, and as a last resort, when to fight.
3. If you must hide from an active shooter, do you know to shut off or mute your cell phone?
4. If you become separated from your loved ones, do you have their phone numbers memorized in case your phone is lost? Do you have a family emergency communications plan?
5. You have likely heard the phrase, “If you see something, say something.” What do you consider to be suspicious behavior that you should report to local security or law enforcement?
6. Do you make a point to familiarize yourself with the emergency exits in places you visit, such as movie theaters and shopping malls? Do you know where to hide and how to barricade the door?
7. Are you familiar with the best way to communicate with law enforcement after an Active Shooter incident?

Time to see how you did!

Please watch this video to learn more about Active Shooter preparedness and then discuss with your loved ones what they learned to improve their safety in the event such a tragedy occurs.

<https://www.dhs.gov/video/options-consideration-active-shooter-preparedness-video> or

<https://www.fbi.gov/about/partnerships/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-resources>

Helpful Links

To learn more about Active Shooter safety, please visit the following pages:

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-907>

<https://www.ready.gov/active-shooter>

