



The Scene is NOT Safe
(and neither are you!)

Rethinking the Concept of EMS Scene Safety

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SCENE SAFETY!! BSI!!



Because....Skill sheets!!

There's only one problem with that....



The "scene" is constantly changing!

The scene is safe!



Until you get to the end of the driveway...



Is this room "safe"?

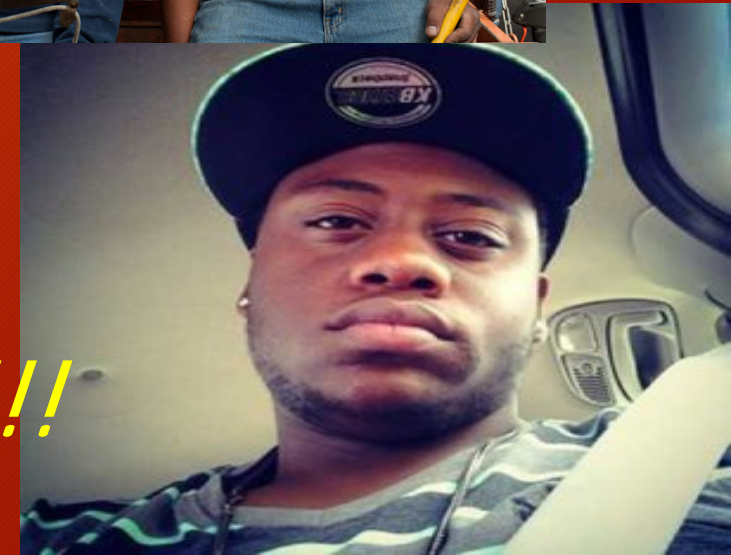


Divos Titanium

What about this one?



Which person on scene is "safe"?



OOPS...Bias Showing!!!

They thought they were safe....

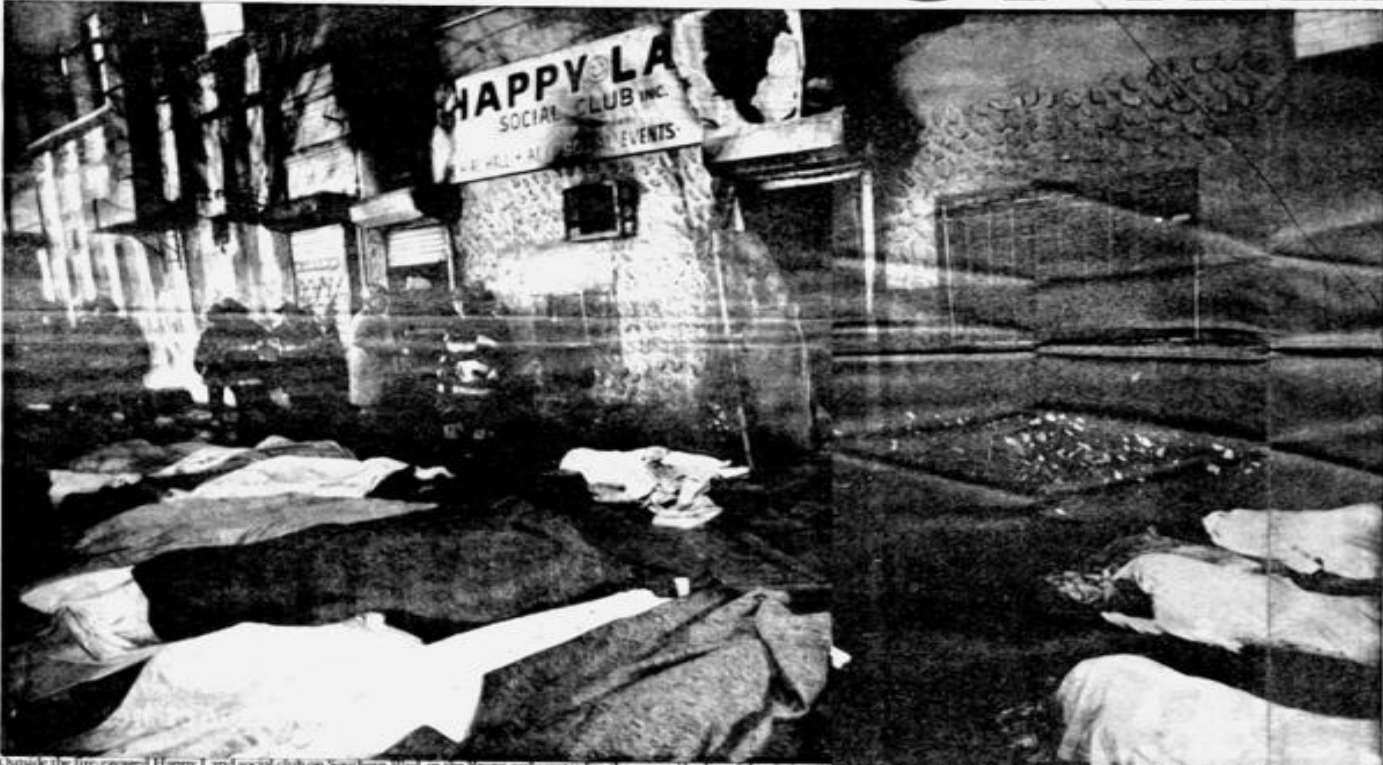
BRONX INFERNO

TRAPPED! 87 KILLED

NO EXIT — NO HOPE

Boatlift refugee charged in arson

By LARRY CELONA and STUART MARQUES



Outside the fire-ravaged Happy Land social club on Southern Blvd. in the Bronx early yesterday, the covered bodies of the victims await transport to a temporary morgue that was set up nearby.

An arsonist carrying a grudge and a container of gasoline sparked the inferno that killed 87 panic-stricken revelers early yesterday in an illegal Bronx social club, authorities said. It was the deadliest fire in the city in 70 years.

The terrified victims — half of them under 20 and all dressed for a night on the town — were trapped screaming and crying in the dark, two-story Happy Land social club, which had only one working door, a small window and no way to escape.

"There was no way out; they never had a chance," said Thomas Doyle, executive director of the Emergency Medical Service.

Police later arrested 14-year-old Genaro M. of Buchanan Street, Bronx, and charged him with murder and arson.

"The devil made me do it. The devil took me," a remorseful Genaro said yesterday, and Sgt. Michael O'Connell of the 101st Precinct.

As he started sobbing bitterly, he started crying the facts he thought just he should be told, said Genaro.

Police said that Genaro, a Cuban refugee who came to America in the 1960s, had been thrown out of the club after arguing with a former girlfriend, who worked in the next Bronx room.

He returned a short time later with a plastic container of gas, authorities said.

The woman was among at least 100 revelers, including the club owner's wife and a fire jockey, who was hospitalized in burned condition with second and third-degree burns over half his body.

Scarcely all the victims — 81 men and 6 women — died of smoke inhalation, but authorities said several were trapped in the hallway for the door.

The building, at 1530 Southern Blvd. on East Tremont near River Street, had been set with a "perpetual vacate order" in November 1960 for lack of

So did they.....



WKMG/Earlier
Orlando

Soon: Police Briefing On
Nightclub Shooting

BREAKING NEWS

MASS SHOOTING AT ORLANDO NIGHTCLUB OVERNIGHT

CNN
7:02 AM ET

TODAY DENVER 85° SACRAMENTO 88° SALT LAKE CITY 78°

NEW DAY

What Would You Rather Know?

The scene is safe at the beginning of your encounter

("Scene safety/BSI")

OR

The scene is safe THROUGHOUT your encounter?

(Scene Management)



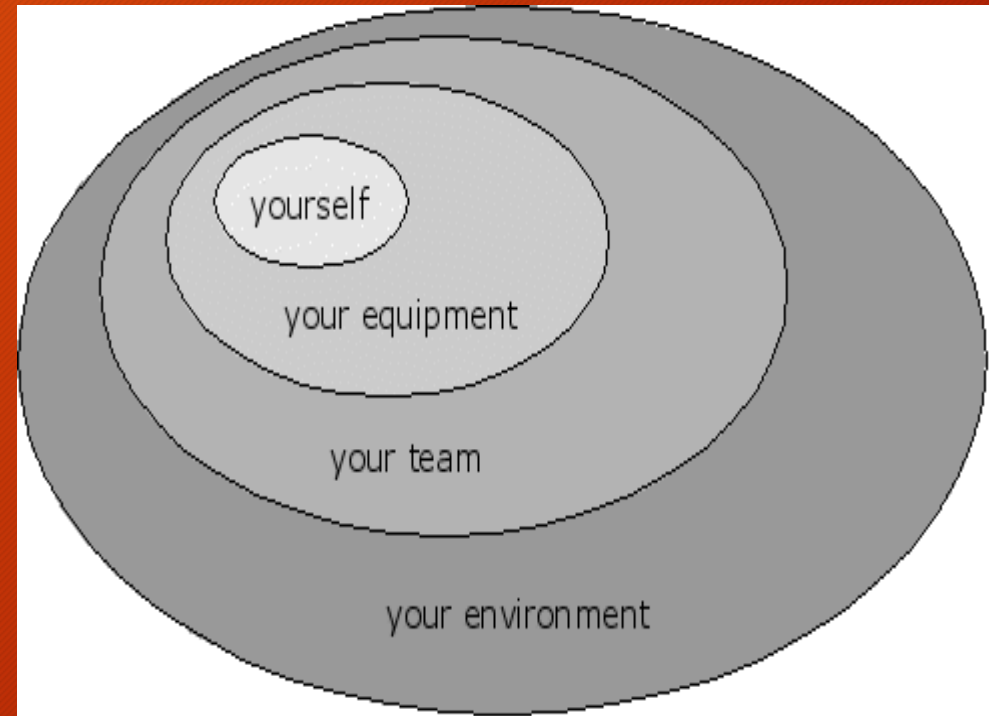
EMS "SCENE SAFETY",
AS IT IS USUALLY
TAUGHT,
IS SIMPLY A
POINT IN TIME
(which is why it means
and guarantees
NOTHING!)

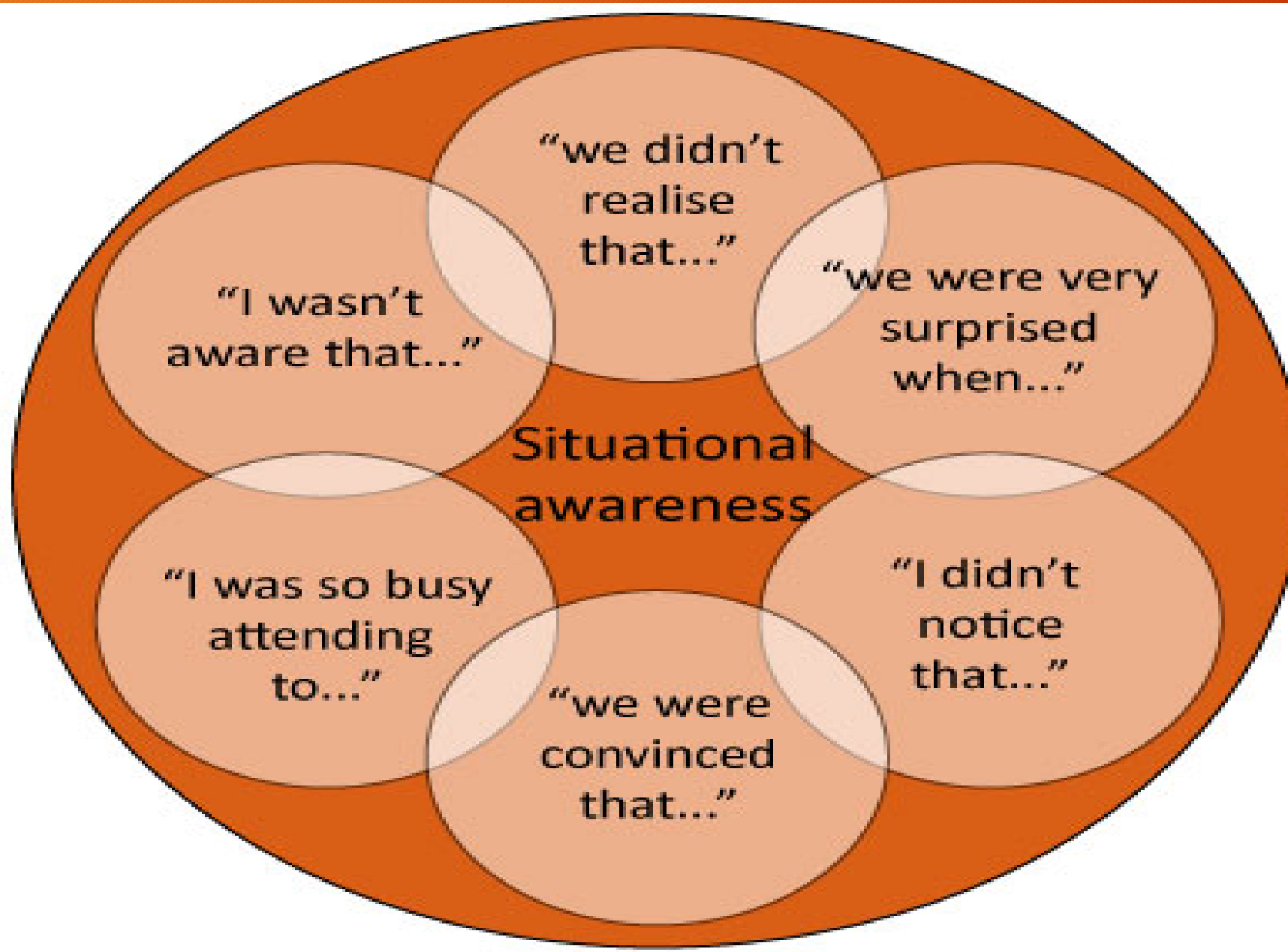


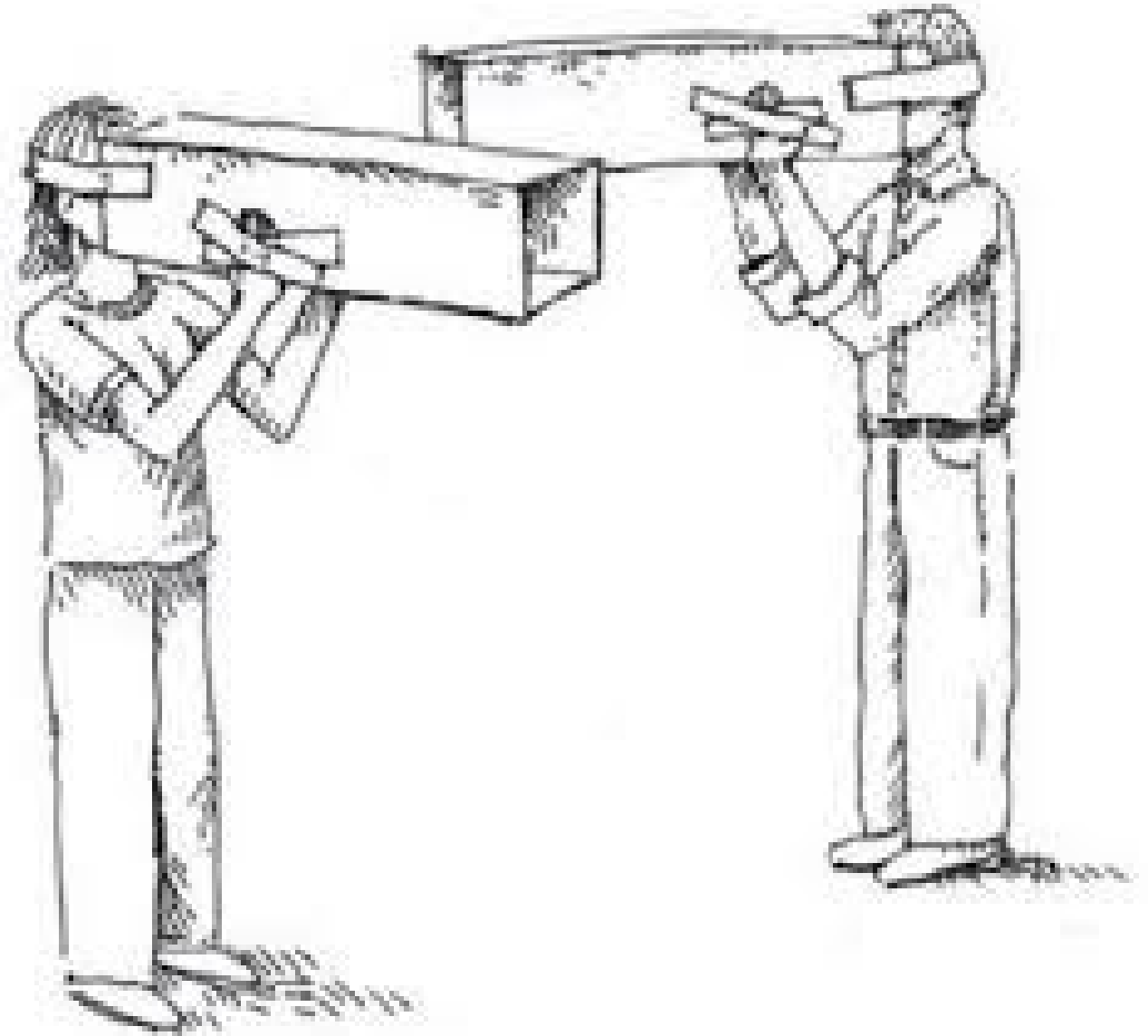
SCENE MANAGEMENT

=

CONSTANT
SITUATIONAL
AWARENESS









extreme visual clarity, tunnel vision,
diminished sound, and the sense
that time is slowing down. this is
how the human body reacts to
extreme stress.

— *Malcolm Gladwell* —

AZ QUOTES

The "SAFETY OFFICER" ROLE in ICS

- Identify hazardous situations associated with the incident.
- Exercise emergency authority to stop and prevent unsafe acts.

The "SAFETY OFFICER" ROLE in ICS

- Continuously monitor workers for exposure to safety or health hazardous conditions.
- Alter, suspend, evacuate or terminate activities that may pose imminent safety or health danger.
- Take appropriate action to mitigate or eliminate unsafe condition, operation, or hazard.

AT AN INCIDENT INVOLVING SINGLE
RESOURCES (YOUR TYPICAL
AMBULANCE CALL).....

YOU

ARE THE SAFETY OFFICER!



They Did Not Maintain Situational Awareness!



So How Can YOU Be Safe(r) In A Rapidly Changing Environment?

- “Keep your head on swivel”
- Maintain good communication with your crew
- Identify potential hazards early on (obstacles, potential weapons, people on scene, environmental, etc.)
- Do your job (patient care) but don't fall victim to “tunnel vision”
- Reassess the scene the same way you reassess patients-look for improvement or deterioration
- Decide whether you should “load and go” or “stay and play” (sound familiar??)



So How Can YOU Be Safe(r) In A Rapidly Changing Environment?

- *NEVER FORGET THAT A "SAFE SCENE" CAN BECOME "UNSAFE" AND DANGEROUS IN A SPLIT SECOND!*
- *YOU CAN DO EVERYTHING "RIGHT", BUT NOT EVERYONE ELSE IS FOLLOWING THE SCRIPT!*
- *BE PREPARED TO REACT, BUT DON'T OVER-REACT!*



REMEMBER....

- "Safety" can only be confirmed in retrospect
- Threats to safety come in all forms
- Threats may be statistically measurable, but are often random
- Paranoia, NO, Situational Awareness, YES
- Don't be a "hero" (or a d*ck)
- Be aware of your own biases – and overcome them
- *DON'T BECOME A SLAVE TO A SKILL SHEET!*

...And Finally,
Always
Remember.....



**SAFETY FIRST.
JUST KIDDING,
COFFEE FIRST.
SAFETY'S LIKE
THIRD OR
FOURTH.**





*“Stay safe,
my friends!”*