

Response Options

# Preparing Faculty and Students



**TO SURVIVE AN  
ACTIVE  
SHOOTER EVENT**

# Preparing Our Faculty and Students



- Traditional response is the defensive strategy of Securing-in-Place, called **LOCKDOWN**
- One tool in the toolbox – best practice?
- Our Goal is to equip our staff and students with more options that work in “real” situations.

# Active Shooter Event Myths



- 1. They always display tendencies for violent acts/Prevention**
- 2. It will not happen here**
- 3. Police will always respond in time to prevent carnage**
- 4. Faculty and Students can do nothing against an armed intruder**

# **#1: They always display tendencies for violent acts**



- While many shooters do show signs, in most cases those signs are not recognized until after the deed.
- Too late

## #2: It will not happen here



- **Anywhere, Anytime, Any Reason**
- **Amish School??**
- **Security Measures, Infrastructure  
Precautions, Procedural Response will  
deter most, but not all.**

## #3: Police will respond in time to prevent carnage



- **Columbine Library – 7.5 minutes**
  - Security Resource Officer on campus
- **Norris Hall, VA Tech – 8 minutes**
  - Double Homicide being investigated 800 yards away
- **Success Tech High School – 2 minutes**
  - Downtown Cleveland, FBI office directly across the street

## **#4: Faculty and Students can do nothing against an armed intruder**



**A large number will flee,  
following natural response.**

## **#4: Faculty and Students can do nothing against an armed intruder**



**Further numbers will also be able to escape if properly informed.**



## #4: Faculty and Students can do nothing against an armed intruder



- Shooting is a physical skill
- Degree of accuracy and level of skill required is directly dependent on the actions of the target:
  - Distance
  - Movement
  - Distractions

## **#4: Faculty and Students can do nothing against an armed intruder**



- **Police miss almost 80% of their shots in dynamic events.**
- **We need to recreate that environment in the classroom when someone comes in with intent to kill our kids.**

# How Faculty and Students Survive



When our security and deterrence measures fail, then we must ...

- Instruct faculty and students in very simple strategies that facilitate:
  - Intelligent Escape
  - Force High Level of Skill to Shoot Accurately
  - Utilize Unknown Advantages to Win Back Control

# A.L.Ⓢ.C.E



- **Alert**: Complete information
- **Lockdown**: Initial Barrier
- **Income**: Real-time Updates
- **Counter**: Require High Skill Level
- **Evacuate**: Get Out!



Do these students look ready and prepared to escape, evade, or counter an Active Shooter?

We can prepare our community for this very rare, but very real, possibility.



Students take cover in French Class in Holden Hall, Virginia Tech. Next door to carnage at Norris Hall.  
Photo by Chase Damiano