



Crisis Intervention in the Schools

Gayle D. Pitcher, Scott Poland EdD

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Whatever the reason, it is clear that crises are no longer unique events that will rarely or never be encountered. We drill for, prevent, and are continually educated in managing fires. What do we know about other personal and disaster-related crises in the schools? What theoretical philosophies might apply? What research and what information that others have learned "the hard way" from experiencing crises might help schools prepare for crisis? How can we support young people in crisis who have previously been ignored? These are the questions that this volume intends to address. -- From Chapter 1

Over the past 50 years, the environment in our schools has changed dramatically. Once, talking, chewing gum, or running in the halls were considered serious disciplinary problems. Today, incidents of alcohol and drug use, teen pregnancy, vandalism, robbery and assault, and even suicide or murder occur in many schools. Considering the times, school professionals should assume that crises will occur. Administrators, counselors, and teachers need to equip themselves to meet the challenge. A uniquely practical handbook for individuals working in the schools, this volume provides straightforward guidelines for crisis intervention and prevention techniques that are designed specifically for the school setting.

Drawing on their 20 years experience in managing crisis events in schools, the authors cover individual child-centered crises such as abuse, divorce, family violence or suicide as well as larger school or community-based crises such as serious bus accidents, in-school violence, and natural disasters that affect large groups of staff, students, and their families. Illuminating how crisis intervention is actually carried out, the book features case studies and personal reactions from all levels of school personnel. The book includes sample handouts for parents, students, and teachers, lists of community networking resources, and sample to-do' lists for every potential member of a crisis team.

An unusually useful and accessible resource for a wide variety of professionals, **CRISIS INTERVENTION IN THE SCHOOLS** is must reading for administrators and teachers as well as psychologists and counselors working in today's schools.

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