

1: - Believe Not Disast by Ripley

[PDF]Free Believe Not Disast download Book Believe Not www.enganchecubano.com Space Shuttle Challenger disaster - Wikipedia Fri, 19 Oct GMT The following account of the accident is derived from real time telemetry data and photographic analysis, as well as from.

She was so beautiful that the God Apollo granted her the gift of seeing the future, prophecy. Cassandra was thus an epic and tragic figure – granted a powerful ability, yet powerless to use it. Throughout history there have been many Cassandra-type figures, people who predicted the coming of terrible tragedies and disasters, but whose warnings were ignored. These people were not gods and were not using special powers of prophecy. They were people who had a deep understanding of the realities of a situation and tried to warn others. In each case, others failed to listen to their warnings, and tragedies that might have been averted were not. Here are ten examples of people who tried to warn others, but whose warnings went unheeded. When Stevenson arrived at the auditorium there were thousands of picketers outside, and many inside, to protest him and the UN and the Kennedy Administration. As Stevenson tried to speak these protestors stamped their feet, shouted, booed, and rattled noisemakers to disrupt him. But Stevenson pressed on. At one point Stevenson stepped out of the police protection to try to talk to a woman who was screaming at him. The woman clobbered Stevenson over the head with her picket sign. Schlesinger did not pass along the warning. Even if he had, it is doubtful Kennedy would have avoided Dallas, to do so would have seemed cowardly. Kennedy paid for this decision with his life. Wilson to the small African nation of Niger to see if there was anything to the rumors that Saddam Hussein and Iraq were trying to purchase yellowcake uranium for use in nuclear weapons. Yellowcake is uranium concentrate powder colored bright yellow that is an intermediary step in processing raw uranium ore into weapons grade, highly enriched uranium used in nuclear weapons. As Niger has considerable natural uranium deposits, the possibility existed Iraq may have been trying to secretly buy the yellowcake to use in a possible nuclear weapons program. Wilson consulted with the Niger Prime Minister and came away with the conclusion that there was nothing to reports that Iraq had sales agreements with Niger to buy yellowcake uranium. He reported this to the CIA in March He stated that he had looked into the possibility of Iraq buying uranium and found nothing to it, and that he reported this to the CIA and White House. CIA Director George Tenet would later say those words should never have been in the text of the Presidents State of the Union address, but still believed Iraq was trying to get its hands on nuclear material and was developing or even had developed an atomic weapon or other weapon of mass destruction WMD. After the US invasion in Iraq, a long and exhaustive search of the country was conducted to see if Iraq did in fact have nuclear material, a nuclear weapon, a nuclear weapons programs, or any of the weapons of mass destruction that the Bush administration warned the American people of. No WMD or any indication that Iraq had an active or even rudimentary nuclear program was ever found. Though such complexes have existed since man began to use technology to wage war and develop better weapons, it was in the aftermath of World War II and the rise of the atomic age that the US version of the MIC began to frighten people who worried the MIC was beginning to over power typical democratic means of restraint, moderation, and control. No one was more concerned than President and former General Dwight Eisenhower. In his eight years as President, Eisenhower had watched the fearsome growth and power of the ever expanding and powerful United States MIC. As he left office on January 17, in his farewell speech to the Nation, he made the following warning: The total influence – economic, political, even spiritual – is felt in every city, every statehouse, every office of the federal government. We recognize the imperative need for this development. Yet we must not fail to comprehend its grave implications. Our toil, resources and livelihood are all involved; so is the very structure of our society. In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals so that security and liberty may prosper together. In the US

today, the MIC is larger and more powerful than ever, making it difficult to near impossible for the US to stop making massive weapons programs and expending huge amounts of its national treasure on the military, even during times of relative peace such as the s after the fall of the Soviet Union. Today the US military budget is almost as large as that of all other nations combined. They purchased a dam and lake that had been built in the early s as a reservoir on the Conemaugh River near Johnstown Pennsylvania and created the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club. By the time the industrialists bought it, it was already leaking and in a state of disrepair. Rather than use some of their incredible wealth to strengthen and fix the dam, they mostly made patches using clay and straw whenever it sprung a leak, which it did quite often. On May 31, , a storm struck the Johnstown-South Fork area creating one of the worst downpours ever recorded in Pennsylvania history. Six to ten inches of rain fell in a hour span and the local streams burst their banks, pouring water into the already unstable Lake Conemaugh. That morning, Elias Unger, the president of the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club awoke to see the water level of the lake was nearly cresting the dam. Unger quickly assembled a crew to try to clear the blocked spillways but they could not clear the debris. His men then made a frantic effort to dig another spill way to take some of the pressure off the dam and divert the water. Fearing the dam would collapse at any moment, Unger ordered John Parke, an engineer for the South Fork Club, to ride on horseback to the nearby town of South Fork to the telegraph office to send warnings to South Fork and Johnstown. Parke made it and telegraphed not one but two warnings, both of which were never passed along to South Fork and Johnstown officials who could have taken action and evacuated the towns. Over the years there had been so many false alarms of the dam breaking because of the frequent leaks and repairs that no one believed Parke when he told them the dam would not hold. Its contents, an estimated 20 million tons of Lake Conemaugh water, rushed down the Little Conemaugh River. The water reached the little town of South Fork first. Fortunately most of the inhabitants heard the roar of the water coming and were able to scamper up the side of the mountain to high ground and only four people were killed. The people of Johnstown were not as fortunate. The wave of water, moving at 40 miles per hour and reaching a height of 60 feet, carrying houses, telephone poles, rocks, trees, railroad cars, and everything else in its path, slammed into the town. An estimated 2, people were killed making it the worst disaster in the history of the US at that time. On the night of April 14, , the Captain of the Californian, Stanley Lord, brought the ship to a halt as it had entered a wide ice field with many large icebergs. Lord came into the wireless operators room and ordered Evans to warn other ships in the area of the ice. Evans proceeded to do just that, sending out wireless warnings to other ships in the area that they were approaching ice. In the wireless room aboard the Titanic, operators Jack Philips and Harold Bride were trying to get through a backlog of private messages they were to send from the ship to the United States, the destination of the Titanic on her maiden voyage. Evans felt he had done what he was ordered to do, switched off his radio set, and went to bed. A short time later the Titanic, heading at full steam west toward America, came upon the ice Evans had tried to warn them about, struck an iceberg and sank with the loss of over people. In fact, getting the oil well drilled and producing oil and revenue had been a nightmare from the beginning and was behind schedule. The Deepwater Horizon was drilling an exploratory well at the Macondo Prospect region located about 41 miles off the southeast coast of Louisiana, at a water depth of approximately 5, feet. On April 20, , the oil rig exploded, caught fire, and sank, killing eleven workers and causing one of the worst environmental disasters in history. On the morning of the disaster, rig operator and Transocean employee Jimmy Harrell was seen to be in an argument with a senior BP official. Mud was what was typically used to pack the bottom of the rigs drill pipe before capping the well. Harrell refused to do so without conducting two leak tests. For both tests, leaks were found in the pipe allowing drilling mud to flow out and onto the drill platform. A successful test should have had no mud leaking out of the pipe. For some reason, in spite of the leaks, Harrell went forward with the removal of the heavy mud from the pipe, replacing it with lighter seawater. The gas ignited and the rig exploded and caught fire. Are you fucking happy? I told you this was gonna happen. The blowout preventer, along with just about every other safety device, failed that day. He proposed that Japan review its standards for surveying and assessing the danger from active faults, but this proposal was rejected. He also claimed the final guide that the committee produced was flawed because it underestimated the design basis for earthquake ground motion. Ishibashi also stated that Japanese engineers

were overconfident in their predictions of plant engineering and safety design to withstand an earthquake. Ishibashi warned of the danger of an earthquake-induced nuclear disaster at an International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics conference held in Sapporo. The authorities must admit the possibility that an earthquake-nuclear disaster could happen and weigh the risks objectively. An entire branch of the commodities market known as Over the Counter commodities OTC commodities existed that were for all intents and purposes, totally unregulated. And they wanted it to stay that way. Born had other ideas. The more she learned about OTC commodities and the derivatives markets, the more frightened she grew that something terrible would happen to the US and world economies. Bond was most worried about the derivatives and swaps markets "where the risk associated with investments were traded as insurance policies. These were complicated financial investments understood by very few people, and banks began to fraudulently sell them to unsuspecting customers who did not fully understand what they were buying, and who ended up losing huge sums of money. Born believed that it was the job of her agency to investigate and prosecute such fraud. Alan Greenspan had other ideas about that. She and her agency were crushed by political power and Born eventually resigned. But the warnings she had made about the unregulated OTC derivatives market becoming far too large and posing a threat to the very structure of the US and world economy did not go away. Derivatives were being written to insure derivatives, which were themselves written on derivatives. It was a house of cards of financial debt waiting to fall, all it needed was a triggering event. And the collapse of the housing market did just that. As the US financial markets imploded under the weight of derivative trading debt she had warned against and tried to regulate, Born had this to say: Nobody really knew what was going on in the market. The toxic assets of many of our biggest banks are over-the-counter derivatives and caused the economic downturn that made us lose our savings, lose our jobs, lose our homes. It was very frightening. It may differ in details, but there will be significant financial downturns and disasters attributed to this regulatory gap over and over until we learn from experience. Yet his personal style stepped on the shoes of powerful people in Washington DC and FBI headquarters, many of whom were jealous of his successful predictions. By August , his enemies had pushed him out of the FBI.

2: Internet Scientific Publications

A collection of the most horrific and unbelievable-but true-disaster accounts throughout history, as appeared in the very popular 'Ripley's Believe it or Not' columns. Softcover, contains illustrations, glossary, pp.

They will not be considered to any great extent in this course, but include: Insect infestations Disease epidemics Wildfires Natural Hazards can also be divided into catastrophic hazards, which have devastating consequences to huge numbers of people, or have a worldwide effect, such as impacts with large space objects, huge volcanic eruptions, world-wide disease epidemics, and world-wide droughts. Such catastrophic hazards only have a small chance of occurring, but can have devastating results if they do occur. Natural Hazards can also be divided into rapid onset hazards, such as Volcanic Eruptions, Earthquakes, Flash floods, Landslides, Severe Thunderstorms, Lightning, and wildfires, which develop with little warning and strike rapidly. Slow onset hazards, like drought, insect infestations, and disease epidemics take years to develop. Anthropogenic Hazards These are hazards that occur as a result of human interaction with the environment. They include Technological Hazards, which occur due to exposure to hazardous substances, such as radon, mercury, asbestos fibers, and coal dust. They also include other hazards that have formed only through human interaction, such as acid rain, and contamination of the atmosphere or surface waters with harmful substances, as well as the potential for human destruction of the ozone layer and potential global warming. Effects of Hazards Hazardous process of all types can have primary, secondary, and tertiary effects. Primary Effects occur as a result of the process itself. For example water damage during a flood or collapse of buildings during an earthquake, landslide, or hurricane. Secondary Effects occur only because a primary effect has caused them. For example, fires ignited as a result of earthquakes, disruption of electrical power and water service as a result of an earthquake, flood, or hurricane, or flooding caused by a landslide into a lake or river. Tertiary Effects are long-term effects that are set off as a result of a primary event. These include things like loss of habitat caused by a flood, permanent changes in the position of river channel caused by flood, crop failure caused by a volcanic eruption etc. Vulnerability to Hazards and Disasters Vulnerability refers the way a hazard or disaster will affect human life and property Vulnerability to a given hazard depends on: Proximity to a possible hazardous event Population density in the area proximal to the event Scientific understanding of the hazard Public education and awareness of the hazard Existence or non-existence of early-warning systems and lines of communication Availability and readiness of emergency infrastructure Construction styles and building codes Cultural factors that influence public response to warnings In general, less developed countries are more vulnerable to natural hazards than are industrialized countries because of lack of understanding, education, infrastructure, building codes, etc. Poverty also plays a role - since poverty leads to poor building structure, increased population density, and lack of communication and infrastructure. Human intervention in natural processes can also increase vulnerability by Development and habitation of lands susceptible to hazards, For example, building on floodplains subject to floods, sea cliffs subject to landslides, coastlines subject to hurricanes and floods, or volcanic slopes subject to volcanic eruptions. Increasing the severity or frequency of a natural disaster. Affluence can also play a role, since affluence often controls where habitation takes place, for example along coastlines, or on volcanic slopes. Hazard Assessment consists of determining the following when and where hazardous processes have occurred in the past. Risk Assessment involves not only the assessment of hazards from a scientific point of view, but also the socio-economic impacts of a hazardous event. Risk is a statement of probability that an event will cause x amount of damage, or a statement of the economic impact in monetary terms that an event will cause. Risk assessment involves hazard assessment, as above, location of buildings, highways, and other infrastructure in the areas subject to hazards potential exposure to the physical effects of a hazardous situation the vulnerability of the community when subjected to the physical effects of the event. Risk assessment aids decision makers and scientists to compare and evaluate potential hazards, set priorities on what kinds of mitigation are possible, and set priorities on where to focus resources and further study. Prediction and Warning Risk and vulnerability can sometimes be reduced if there is an adequate means of predicting a hazardous event. Prediction A statement of probability

that an event will occur based on scientific observation. Such observation usually involves monitoring of the process in order to identify some kind of precursor event - an anomalous small physical change that may be known to lead to a more devastating event. Hurricanes are known to pass through several stages of development: Once a tropical depression is identified, monitoring allows meteorologists to predict how long the development will take and the eventual path of the storm. Volcanic eruptions are usually preceded by a sudden increase in the number of earthquakes immediately below the volcano and changes in the chemical composition of the gases emitted from a volcanic vent. If these are closely monitored, volcanic eruptions can often be predicted with reasonable accuracy. Forecasting Sometimes the word "forecast" is used synonymously with prediction and other times it is not. In the prediction of floods, hurricanes, and other weather related phenomena the word forecast refers to short-term prediction in terms of the magnitude, location, date, and time of an event. Most of us are familiar with weather forecasts. In the prediction of earthquakes, the word forecast is used in a much less precise way - referring to a long-term probability that is not specific in terms of the exact time that the event will occur. Early Warning A warning is a statement that a high probability of a hazardous event will occur, based on a prediction or forecast. If a warning is issued, it should be taken as a statement that "normal routines of life should be altered to deal with the danger imposed by the imminent event". The effectiveness of a warning depends on: The timeliness of the warning Effective communications and public information systems to inform the public of the imminent danger. The credibility of the sources from which the warning came. If warnings are issued too late, or if there is no means of disseminating the information, then there will not be time enough or responsiveness to the warning. If warnings are issued irresponsibly without credible data or sources, then they will likely be ignored. Thus, the people responsible for taking action in the event of a potential disaster will not respond. Frequency of Natural Disasters Again, it is important to understand that natural disasters result from natural processes that affect humans adversely. First - Size Matters For example: Humans coexist with rivers all the time and benefit from them as a source of water and transportation. Only when the volume of water in the river becomes greater than the capacity of the stream channel is there a resulting disaster. Small earthquakes occur all of the time with no adverse effects. Only large earthquakes cause disasters. Second - Location, location, location.

3: Why does God allow natural disasters, i.e. earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis?

Ripley's Believe It or Not! Great Disasters by Ripley. Pocket. Paperback. POOR. Noticeably used book. Heavy wear to cover. Pages contain marginal notes, underlining, and or highlighting.

C The National Incident Management System NIMS provides a systematic approach to guide departments and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector during disaster situations. Safe, Effective Care Environment During the initial interview at the crisis center, a patient says, Ive been served with divorce papers. Im so upset and anxious that I cant think clearly. Which comment should the nurse use to assess personal coping skills? In the past, how have you handled difficult or stressful situations? What would you like us to do to help you feel more relaxed? Tell me more about how it feels to be anxious and upset. Can you describe your role in the marital relationship? A The correct answer is the only option that assesses coping skills. The incorrect options are concerned with self-esteem, ask the patient to decide on treatment at a time when he or she cannot think clearly, and seek to explore issues tangential to the crisis. Page Page TOP: An adult has cared for a debilitated parent for 10 years. The parents condition recently declined, and the health care provider recommended placement in a skilled nursing facility. The adult says, Ive always been able to care for my parents. Nursing home placement goes against everything I believe. Successful resolution of this persons crisis will most closely relate to: A The patients crisis clearly relates to a loss of or threatened change in self-concept. Her capacity to care for her parents, regardless of the deteriorating condition, has been challenged. Crisis resolution will involve coming to terms with the feelings associated with this loss. Identifying situational supports is relevant, but less so than coming to terms with the threat to self-concept. Reliance on lessons from role models can be helpful but not the primary factor associated with resolution in this case. Automatic relief behaviors will not be helpful. Automatic relief behaviors are part of the fourth phase of crisis. The principle most useful to a nurse planning crisis intervention for any patient is that the patient: A Disequilibrium is the only answer universally true for all patients in crisis. A crisis represents a struggle for equilibrium when problems seem unsolvable. Crisis does not reflect mental illness. Potential for self-violence or other-directed violence may or may not be a factor in crisis. A nurse assesses a patient in crisis. Select the most appropriate question for the nurse to ask to assess this patients situational support. Has anything upsetting occurred in the past few days? Who can be helpful to you during this time? How does this problem affect your life? What led you to seek help at this time? B Only the answer focuses on situational support. The incorrect options focus on the patients perception of the precipitating event. An adult comes to the crisis clinic after termination from a job of 15 years. The patient says, I dont know what to do. How can I get another job? Who will pay the bills? How will I feed my family? Which nursing diagnosis applies?

4: Ripley | Open Library

If it were not FILMED, no one would BELIEVE IT | Videos you will not believe.

Perhaps counter-intuitively, this means that the widespread discussion as to whether the Hurricane Harvey disaster was caused by climate change or not becomes a dangerous distraction. The hurricane was born off the coast of South America in mid-August and then tracked through the Gulf of Mexico, making landfall in the US on August. The storm surge and winds devastated coastal settlements, after which the storm stalled, dumping immense rainfall over Houston. At the time of writing, the confirmed death toll had just reached 14 and there are expectations that this will soon rise. A disaster involving a hurricane cannot happen unless people, infrastructure and communities are vulnerable to it. People become vulnerable if they end up lacking knowledge, wisdom, capabilities, social connections, support or finances to deal with a standard environmental event such as a hurricane. This can happen if lobbyists block tougher building codes, planning regulations, or enforcement procedures. Or if limited hurricane experience induces a sense of apathy. Often, people with disabilities rarely have their needs met when away from home. Fear of harassment or assault could stop others from entering a communal shelter. Legal or undocumented immigrants might not understand warnings and might fear the prospect of detention if they seek help. Anecdotes point to all these issues having played a part during Harvey, but only careful research in the months ahead will be able to confirm or refute them. It is nevertheless such vulnerability issues that cause the disaster. They did not force Texans to build along the coast or in floodplains without adequate measures, as occurs around the US. They did not pave over green spaces leading to reduced rainfall absorption. And they did not create the ingrained racism and desperate social inequities prevalent across the state. In fact, storms striking Texas represented problems long before human-caused climate change appeared. We often do not know details about the strength of past hurricanes or the height of their floodwaters. Yet tragedies such as Galveston still manifested, irrespective of climate change. These historical disasters “ and more recent ones such as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in “ spurred the disaster prevention measures which saved many lives but which were not implemented fully in Texas. This left far too many people vulnerable and in danger. The ability to forecast hurricane tracks and traits, to communicate the necessary responses and to plan for masses of people moving have emerged from decades of dedicated science. Compared to the Galveston disaster, thousands of lives were saved by scientists and government officials collaborating to serve those who were vulnerable. Stranded on the highway in Houston. And politics created further vulnerability. State and local leaders disagreed about evacuating Houston. As usual in disasters, poor and marginalised people seem to be bearing the brunt of the impacts, despite plenty of science showing the importance of social services for fostering self-help and for collectively avoiding disasters. All this work prevents deaths during any hurricane, irrespective of climate change. And Texas would still have had exactly the same political difficulties propping up the remaining vulnerability. Disasters are not natural Hurricane Harvey was an expected natural event, even if potentially modified or exacerbated by climate change. The Hurricane Harvey disaster was caused entirely by society creating and perpetuating vulnerability to these natural events. Nor must hurricane disasters be our natural state of affairs, even though hurricanes have always happened. A hurricane need not become a hurricane disaster “ but society let a disaster happen. To help those affected recover quickly, Texas needed improved pre-disaster mechanisms such as more widespread insurance coverage and more widely available social services targeted at the most needy. Society must permit affordable insurance, without bankrupting the companies. Society needs regulators to ensure that payouts are reasonable and prompt while identifying claimant fraud. Society requires sufficiently skilled and resourced authorities to support everyone affected in helping themselves, no matter their background or abilities. Many voting records in Texas are for lower taxes, for less government intervention, against tackling systemic inequities and against helping marginalised people help themselves. This choice actively creates the vulnerabilities which cause disasters. It is an ideological choice to vote for creating disaster vulnerability and voters have the right to do so. The consequences are known based on decades of disaster science. This vulnerability, not nature and not climate change, causes hurricane disasters.

5: Ripley: List of Books by Author Ripley

Natural disasters not only bring that point home but they often bring out the best in people. Countries from all over the world with very different ideas, thoughts, actions, philosophies, etc often come together to help the victims, putting aside their differences, at least temporarily.

Why does God allow natural disasters? Why does God allow earthquakes, tornados, hurricanes, tsunamis, typhoons, cyclones, mudslides, wildfires, and other natural disasters? God created the whole universe and the laws of nature Genesis 1: Most natural disasters are a result of these laws at work. Hurricanes, typhoons, and tornados are the results of divergent weather patterns colliding. A tsunami is caused by an underwater earthquake. The Bible proclaims that Jesus Christ holds all of nature together Colossians 1: Could God prevent natural disasters? Does God sometimes influence the weather? Yes, as we see in Deuteronomy The book of Revelation describes many events which could definitely be described as natural disasters Revelation chapters 6, 8, and Is every natural disaster a punishment from God? In much the same way that God allows evil people to commit evil acts, God allows the earth to reflect the consequences sin has had on creation. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We can understand why natural disasters occur. What we do not understand is why God allows them to occur. Why did God allow a tsunami to kill over , people in Asia? Why does God allow hurricanes to destroy the homes of thousands of people? For one thing, such events shake our confidence in this life and force us to think about eternity. Churches are usually filled after disasters as people realize how tenuous their lives really are and how life can be taken away in an instant. What we do know is this: Many amazing miracles occurred during the course of natural disasters that prevented even greater loss of life. Natural disasters cause millions of people to reevaluate their priorities in life. Hundreds of millions of dollars in aid is sent to help the people who are suffering. Christian ministries have the opportunity to help, minister, counsel, pray, and lead people to saving faith in Christ! God can, and does, bring great good out of terrible tragedies Romans 8:

6: Chapter Crisis and Disaster My Nursing Test Banks - Test Bank Go!-all FREE!!

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Abstract Disaster management involves preparing, supporting, and rebuilding society when natural or man-made disasters occur. Emergency management depends highly upon the local economic and social conditions within the disaster region and involves four phases: This article will focus on the personal activities of citizens throughout each phase and discuss responsibilities of the general public as well as local, state, and federal governments before, during, and after a disaster. Introduction Disasters are natural or man-made emergency events which have negative economic and social consequences for the affected population. At issue is the extent to which the role of personal responsibility by individual citizens should play in disaster management. Currently, there are at least thirteen agencies and departments throughout the U. Upon a disaster declaration by the president or SBA administrator, the SBA provides low-interest loans to disaster victims to repair or replace real estate or personal property with repayment terms of up to thirty years. Government programs utilize taxpayer dollars to assist disaster victims, spreading loss throughout all citizens, while insurance distributes loss across only the pool of affected purchasers. Neither eliminates risk but instead, distributes the burden of loss over larger populations. Therefore, current government policy on disaster relief appears to reward risk-takers and punish risk-averters Barnett, , p. This article will discuss the personal activities of individual citizens during the mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery phases of disasters. Highlighted are areas in direct conflict with the successful emergency management of disaster events. Public perception of risk Decision making is complicated, whether for natural disasters or in cases of terrorism such as bioattacks or epidemics. Factors that must be considered include, but are not limited to, the wide range of scenarios that makes it impossible to plan and educate the public, initial uncertainties about events, barriers to quick analyses of situations, and the complex logistical needs that are peculiar to each incident Centre for Biosecurity, To swiftly carry out relief activities in local communities at the initial stages after the occurrence of disasters, it is necessary to carry out community-based disaster preparedness activities on a habitual basis prior to a disaster. For the general public, personal preparedness requires the preparation of equipment and procedures that will be needed once disaster strikes. This personal level response can include home confinement or evacuation Emergency management, n. Evidence indicates that low-probability events, such as natural hazards, are systematically misjudged Faure, For example, people tend to perceive flood disasters as somewhat predictable periodic phenomena, instead of as probable and random phenomena. Furthermore, most people tend to believe that if a major flood disaster occurs in a certain year, no major flood disasters will occur for some time after. Historically, psychological experiments have shown that there may be a preference of uncertain losses over certain loss incurred with insurance premium payments Faure, Therefore, many individuals do not protect themselves voluntarily against hazards, believing that either disaster will not strike and insuring their assets would therefore be wasteful, or they decide to take their chances that the government will bail out those who are affected by disasters, thereby preferring instead to turn to the federal government for assistance with their losses Kunreuther, Drills and exercises which test the abilities and response capabilities of emergency service personnel have been long-accepted as practices to test organizational readiness. One problem associated with such drills is that community residents are rarely involved in the process Simpson, Recognition of costs also has a strong negative effect on community participation. If people have a high recognition of costs, their intention to participate declines. On the other hand, recognition of benefits has only a small positive effect on intention to participate. Modern mass media is a central force behind the social construction of risk. This is due to the social utility of the media, its narrative-forming tendency, as well as the focusing power of media hypes. Thus legitimized, the information is more likely to be understood in terms of the narratives in which it is presented Vasterman et al. Evacuation during Hurricane Katrina was mandatory for citizens of New Orleans, however many did not heed the warnings. This disaster was a three-fold. First the hurricane hit, next levees broke, and then the floods came. This begs the question:

What does it take to convince people that when warnings are issued, it is for their own safety and welfare? The longer a person has lived in a coastal area, the less likely they are to evacuate Mileti, Drabek and Hass, Also, evacuation orders are sometimes given too early, so if the threat then changes course, damage to the evacuated area could be minor. For those that do evacuate, traffic jams often cause frustration, possibly deterring future evacuations. Weak social networks within a community can make evacuation difficult, because people lacking trust in each other may fear their homes and businesses will be looted. Communities having vehicles may not have the social capabilities or may choose not to share these resources. Additionally communities with strong ties to their neighbors may be less likely to evacuate for the fear of leaving their social network. Finally, some rely on sheltering-in-place for protection and prefer this to evacuation. According to Rosenkoeter et al. Many other New Orleans residents reported confusion about what to do because of inappropriate timing of mandatory evacuation orders, and confusing recommendations from different authorities. Many mentioned the inconsistent evacuation recommendations from the mayor and governor Elder et al. Women were less likely to have a cell phone or to use a computer; more women owned pets, and those pets would weigh heavily in their decision to evacuate. Women had larger percentages of reported health problems, and it is predictable that many of these problems could impair their ability to evacuate. It was also found that considerably more elderly men than women were still driving their cars. In studying the evacuation decisions of African Americans during Katrina, Elder et al. These factors significantly affected response by city residents. A poll conducted after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by the Council for Excellence in Government and American Red Cross concluded that only twelve percent say they have done a great deal to prepare for natural disasters, terrorist attacks, or other major emergencies McGinnis, Some reasons for lack of preparation provided by the respondents included the belief that another disaster was unlikely to affect them, the feeling that they do not mind inconvenience as long as they do not have to do anything, and simply that they do not know what to do. Citizens must realize that they are their own first responders, and that they need to create a family communication plan, put together emergency supplies, and practice evacuation plans McGinnis, The government has the authority to order and enforce mandatory evacuation orders in many disaster situations. Furthermore, the authority of the government to force evacuations in life-threatening emergencies has been upheld in U. Reaction to disaster Factors that the public considers in reacting to a disaster warning include the significance of and understanding of the threat, and confidence or lack thereof in authorities. During Hurricane Katrina, a large portion of the blame was placed on local, state and federal governments. Many individuals claimed the government responded to the hurricane and flooding too slowly, and felt there was no excuse for this. A survey conducted on Hurricane Katrina evacuees found that most individuals blamed the federal government, the state of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans for the problems that occurred due to the hurricane and flooding. A large number of evacuees believed the federal government would have responded more quickly to rescue efforts if more of them had been wealthier and white, rather than poorer and black. They determined that nearly half of all disaster relief is politically motivated, rather than by need. They found evidence of a higher rate of disaster declaration by the president in states that are politically important. This leads many states to be overlooked, even when legitimate disasters are suffered, often in favor of electoral vote-rich states that experience only mild natural occurrences. There is also a link between the political affiliation of the governor and the president during election years, with more disaster declarations being made in states politically important to the president. Research has shown that flood declarations are greater during presidential reelection years. The unilateral nature of the Stafford Act makes this possible by allowing the president to bypass Congress, possibly punishing or rewarding legislators. These statistics are disheartening to average citizens who place their trust in government officials to put personal interests aside for the public good. Expectations about human response to disasters and terrorism are not compatible with known expected behavior under emergency conditions. Panic and dysfunctional behavior may differ from natural disasters and terrorist incidents. Disaster victims do not necessarily act in shock and panic, but more likely in response to what they believe is in their best interests given their limited understanding of the circumstances. Behavior in disaster response is generally pro-social as opposed to anti-social i. Generally people tend to act in pro-social ways, including performing acts of rescue and providing assistance and other altruistic responses. The myth of

irrational and anti-social behavior can actually hamper disaster response planning when managers believe that giving incomplete or withholding information is justified. Studies indicate that people tend to act in what they believe is their best interest, and in a rational way. The general public tends to converge on disaster scenes to offer help and people who are geographically distant routinely donate significant amounts of money and supplies. Uninjured victims are often the first to search for survivors, care for the injured and assist others in protecting property from further damage while awaiting intervention by authorities. Anti-social behavior, such as looting, is relatively rare, and crime rates tend to decline following disaster impact. In the aftermath of Katrina, civil disturbances, i. People look to authorities to help them make decisions. In panic situations where irrational and antisocial behaviors are often observed, it has been shown repeatedly that people are more reluctant to comply with suggested emergency measures when they are provided with vague or incomplete information. Though panic flight is rare, research dating back to the early s indicates that there are several conditions that must occur, probably simultaneously, in order to evoke it Fritz ; Mileti, Drabek and Hass ; Quarantelli, According to Perry and Lindell , these are: Living through the aftermath When disaster strikes a community, function is disrupted by: Shortly after a disaster, residents begin returning to their communities. Citizens enter neighborhoods, assessing the damages sustained by their neighbors, wondering what they will find at their own homes. At this point, the task of picking up the pieces of their lives begins. Depending on where the disaster struck in relation to their dwelling, the residence might sustain minor damage with nothing more than a downed tree and some shingles missing, or complete destruction with few possessions remaining. Calls to insurance companies begin, with many unable to get through because of the sheer volume of calls. Often insurance claims take weeks or even months to be filed, and even longer to be resolved. Depending on the extent of the damage and the number of policy holders affected, insurance companies may deny claims, cover only portions of policies, or go bankrupt, leaving clients with unresolved claims and little recourse. Often infrastructure is badly damaged, making electronic transactions impossible. Prices of goods often increase dramatically due to damaged infrastructure, scarcity of goods, or sometimes unscrupulous merchants take advantage of those that have been hit hard by disaster. The public feels a degree of responsibility toward helping those victimized by disaster but increasing costs justify preventative action, economically speaking Kunreuther, Damage costs after disasters have become a public responsibility with taxpayers being burdened with financing the recovery of the affected population Kunreuther, Today the US government offers loans and grants to disaster victims. However, this was not always the case. As eligibility criteria were broadened and levels of relief increased, federal disaster relief took on the nature of an entitlement Barnett, Federal assistance for non-agricultural disaster relief has continued to grow as well. As of , at least 13 agencies and departments provided a variety of disaster relief programs.

7: Natural Disasters & Assessing Hazards and Risk

Not having witnessed the encounter personally, Durfee dismissed the concerns and hired the candidate anyway. Bad decision, he says. Though loaded with talent, his new assistant turned out to be a disaster, routinely showing up late for work, disappearing for hours without explanation and making inappropriate comments.

8: Don't blame climate change for the Hurricane Harvey disaster – blame society

To find help for your immediate needs, please enter an address to get a list of the closest FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), starting with the closest three. If no resource is close to you, contact your state's emergency management agency to ask about other resources or to get your county's contacts.

9: 25 Biggest Man Made Environmental Disasters In History. - Believe it or not?

Though a majority of Japanese are Buddhists and may not align with Western or Christian notions of prayer, Caine-Barrett says the sentiment is still appropriate.

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