

## **Critical Incident: Tornado Scenario**

One night in March 1999, there were about 30 tornados that ripped through the central part of the state of Arkansas. One particular rural town (population about 5000) was almost entirely destroyed and about the only thing left standing was the local school. You are called to the school gymnasium within 48 hrs of this critical incident to do a stress debriefing with many of the towns' folk. Discuss and role-play the following:

1. Discuss the characteristics of such a critical incident (e.g., natural disaster, socio-cultural aspects, existing county/town infrastructure, time of day or month of event, duration or intensity of this weather event, effects of media coverage).
2. Discuss the types of losses that individuals in this small rural community have sustained.
3. Anticipate and discuss some of the familiar feelings/emotions, thoughts, or stories, that you would expect to encounter after such an incident.
4. Who might be the persons most affected (emotionally, behaviorally, physically, cognitively, and spiritually) by this critical incident (e.g., populations such as elderly or disabled, family members, friends, fire fighters, police, paramedics, rescue personnel, other surrounding support systems).
5. What coping mechanisms and resiliency factors would you want to assess/evaluate and facilitate with the towns folk?

### ***Role Play Scenario:***

{Discuss how you might set-up or arrange your crisis intervention. Role play one-on-one with partner each taking different roles- if time allows role-play Group Crisis }

- Town Mayor
- Emergency Service Personnel (Fire Fighters, Paramedics, Police)
- Parent of School-age Children
- School Principle
- School Teacher
- Older Person with roots in community for 100+ yrs.
- Create your own role