

TEXAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
**Education Conference**



An American flag is shown in the top-left corner, partially visible, with its stars and stripes. The rest of the background is a dark, textured surface.

# CIVILIAN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS



# AVOID DENY DEFEND



TEXAS STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
*The rising STAR of Texas*

**CIVILIAN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS**

# I AM GOING HOME TO

---

You fill in the blank



# Disaster Response

The background science of how people behave in high stress events



# Three Stages of Disaster Response

- Denial
- Deliberation
- Decisive Moment

# Deliberation



# Stress Response

Heart Rate



# Deliberation

Human Brain

Lizard Brain

# Deliberation

Human Brain

Fight

Flight

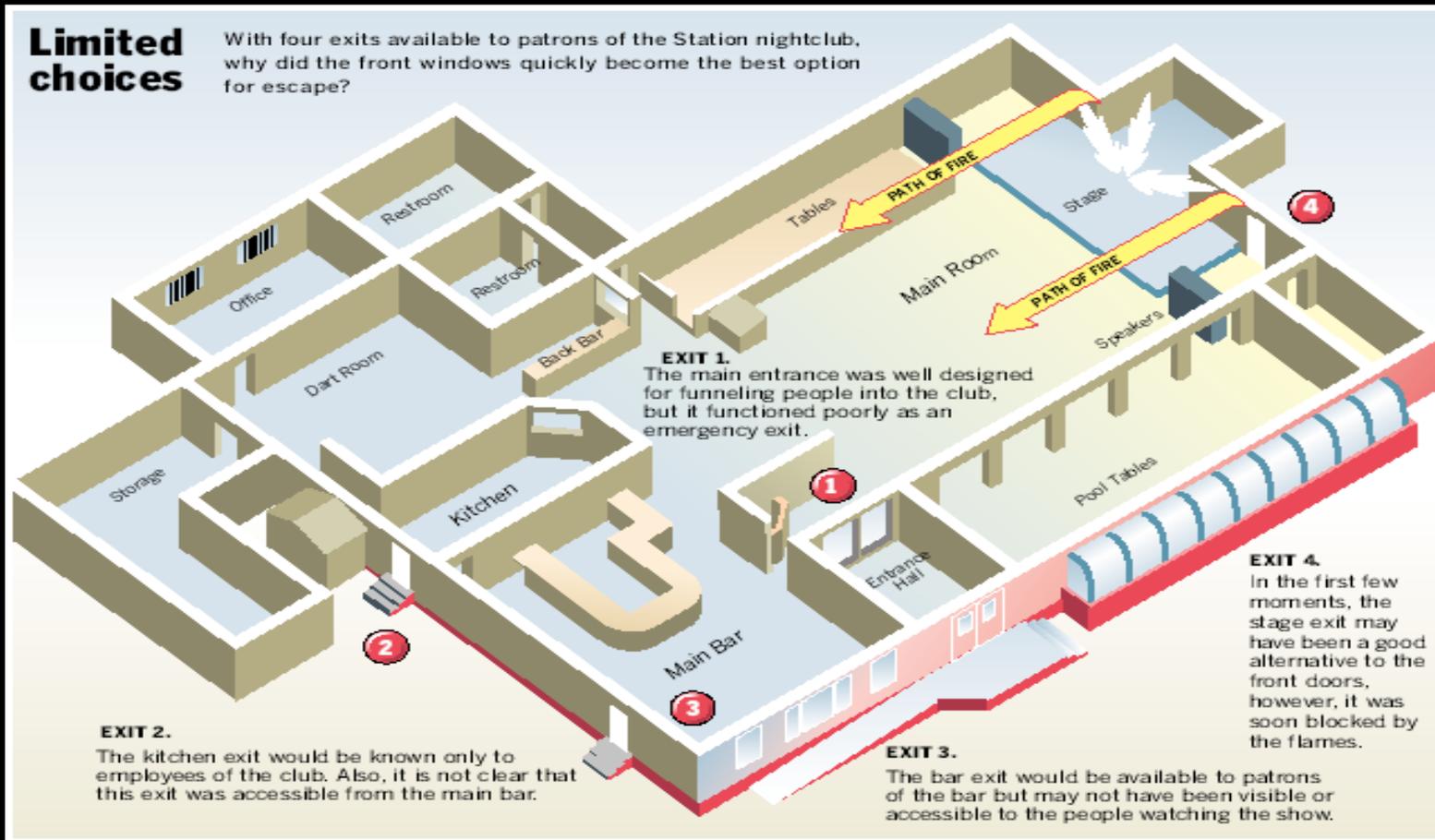
Freeze

Lizard Brain

# Deliberation

## Limited choices

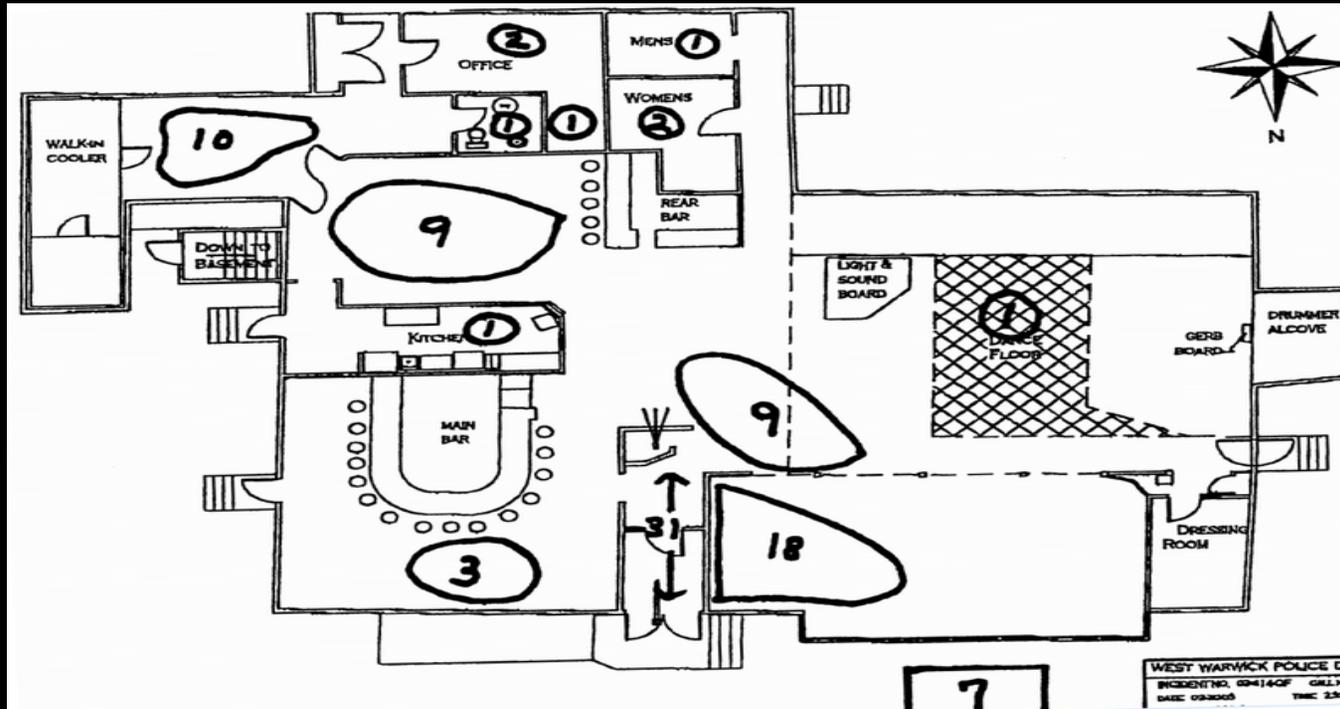
With four exits available to patrons of the Station nightclub, why did the front windows quickly become the best option for escape?



# Station Nightclub Fire



# Deliberation



# Deliberation

- Calm yourself
- Combat breathing
- Shift your emotion
- Stay fit

# Deliberation

- Script
- Practice



# Active Shooter Events



# Definition

Active Shooter Event  
=  
Attempted Mass Murder

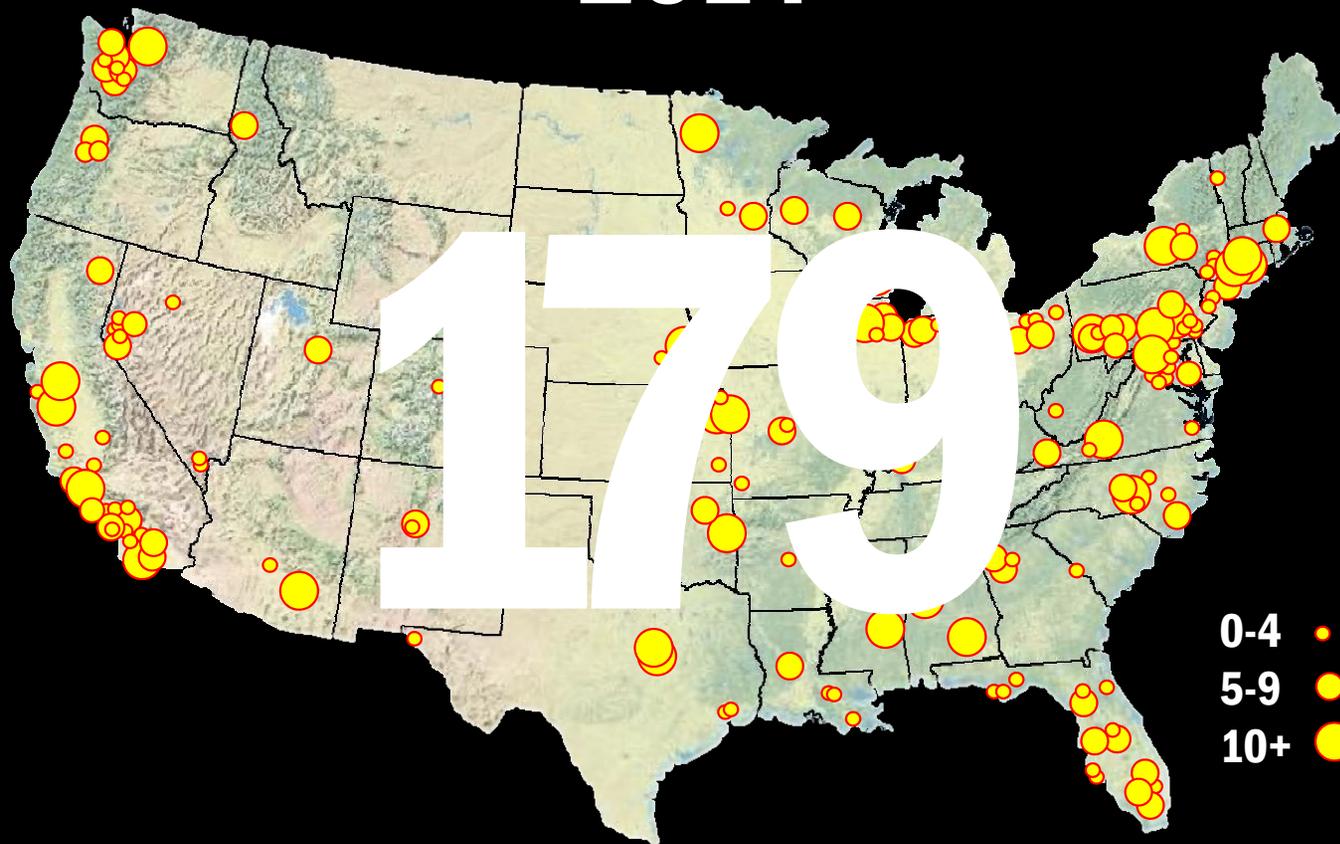


# The Shooter

- No "Profile"
- Avenger Mindset
- Some broadcast



2014

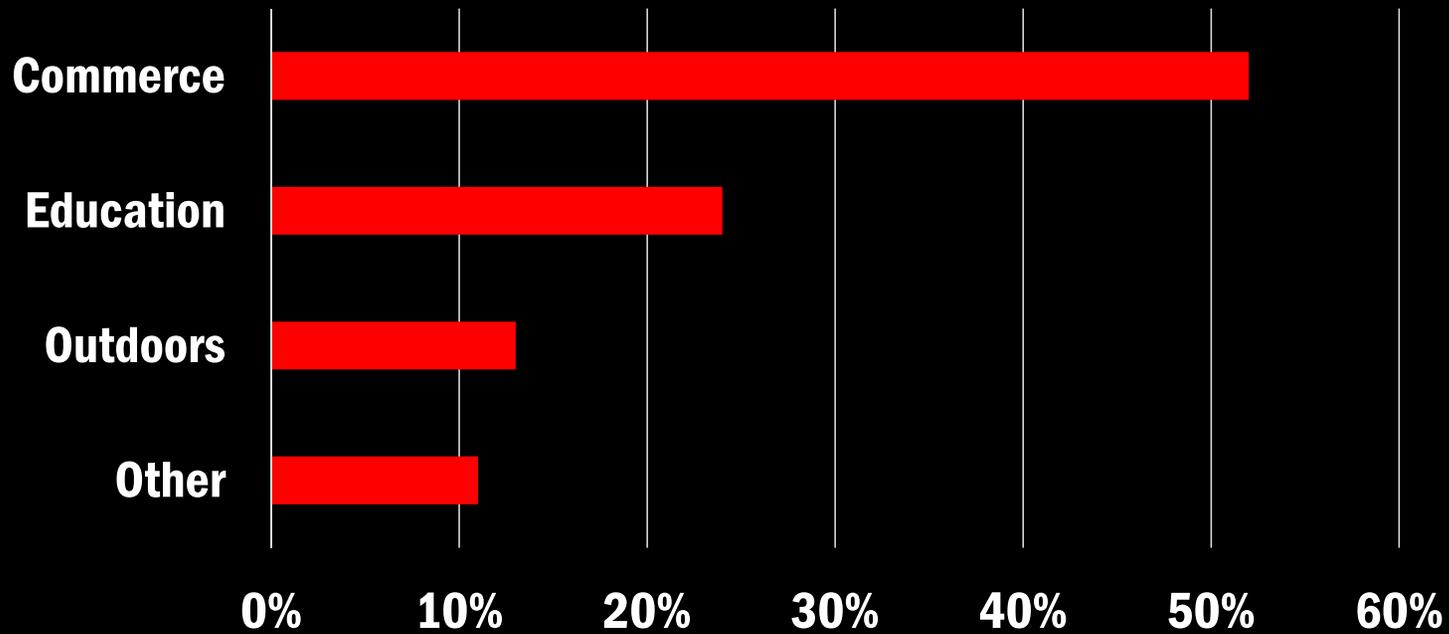


179

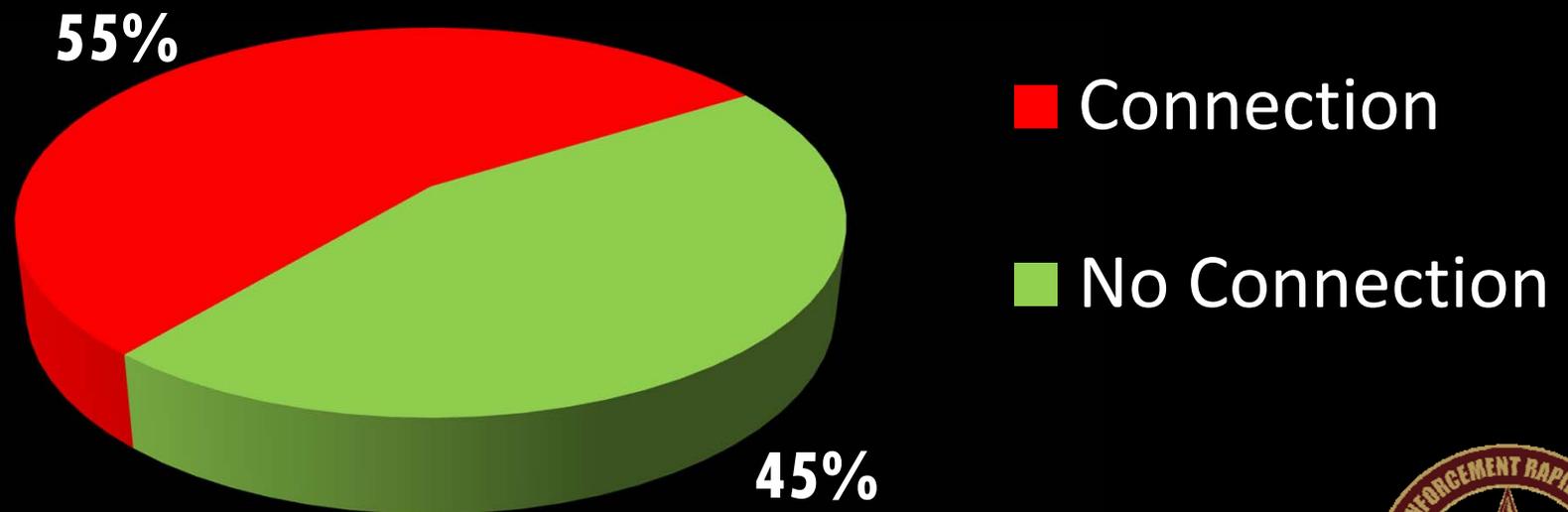
- 0-4 ●
- 5-9 ●
- 10+ ●



# Location of Attacks



# Shooter Connection



# Fort Hood, TX (2009)



# Aurora CO, 2012



# Sandy Hook, 2012



# Chattanooga, TN (2015)





Edmond, OK (1986)

# Number of Deaths

How quickly can the police arrive

**3 Minutes**



# Civilian Response



# Denial

- Don't Deny
- Hear Gunshots
- Go to deliberation





Hide & Hope

# Deliberation

- Avoid
- Deny
- Defend



# Avoid

- Situational Awareness



# Avoid

- Leave ASAP
- Know your exits
- Call 911

# Avoid

- Consider  
Secondary  
Exits



# Deny

- Lock the door
- Lights out
- Out of sight

# Deny

- Barricade
  - Heavier = Better
  - More = Better
  - Doorstops = Better?

# Deny

- Outward opening
  - Ropes
  - Tactical Cinch

# Defend

- Positioning
- Grab the gun
- Fight





# I AM GOING HOME TO

---

You fill in the blank



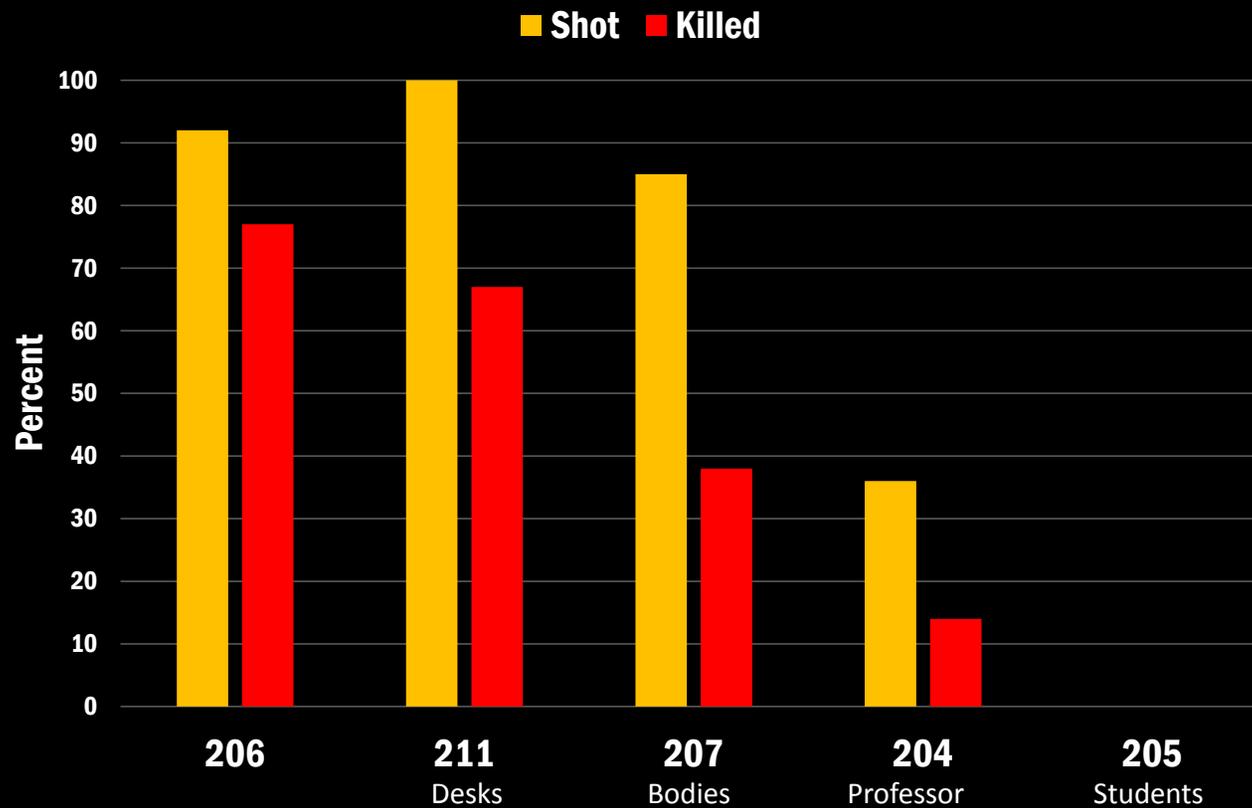
AND I'LL DO  
WHATEVER IT TAKES  
TO MAKE SURE IT  
HAPPENS



# Virginia Tech



# VT Casualties

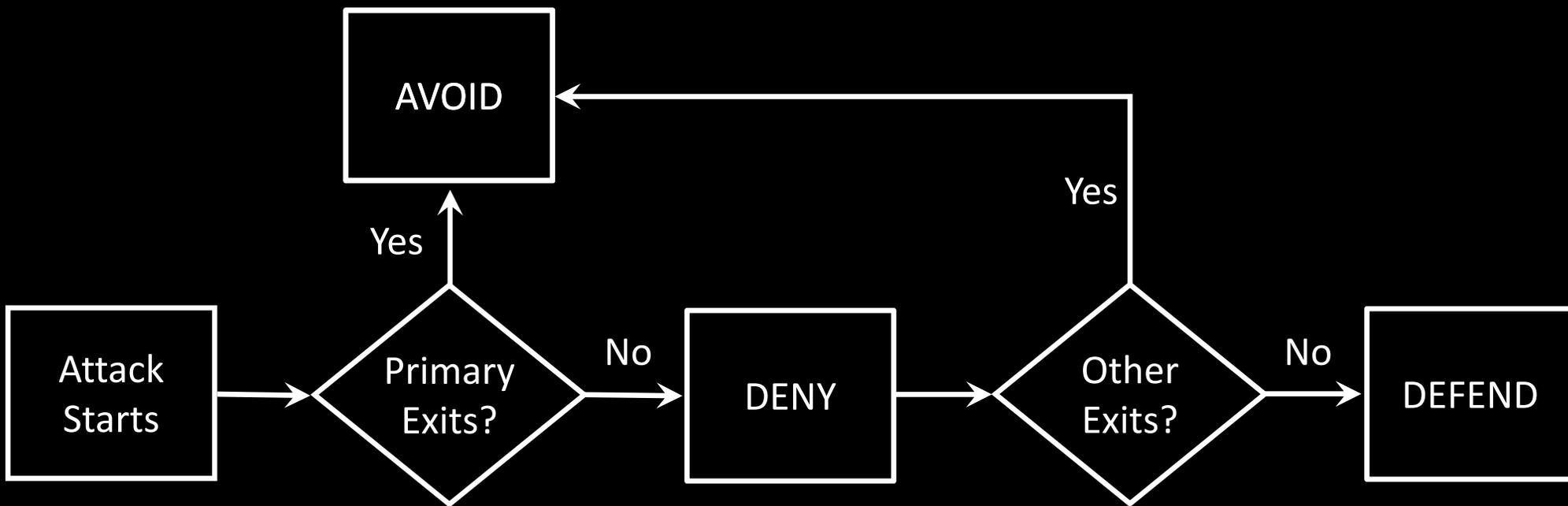


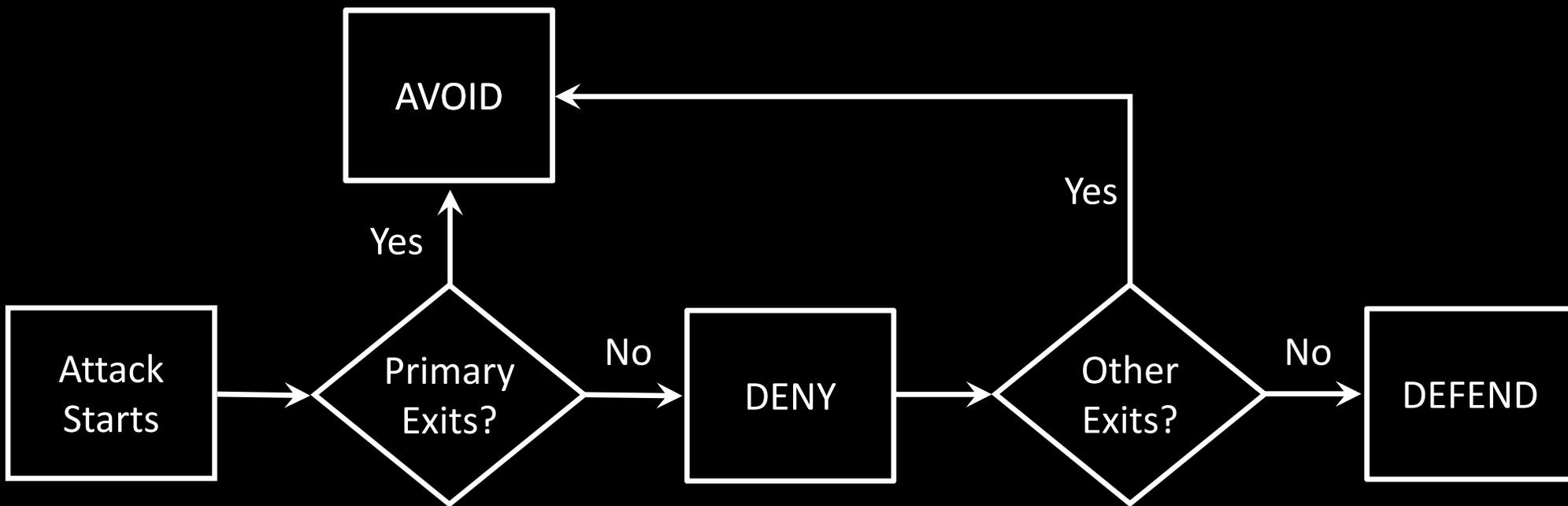
You are not helpless



What you do matters







# Priority of Work

- Stop the Killing
- Stop the Dying
- Evacuate the Area

# When the Police Arrive

- Follow commands
- Show your palms
- Do not move

# Medical

- EMS Delay
- People Need Help
- Seek Immediate Responder Training

# Personnel Issues

- Expect mental trauma
- Develop a critical incident stress management plan

Don't  
Name  
Them

