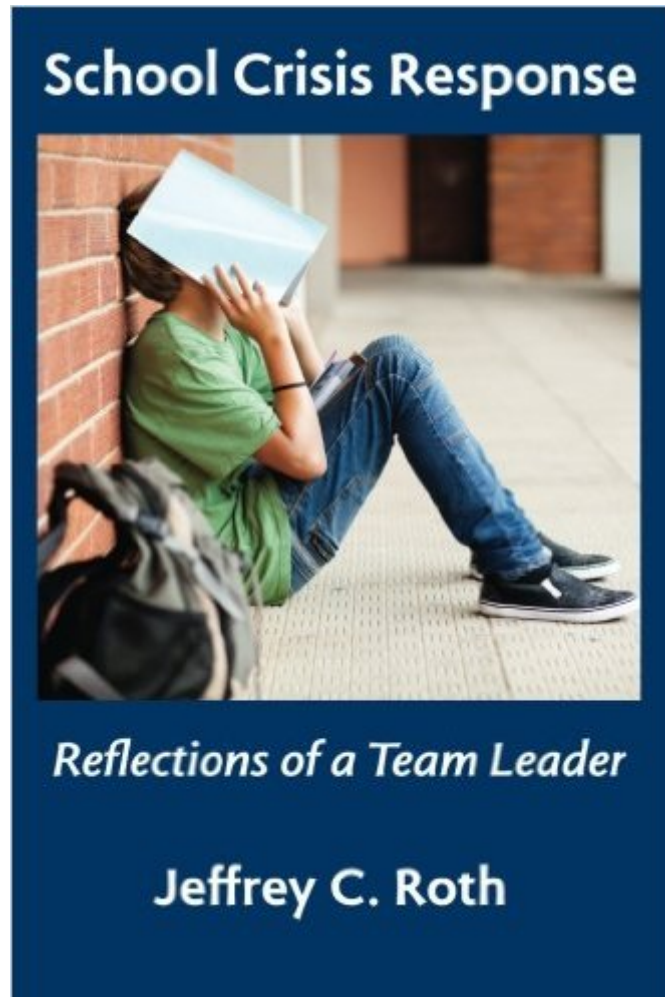


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# School Crisis Response: Reflections Of A Team Leader



## Synopsis

**WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN IN SCHOOLS** When bad things happen to students and educators, crisis responders must be prepared to help them cope and guide them back to a sense of safety and security. *School Crisis Response: Reflections of a Team Leader* describes traumatic events with lessons learned and reflections on best practices. This resource prepares students, crisis responders, and teams for the hard decisions, emotions, and challenges of response. It encourages reflection and strengthens both new and experienced responders. It celebrates the work of school psychologists, counselors, teachers, administrators, social workers, and nurses who provide extraordinary service in the most difficult circumstances. Situations include: \* When a popular middle school student suddenly collapses in the classroom, his classmates witness the school nurse trying in vain to revive him. \* When a teacher revered in the Latino community suffers an accidental death, the response team demonstrates cultural sensitivity. \* The murder of a high school senior is the most recent in community violence that devastates students and staff. \* A principal and counselor prepare a school community during the terminal illness of a beloved kindergarten teacher.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a must for all professionals involved with our schools. Written clearly and appropriately detailed, this text needs to be on every counselor's desk. All administrators need a copy or two, to be fully prepared for the crisis that, unfortunately, is bound to come your way.

This is one of the most impactful books I have read on crisis response. As a team leader myself, Dr. Roth had so much insight to add to my depth and breadth of knowledge! Not only does he share his own pitfalls in a meaningful way, but Dr. Roth discloses the thoughts and emotions that often accompany responding to crisis events. This research-based book is full of stories that come alive and includes an extensive bibliography as well as practical handouts, letters, and checklists that can be used immediately in practice. And, uniquely, Dr. Roth concludes many chapters with reflection questions to get crisis teams thinking of issues not previously considered to ensure best practice. Dr. Roth's experience and insights make this book a valuable tool for any crisis responder and I will be using it in teaching my graduate courses.

Jeff Roth touches a nerve with his insight into the problem of school violence and his thoughtful ideas about what we can do when it happens. We all care about children, and it is hard to face the tough moments they experience in places that should be safe. Yet, this book shows why and how it is so critical to look at what happened, engage, and provide much needed coaching support to all who are in shock or pain. By sharing moments of truth, mistakes, lessons learned, successes and practical advice, the book provides guidelines any school counselor can use to navigate a crisis, stay focused on students or others who need help, and take constructive action. The writing is clear and personal. The message is compelling. Anyone responsible for students in schools should give this book near by.

As a school district public relations and communications administrator for three major Pennsylvania school districts throughout my professional career, I was extremely impressed with how Dr. Roth's team dealt with the various media during so many of the crisis situations described in his book. I found especially useful the letter templates that school administrators and counselors can use to communicate very difficult circumstances to their staff, parents and school communities. This book is a very valuable resource for all school districts and should be read by all teachers, administrators and support staff..

Given recent events in our nation's schools, educators and crisis responders would be wise to read this book and discuss it together. Jeff Roth, a school psychologist, has generously devoted much time and effort to create this book-- a clear, thoughtful, and useful guide for dealing with school crises. It reflects the wisdom he has gained from many incidents over the years-- death, violence,

and accidents--that affected the lives of teachers and students in his purview. Along the way, Dr. Roth candidly shares missteps and misgivings, and reflects on lessons learned from each incident. No one wants to think about bad things that can happen, but those do and who take time to prepare a response, will benefit, as will their students.

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