

Session No. 23

Course Title: Social Dimensions of Disaster, 2nd edition

Session 23: Case Study Presentations

1 hr.

Objectives:

- 23.1 Identify at least six disaster case studies, including the event, locale, and authors
- 23.2 Identify the range of data collection techniques used in at least six disaster case studies
- 23.3 Discuss the most significant conclusion from at least six disaster case studies
- 23.4 Identify at least four findings or conclusions from disaster case studies that are inconsistent with the Drabek (1986) inventory
- 23.5 Discuss at least four normative recommendations pertaining to emergency management policy or procedures made by case study authors
- 23.6 Identify at least four findings from disaster case studies that have relevance to emergency managers.

Scope:

This session provides students with opportunity to prepare and present an informational speech based on a disaster case study of their choice. By listening attentively to the presentations of classmates, the breadth of their knowledge of the disaster literature will be expanded considerably.

Readings:

Student Reading:

Case study book selected by student.

Professor Readings:

Drabek, Thomas E. 1986. *Human System Response to Disaster: An Inventory of Sociological Findings*. New York: Springer-Verlag.

Background References:

None.

General Requirements:

Overhead (23-1 appended).

Objectives 23.1 through 23.6

Remarks:

- I. Procedures.
 - A. It is recommended that the professor **remind** students of the **procedures** outlined previously (see Session 18 entitled “Mid-Term Examination”; Objective 18.2).
 - B. Depending on the class size and professorial discretion, the **length** of the case study presentation may vary although **experience suggests** that 10-15 minutes is useful.
 - C. An additional five to ten minutes for **questions and discussion** can help maximize the contribution of each case study to student knowledge of the literature.
- II. Introduction.
 - A. It is recommended that the professor **display** Overhead 23-1; “Case Study Topics” **prior** to the first presentation. (remind class of Student Handout 18-3; “Oral Summary of Case Study: Required Topics”).
 1. Authors (what did you learn about them?)
 2. Event and locale (summary).
 3. Research methods (summary).
 4. Cautions (given the methods used, what cautions are in order regarding acceptance of the findings and conclusions?)
 5. Confirmed conclusion (select the most significant conclusion or finding that was confirmed in the Drabek inventory and summarize it).

6. Inconsistent conclusion (describe the most significant inconsistency you discovered between this case study and the conclusions included in the Drabek inventory).
 7. New research (what new research studies did this case study suggest to you?)
 8. Emergency management lessons (what aspects of this case study are most relevant to emergency managers?)
- B. As the presentations continue, it may be **helpful to display** the overhead from time to time as a referent for questions or as a reminder for upcoming speakers.
- C. The **rationale** for the assignment should be noted, i.e., course objective pertaining to increase in student capacity in written and oral communication skills.
- D. Prior to each presentation, **students should distribute** the note taking device on which they have listed the citation for the case study.