



International Research
Committee on Disasters



International Sociological
Association (RC 39)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HIGHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE JUNE 4 – 5, 2003





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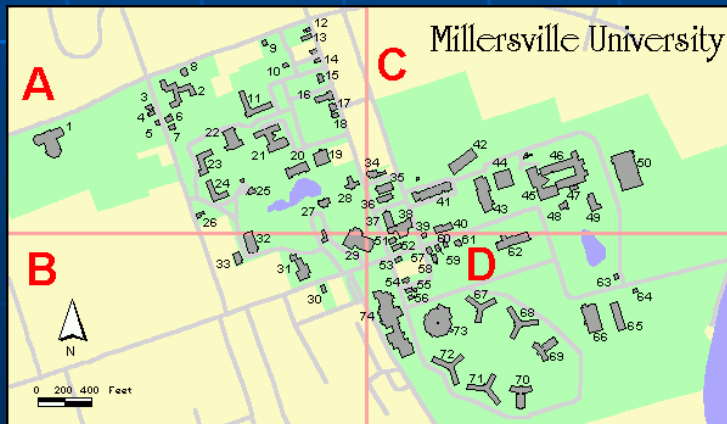
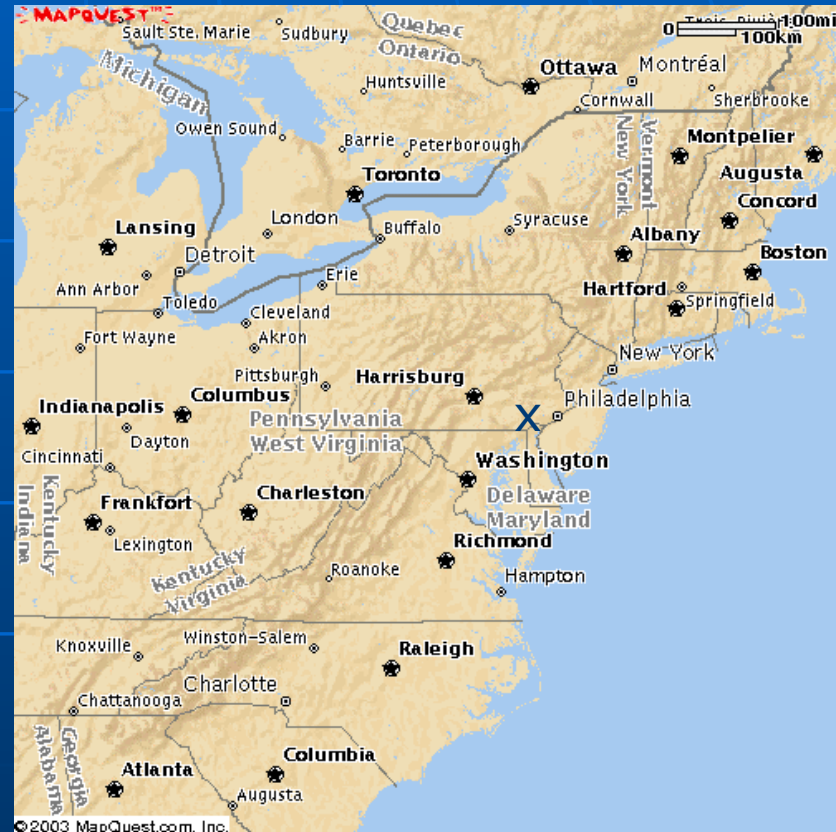
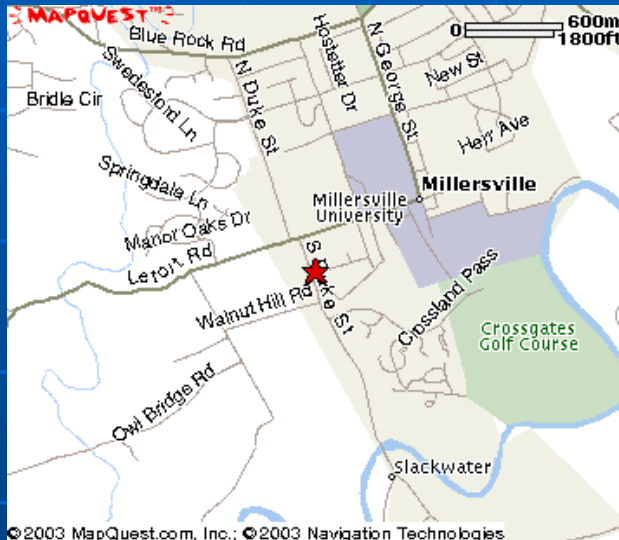
RESOURCES PANEL
ONLINE JOURNAL DEMONSTRATION
CONTEMPORARY DISASTER REVIEW



DR. HENRY W. FISCHER
DISASTER RESEARCH GROUP
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA



Millersville University of PA ?



<http://muweb.millersville.edu/index.html>

<http://www.ecampustours.com/VirtualTours/VirtualTourSub.aspx?FafsaCode=003325&ItemID=1>

DRG ?

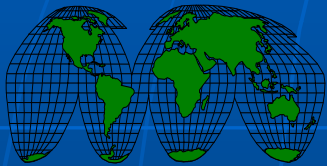
Welcome to the Disaster Research Group at MU!

DRG is comprised of interested faculty and student research assistants. Research is currently supported by university grants. The research findings are presented at professional conferences and published in scholarly research journals. The publications list itemizes documents currently available to interested parties.

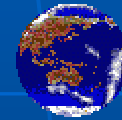
The DRG maintains several Fact Sheets that provide basic disaster and terrorism information for public consumption—findings in the research literature distilled into useable language and format.

The DRG involves students as research assistants pursuant to the mission of educating the next generation of disaster researchers, emergency management personnel, and knowledgeable community members. Program graduates include three graduate students working toward Ph.D.s at the Disaster Research Center of the University of Delaware and two former students working with their local emergency managers to re-write the community disaster plans.

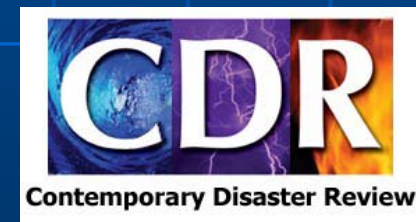
IRCD ?



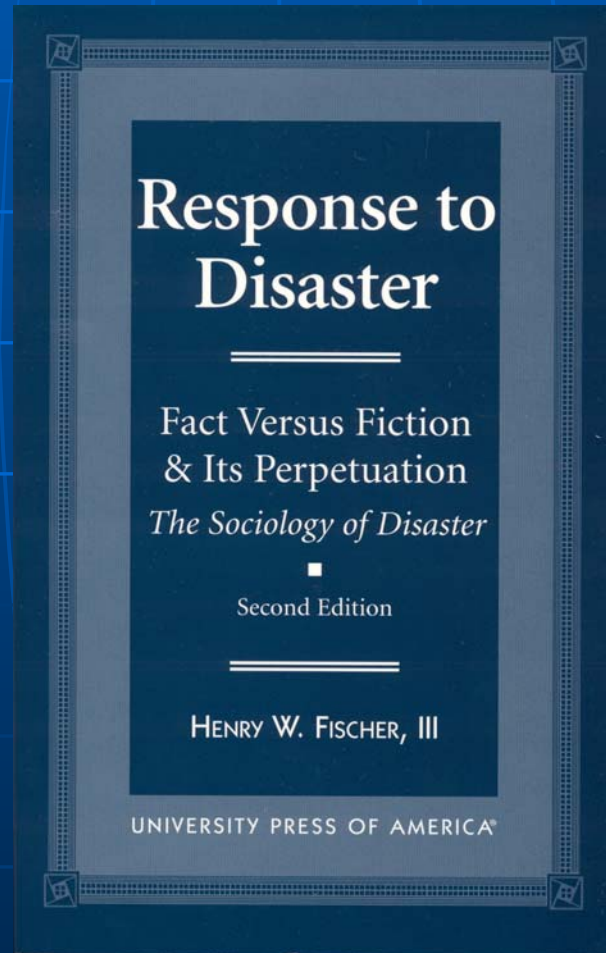
UNSCHEDULED EVENTS



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
MASS EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS



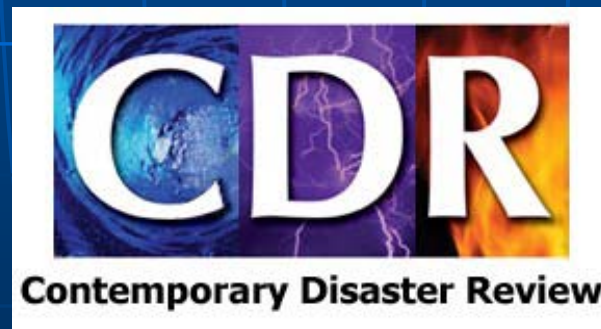
WHILE TRADITIONAL TEACHING RESOURCES ARE ALWAYS GOOD...



NOT ONLY A FREE JOURNAL
REVIEWING BOOKS, VIDEO, WEBSITES

ALSO A

NON-TRADITIONAL TEACHING RESOURCE

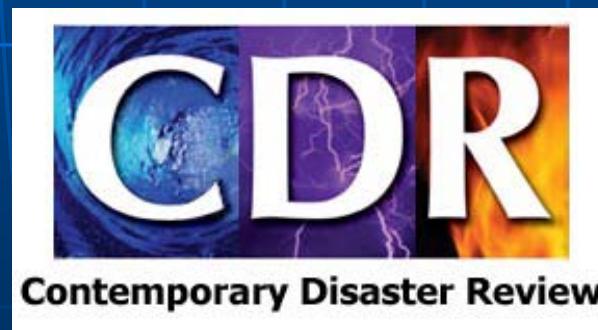


FOR EXAMPLE, TEACHING OBJECTIVE:

STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO APPLY DISASTER MYTHOLOGY
TO ASSESS IF OBSERVED BEHAVIOR IN RESPONSE
TO A DISASTER EVENT REPRESENTS
USUAL OR MYTHICAL PORTRAYAL

QUESTION:

HOW CAN I USE CDR TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE?



<http://muweb.millersville.edu/~cdr/>

WEBSITE REVIEW:

<http://www.tsunami.org/>



The Value of the Photograph Archive of the Online Pacific Tsunami Museum

Henry W. Fischer

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SEVERAL DISASTER MYTHS

Panic. What do we see in the photograph below? People are running. Is this panic? No. Some will interpret it as such. Undoubtedly they are experiencing fear as that tsunami is not far behind them. They are, however, behaving rationally. They are running away from danger, toward safety. There is no evidence of stampede behavior. Thank you PTM for this actual documentation of an event that is representative of the behavioral response to not only the tsunami, but the other disaster agents as well.



The 1947 tsunami in Hilo

PTM Archive Photo: Yasuki Arakaki collection; Photographer: Cecilio Licos

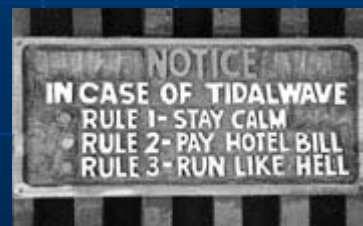
Evacuation Behavior. Rather than flee in mass panic, all too often potential victims tend to stay on scene. Even if they have the opportunity and are encouraged to evacuate, most elect not to. They stay at home in a misguided attempt to protect their property, to remain in a location in which they falsely believe they will be more comfortable or less costly (as opposed to sleeping in a school gymnasium, staying with friends or paying a hotel bill). The below picture demonstrates the hesitancy of people to leave when warned. In this case they converged to the scene to await the arrival and impact of the tsunami.



Hilo Tsunami of 1960

Photo courtesy of G. Curtis; Photographer: James Hamasaki

Erroneous Deviance Such as Looting. Rather than engage in deviant behavior such as the mythical looting, the following photographs demonstrate the fact that survivors are the true first responders, they tend to be altruistic (help one another and even maintain a sense of humor) and turn to the job of search and rescue long before authorities are able to arrive on scene.



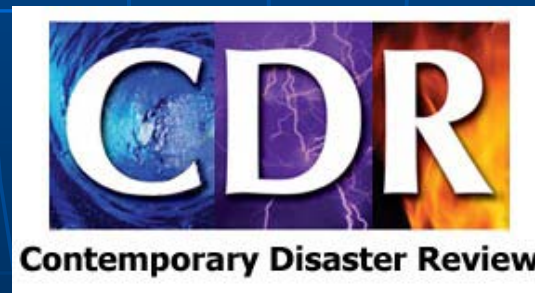
The Value of the PTM Photograph Online Archive

Prior to the creation of the internet, materials found at the Pacific Tsunami Museum were available to only a few people, usually in the local area. By placing these photographs on their website, the PTM has provided access to researchers, students, the mass media, and all interested individuals around the world. This resource is useful to researchers and to teachers. The present review is offered to acknowledge the value of this archive as well as to frame their interpretation pursuant to their dissemination to researchers, students, mass media and all interested individuals.



As a follow up activity, students could examine other photos at the museum website and apply the mythology and/or go to contemporary news outlets on the web to do the same

CDR ALSO USEFUL AS A SOURCE OF REVIEWS TO SELECT & REJECT POTENTIAL TEACHING MATERIALS



<http://muweb.millersville.edu/~cdr/>

Review Assessing Usefulness of Computer Game

epiGamer

DIVIDED BY OCEANS, UNITED BY GAMES

State of Emergency—A Review of a Video Game Simulation.

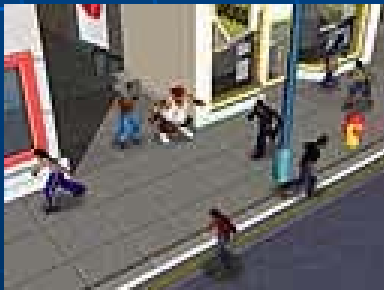
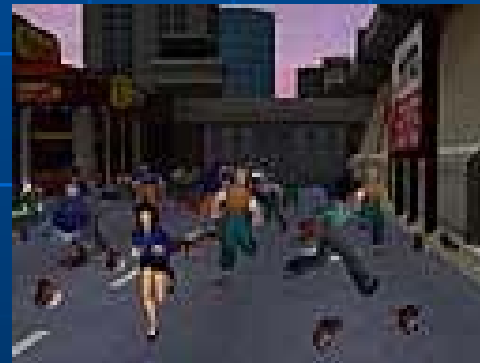
EpiGamer

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Example of Game Video Depicting Panic



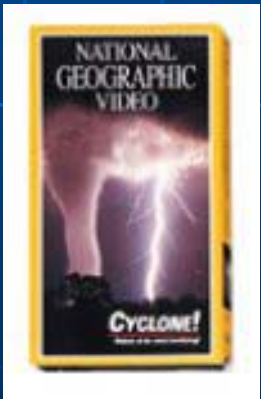
Example of Game Depicting Looting

Example of Depiction of Violence



VIDEO REVIEW

A Review of the National Geographic Society's Cyclone
James M. Kendra
Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware &
University of North Texas
jmkendra@Udel.Edu



"*Cyclone!* does justice to the awesome consequences of natural disaster, but the willingness to take on difficult questions about preparation, disaster response, and land use would be a greater celebration of the "endurance of the human spirit." And the film unfortunately missed a good opportunity to suggest some of the prudent steps people can take when suddenly exposed to these hazards. Nevertheless, the footage of actual storms is dramatic and memorable, and the careful explanations and illustrations of technical concepts make the film valuable for classroom use." – James Kendra

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of California Earthquakes: Science, Risk, and the Politics of Hazard Mitigation

Robert A. Stallings

University of Southern California

California Earthquakes

Science, Risk, and the Politics of Hazard Mitigation. 2001. 352 pp. History: History of Science and Technology, American History, Public Policy. [Carl-Henry Geschwind]
Hard Cover \$50.95

“What he has done by painstakingly searching the available historical records is itself an important contribution to the literature on risk and disaster. The frustrating part is that the unanswered questions about the science and politics of earthquake safety in California will be much more difficult to answer.” - Stallings



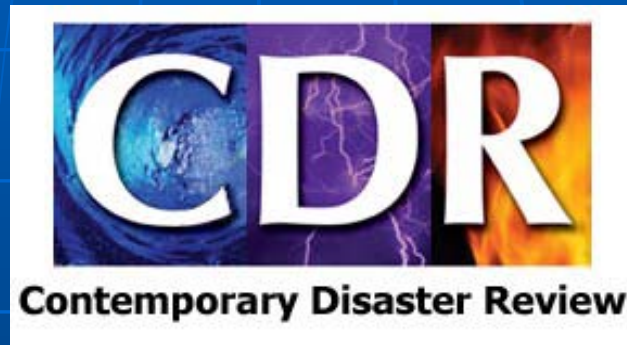
“What is a Disaster? Perspectives on the Question”

David M. Neal

Institute of Emergency Preparedness

Jacksonville State University

“If you are a serious student of disasters, then this is a must read.” - Neal



Thank You !