EM FORUM

The Human Side of Disaster: Implications for the Emergency Management Professional

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CORE TOPICS

Experiences
The Problem and Approach
Warning and Evacuation
Initial Responses: Survivors and Volunteers
Organized-Disorganization
Recovery: Short and Long Term
What Must Be Done
UNIQUE FEATURES

Conversational Tone
Personal Experiences
Evidence Based
Social Maps
Breadth of Perspective
A Vision
DISASTERS ARE NONROUTINE
SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Interdependency
Social Elite
Definition of Social Problem
Victim Blame
Root Causes, Not Symptoms
A CASE EXAMPLE: HAITI EARTHQUAKE

Media (Now, Not Then)
Looting Behavior
Unintended Consequences (Arkansas Rice)
Strategic Perspective =
Reduce Vulnerabilities + Increase Resilience
NEW VISION: EMERGENCY MANAGER AS COMMUNITY CHANGE AGENT

Increase Community Resilience

Engagement
Empowerment
Diversity in Outcomes
Social Capital
Cohesiveness
Social Identity
NEW VISION:
EMERGENCY MANAGER AS
COMMUNITY CHANGE AGENT

Decrease Community Vulnerabilities

Centralized Systems
High Risk Locations
Construction Standards
Maintenance and Renewal
Economic Inequities
Discrimination