

PROMISES, PROMISES

This easy-to-use Leader's Guide is provided to assist in conducting a successful presentation. Featured are:

INTRODUCTION: A brief description of the program and the subject that it addresses.

PROGRAM OUTLINE: Summarizes the program content. If the program outline is discussed before the video is presented, the entire program will be more meaningful and successful.

PREPARING FOR AND CONDUCTING THE PRESENTATION: These sections will help you set up the training environment, help you relate the program to site-specific incidents, and provide program objectives for focusing your presentation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: Questions may be copied and given to participants to stimulate discussion about the program, its safety lessons and universal theme.

INTRODUCTION

We all make promises to our friends, to loved ones and to ourselves. In this program, viewers will see how the choices and decisions we make about personal safety both on and off the job impact our ability to keep those promises. Featured are the stories of three different families, each with their own hopes and dreams. These dreams, unfortunately, are shattered by poor safety choices involving 1) lockout/tagout, 2) seatbelt and cell phone use while driving and 3) pedestrians around moving forklift traffic. Your employees will always remember the video's universal theme: seemingly minor safety decisions can have huge unintended consequences. The program ends with an upbeat message, as we see each family member who made a poor decision given a second chance to do things the right way and see their promises fulfilled.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

BACKGROUND

- We all make promises to our loved ones, to friends and to ourselves. The choices and decisions we make each day concerning our personal safety affect our ability to keep those promises.
- You may be surprised to realize just how short a walk it is that separates the joy of promises kept from the sorrow of promises broken.
- This video features the stories of three families whose hopes and dreams are shattered by poor safety choices.

Story #1: Car Crash Ends Newlyweds' Plans For Bright Future

After a wedding in which the young couple had promised their vows, Jennifer and Andy began their married life with a honeymoon at the beach. When it was time to return home so Andy could have his annual performance review at work, Jennifer had him promise that they'd return to the beach every year for their anniversary. She said she didn't want him to talk about work because he worked so close to the machinery, but Andy assured her that he would never let his guard down. "It only takes a second for something to happen, and then it's too late," he said.

When he arrived at work the following week, Andy's co-workers assured him that he would receive a promotion during his review. The supervisor told Andy that his ability to "keep production on schedule while still keeping safety and quality a top priority" was impressive. Andy was promoted from team leader to production manager. He thanked the supervisor and promised him that he would not be disappointed.

On the drive home from work, Andy called Jennifer to tell her the good news. When she asked him if he'd still be working around dangerous equipment, he said, "Yes. Look, like I told you before, I always work safely, especially now that I've got you to think about." He then told her that he would receive a good pay increase and that he was ready to start a family. Just as he pulled into an intersection, his car was struck by an oncoming vehicle. Because he neglected to fasten his seatbelt, Andy was thrown into the windshield and killed.

Proper Ending:

Andy fastened his seatbelt and said to Jennifer, "Listen I'll tell you all about it when I get home. Traffic's really bad right now and I don't want to be on the phone and the road at the same time."

Story #2: Promise To Attend Son's Baseball Game Broken When Dad Takes Shortcut At Work

Week after week Ted missed his son Brad's little league baseball games because he had to work at the plant every Saturday. He told a co-worker that he wouldn't miss the championship game if Brad's team made it, but the co-worker reminded him that they had a maintenance procedure to perform the following Saturday that took eight hours on a "good day." "Well if they make the championship, I'll find a way to speed it up. I've got to be there!" Ted said. When he arrived home to find out Brad's team was indeed going to the championship, Ted assured Brad that he wouldn't miss the game for anything.

On the day of the championship game, Ted and his co-worker skipped lunch so they could complete the maintenance task ahead of schedule. While the co-worker took a break to get something to eat, Ted decided to begin the next step, which involved removing the guard to change the belt on the air scrubber they were servicing. As the co-worker pulled the disconnect to the scrubber, he reminded Ted to make sure he locked it out before he continued with the work.

In an effort to save time, Ted walked up the stairs to the belt and started the job without locking out the power. As he climbed onto the pulley to remove the belt, several of his co-workers walked through the area and noticed that the disconnect was switched off. When they turned the switch on, the scrubber cycled. Ted was pulled into the action, thrown inside the spinning belt and killed.

Proper Ending:

Ted proceeded with the lockout procedure and said, "There. Now all I've got to do is pull the guard and change the belt, and I'll still make it by the first inning."

Story #3: Couple's Retirement Dreams Shattered When Wife Is Crushed By Forklift

As part of their plans for their retirement, Harry and Brenda had considered selling their home and traveling across the country in an RV. Harry, who had retired three years earlier, had been trying to convince Brenda to retire from her inventory job at the warehouse so they could purchase a vehicle and begin their journey. On the day they had scheduled to look at RV's, Brenda was working at the warehouse when co-worker Jerry startled her as he approached on his forklift. Jerry apologized, saying that his backup alarm was broken and that he needed some inventory scanned out. Since pedestrians weren't allowed in the loading area, Brenda asked Jerry to take the load to the scanning station. Brenda then told Jerry of the plans to go look at campers after work that afternoon.

At the RV dealership, Brenda expressed her concern about having to sell the house to pay for the RV. After Harry told her that he wanted to do things as a couple that they had never done before, she decided she was ready to buy the RV after all. Harry asked her if she really meant it. "I promise, I promise," Brenda replied.

A real estate agent assured Brenda and Harry that her agency would have no problem selling their house, so Brenda decided she was going to put in for the early retirement program at work. She told Harry to have the dealer bring the camper over the next day after she got off work.

At work the following day, Brenda told Jerry she couldn't wait to get off so she and Harry could test drive the camper. Her supervisor walked up during their conversation to inform them that the warehouse had an emergency order for material from their best customer. Because she didn't want to stay late, Brenda decided to write out the load tickets for the material from the loading area as Jerry loaded it directly onto the trailer. "I don't know, you know pedestrians aren't allowed to come into the truck area," said Jerry. Brenda agreed, but told him she really wanted to get home and drive the camper.

As she walked toward the loading area, Brenda approached a blind intersection. Meanwhile, Jerry backed his forklift in that direction. Because the vehicle's backup alarm wasn't working, Brenda didn't notice it. Just as she stepped onto some pallets of material, she was crushed between the vehicle and the material.

Proper Ending:

Instead of entering the loading area, Brenda said to Jerry, "You're right; I was just excited about getting home, but the camper salesman will just have to wait. Thanks for speaking up. I'll be at the station."

PREPARE FOR THE SAFETY MEETING OR TRAINING SESSION

Review each section of this Leader' s Guide as well as the videotape. Here are a few suggestions for using the program:

Make everyone aware of the importance the company places on health and safety and how each person must be an active member of the safety team.

Introduce the videotape program. Play the videotape without interruption. Review the program content by presenting the information in the program outline.

Make an attendance record as needed and have each participant sign the form. Maintain the attendance record as written documentation of the training performed.

Here are some suggestions for preparing your videotape equipment and the room or area you use:

Check the room or area for quietness, adequate ventilation and temperature, lighting and unobstructed access.

Check the seating arrangement and the audiovisual equipment to ensure that all participants will be able to see and hear the videotape program.

Place or secure extension cords to prevent them from becoming a tripping hazard.

CONDUCTING THE PRESENTATION

Begin the meeting by welcoming the participants. Introduce yourself and give each person the opportunity to become acquainted if there are new people joining the training session.

Explain that the primary purpose of the program is to stress to viewers that seemingly insignificant safety choices can have tragic consequences if the right decision isn't made .

Introduce the videotape program. Play the videotape without interruption. Review the program content by presenting the information in the program outline.

Lead discussions about safety decisions (both on and off the job) that your employees must make that could have a huge impact on their lives.

Copy the discussion questions included in this Leader' s Guide and allow the participants to review them before discussing the program.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the decisions you must make on your job that could have tragic consequences if you chose to do the wrong thing?
2. What are some of the promises you would be breaking if you were hurt or killed after committing a safety mistake? Even if you weren't breaking any promises, how would such a tragedy affect your family and loved ones?
3. After watching this video, will you be more likely to think about the possible ramifications the next time you must make a decision regarding personal safety? Why or why not?
4. What are some of the excuses people make when choosing to take a risk that jeopardizes their well being? Do you think there are circumstances where these excuses are acceptable? Why or why not?
5. Many decisions we make off the job can have a bearing on our safety. What are some of these decisions and what could be the consequences if we make a poor choice?