



Training Solutions, Delivered!

# **I CHOSE TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY**

*Non-Graphic*

**Leader's Guide, Fact Sheet  
& Quiz**

Item Number: 4246  
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***This easy-to-use Leader's Guide is provided to assist in conducting a successful presentation.***

## **PREPARING FOR THE MEETING**

Here are a few suggestions for using this program:

- a) Review the contents of the Fact Sheet that immediately follows this page to familiarize yourself with the program topic and the training points discussed in the program. The Fact Sheet also includes a list of Program Objectives that details the information that participants should learn from watching the program.
- b) If required by your organization, make an attendance record to be signed by each participant to document the training to be conducted.
- c) Prepare the area and equipment to be used for the training. Make sure the watching environment is comfortable and free from outside distractions. Also, ensure that participants can see and hear the TV screen or computer monitor without obstructions.
- d) Make copies of the Review Quiz included at the end of this Leader's Guide to be completed by participants at the conclusion of the presentation. Be aware that the page containing the answers to the quiz comes before the quiz itself, which is on the final page.

## **CONDUCTING THE PRESENTATION**

- a) Begin the meeting by welcoming the participants. Introduce yourself and give each person an opportunity to become acquainted if there are new people joining the training session.
- b) Introduce the program by its title and explain to participants what they are expected to learn as stated in the Program Objectives of the Fact Sheet.
- c) Play the program without interruption. Upon completion, lead discussions about your organization's specific policies regarding the subject matter. Make sure to note any unique hazards associated with the program's topic that participants may encounter while performing their job duties at your facility.
- d) Hand out copies of the review quiz to all of the participants and make sure each one completes it before concluding the training session.

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**FACT SHEET**

**LENGTH: 12 MINUTES**

**PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

When employees are willing to speak to co-workers about unsafe acts, injuries can be prevented. This video dramatically tells the story of an employee who failed to speak up when witnessing an unsafe act. By choosing to “look the other way,” he allowed the needless death of a co-worker to occur. Based on the popular safety poem by Don Merrell, this program shows how speaking up about unsafe acts can save lives and help develop a positive safety culture. Verses from the poem are meshed with the video’s action to deliver a stimulating safety message.

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:**

This program, which brings a powerful safety poem to life, is designed to show employees the consequences of “looking the other way” when seeing someone commit an unsafe act. Viewers will be motivated to speak up when they see a co-worker putting himself in an unsafe situation, even if they feel that person’s response may be negative.

**PROGRAM OUTLINE:**

**THE POEM:**

**I Chose To Look The Other Way**

I could have saved a life that day,  
But I chose to look the other way.  
It wasn’t that I didn’t care;  
I had the time, and I was there.

But I didn’t want to seem a fool,  
Or argue over a safety rule.  
I knew he’d done the job before;  
If I spoke up he might get sore.

The chances didn’t seem that bad;  
I’d done the same, he knew I had.  
So I shook my head and walked on by;  
He knew the risks as well as I.

He took the chance, I closed an eye;  
And with that act, I let him die.  
I could have saved a life that day,  
But I chose to look the other way.

Now every time I see his wife,  
I know I should have saved his life.  
That guilt is something I must bear;  
But it isn’t something you need share.

If you see a risk that others take  
That puts their health or life at stake,  
The question asked or thing you say;  
Could help them live another day.

If you see a risk and walk away,  
Then hope you never have to say,

“I could have saved a life that day,  
But I chose to look the other way.”

## **THE STORY**

The program opens with Joey recalling events that occurred at the plant several years before. Joey, then a newcomer to the company, was changing the valve on the steam supply line when his supervisor approached him. The supervisor noticed that Joey hadn't blanked off the line from the heat exchanger as the procedure required. The supervisor explained to Joey that he “would have a face full of high pressure steam” if the heat exchanger failed and the pressure fed back into the supply line. At first Joey claimed he forgot to blank the line, then he confessed he didn't do it because it would have made the procedure take twice as long. The supervisor told Joey that there were reasons for following work procedures and told him to remind others if he saw them neglecting to blank the line.

Several months later, Joey was passing through the maintenance shop when he saw Randy, a plant veteran, transferring a flammable chemical from a drum to a smaller container. Joey could see that the bonding wire was not connected to the transfer can. He knew this procedure was required to prevent static electricity from sparking off an explosion. Joey had recently started to “feel like one of the boys,” and was obviously trying to fit in when he spoke up. He said, “Hey Randy! You forgot the bonding wire, buddy. Where are your goggles? What are you trying to do, blow us up or something? You ever heard of static electricity?” Randy responded angrily by saying, “Look rookie! I was working here long before they even had these wires...I've seen all their little procedures come and go and I'm still here. So if it's all the same to you I'll do things my way.” Joey said afterward the incident really shook his confidence and contributed to what happened next.

A week later Joey saw Randy working on the same valve he had been working on six months earlier. He noticed that Randy hadn't blanked off the line from the heat exchanger. Still smarting from their previous encounter, Joey didn't want Randy to get angry again. Instead of speaking up, he just shook his head and began to walk away while Randy continued to work on the valve. Joey stopped, turned and made eye contact with Randy. “I'd like to think I was going to say something to him, but I think I was only trying to convince myself that everything was okay. It wasn't,” Joey said. Just as Joey began to walk off, steam fed back down the line and burst out of the valve into Randy's face. When the blast knocked Randy from the ladder, Joey ran to assist him, but it was too late.

Joey felt tremendous guilt about Randy's death and decided from that point on to always speak up every time he saw people putting themselves in unsafe situations. “Some of the newer guys get mad from time to time; I don't mind. But the older guys, the ones that knew Randy, they understand why I do it,” Joey said. He noted that other employees had also started to speak up when they saw unsafe acts. “Just the other day someone reminded me to put on a face shield. He didn't know me or Randy, he just knew I needed to wear it and he wasn't afraid to say so,” said Joey. Joey thanked the co-worker because that was the type of concern the company's safety program needed to reach a higher level. “I'm truly sorry someone had to die before we realized it,” Joey concluded.

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**ANSWERS TO THE REVIEW QUIZ**

1. b

2. c

3. a

4. a

5. b

6. c

7. a

8. b

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**REVIEW QUIZ**

*The following questions are provided to determine how well you understand the information presented in this program.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. When Joey was new to the company, his supervisor noticed that Joey hadn't blanked off a steam supply line while changing a valve. What did the supervisor do?
  - a. Suspended Joey for a week without pay
  - b. Explained to Joey about the danger he faced by not following procedure
  - c. Ignored Joey's neglect to blank the line
  
2. What was the real reason Joey didn't blank the line?
  - a. He forgot
  - b. He didn't know how
  - c. He took a shortcut to make the procedure shorter
  
3. Joey's supervisor encouraged him to remind others if he saw them neglecting to blank the line.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
4. What did Joey do when he noticed Randy, a plant veteran, transferring flammable liquid without using a bonding wire?
  - a. Reminded Randy to use a bonding wire and to wear his goggles
  - b. Ignored it
  - c. Yelled at Randy
  
5. What was Randy's reaction when Joey reminded him of safety procedures?
  - a. Randy thanked Joey
  - b. Randy responded angrily
  - c. Joey didn't remind Randy of the safe work procedures
  
6. What did Joey do the next time he saw Randy not following procedure, while working on the valve on the line from the heat exchanger?
  - a. Reminded Randy to blank the line
  - b. Handed Randy his PPE
  - c. Ignored it and walked away
  
7. After Randy's death, Joey decided to always speak up every time he saw people putting themselves in unsafe situations.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
8. What should you do if you see a co-worker not following safety procedures?
  - a. Tell his or her supervisor
  - b. Speak up and remind him or her to work safely
  - c. Ignore it