ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL. Conversation guide

Protecting our crowded places from attack

Knowing what to do during an active armed offender attack in a crowded place can save lives.

This guide offers some ideas to help start a kōrero (talk) with friends, whānau (family), colleagues and community.

These conversations can be unsettling and confronting, especially for younger audiences. Please be considerate of your audience before starting any conversation. Conversations should be age appropriate.

What is a crowded place?

Crowded places are locations where large numbers of people have access easily and predictably.

A crowded place could be sporting arenas, transport hubs, schools, shopping centres, restaurants, markets, places of worship, community halls or entertainment venues.

What is an active armed offender?

An armed offender is a person armed with a gun, knife or similar weapon who may try to hurt as many people as they can in the shortest amount of time.

Starting a conversation

It's important that you and those around you know how to respond in an attack.

How to start the conversation

A conversation may come up naturally after hearing about an attack in the news, or seeing a movie to TV show with an active armed offender.

> You could ask "What do you think after watching or hearing that?" or "How would you respond if that happened here?"

What to say

While it is unlikely you'll ever be involved in an attack, it's important you know what to do.

We do this around fire safety, in preparation for emergencies, and when people fly on planes

There are three key actions to remember:

ESCAPE HIDE TELL

How to finish the conversation

At the end of your conversation, check everyone understands what's been discussed.

> You could ask "What are 3 things you need to remember?" or "What number would you call in an emergency?"

Know what to do if an attack happens in a crowded place. ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL.

All New Zealanders can help to detect and prevent attacks in crowded places.

ESCAPE

Move quickly and quietly away from danger, but only if it is safe to do so.

If you see a safe way out, leave the area immediately.

- Move quickly and quietly away from danger if it is safe to do so.
- Take your phone with you if you can, but do not go back to get it if it puts you in danger.
- Leave other belongings behind.
- Encourage others to go with you, but don't let their hesitation slow you down.

HIDE

Stay out of sight and silence your phone.

If you can't escape safely, find a secure place to hide.

- Secure your environment by locking doors and windows and barricading entries where possible.
- Stay away from doors and be as quiet and still as possible so you do not give away your hiding place.
- Note any potential exit points.

TELL

Call the Police by dialling 111 when it is safe.

You may be asked to provide the operator information, or to keep them updated if the situation changes.

If it is safe to do so, try to obtain the following information:

- exact location of the incident.
- description of the offender/s and if they are moving in any particular direction.
- details of any weapons being used.
- number of people in the area and any that have been injured.
- the intent of the offender/s (if known or apparent)