

Webinars for AmeriCorps VISTAs

At Home in Your Community

To join the audio portion by phone,
please dial:

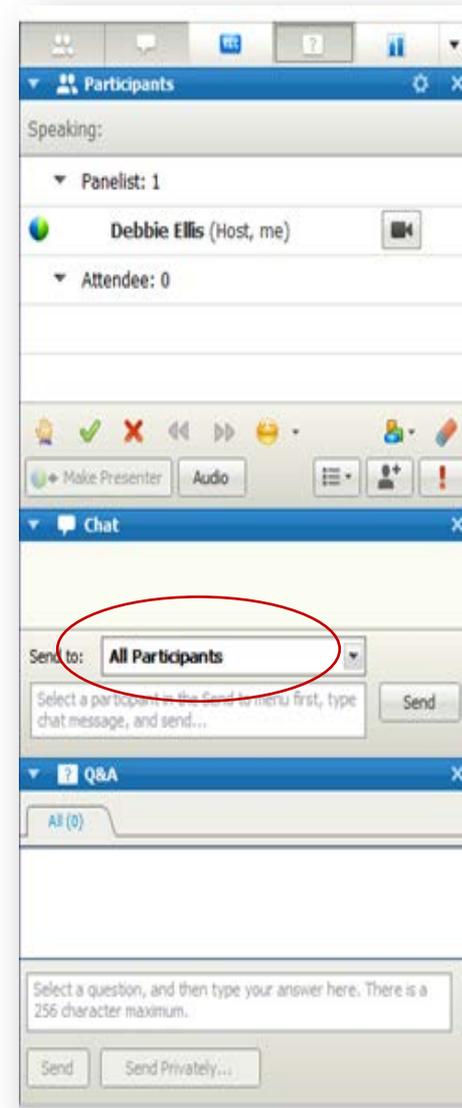
888-282-0174 Passcode: **5173820.**

This session will begin shortly.

Tips for Participating

Webinars for AmeriCorps VISTAs

- Phones are muted
 - Phones will be open for Q&A later
- Audio available through your computer
- To ask questions, use the Q&A panel
- To share comments and ideas, use Chat
- Recording will be available afterwards on the VISTA Campus
- Closed Captions can be viewed in the Media Viewer panel



Webinars for AmeriCorps VISTAs

Welcome to At Home in Your Community

Corporation for
NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE 



VISTA
Volunteers In Service To America

Today's Team



Molly Pelzer

Corporation for National
& Community Service



Bob Schout

Trainer, Coach, and
Consultant



Liz Jung

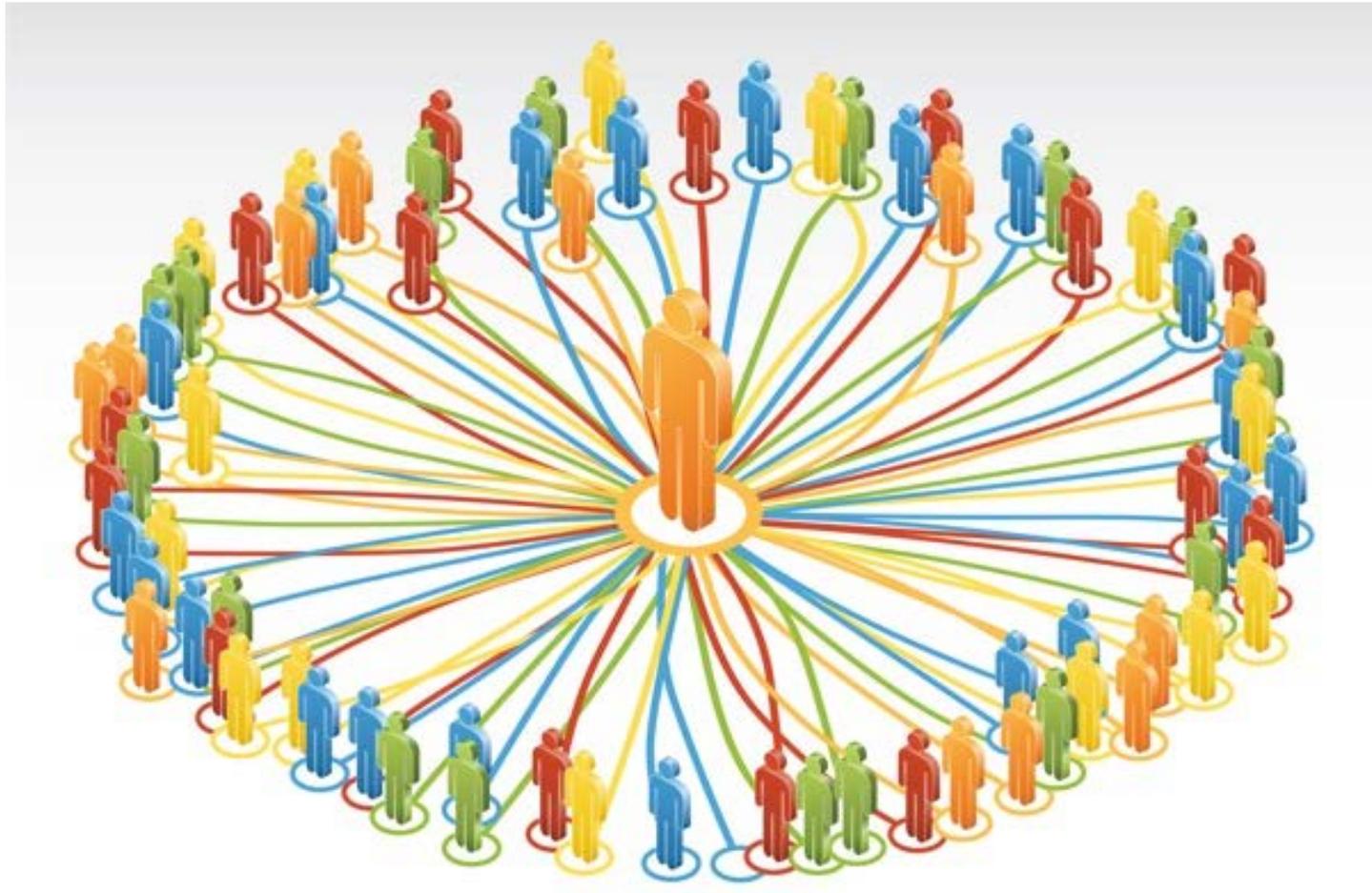
Corporation for National
& Community Service

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Today's Agenda

- Dimensions of Community
- Entering a New Community
- Staying Safe in a New Community

What is a Community?



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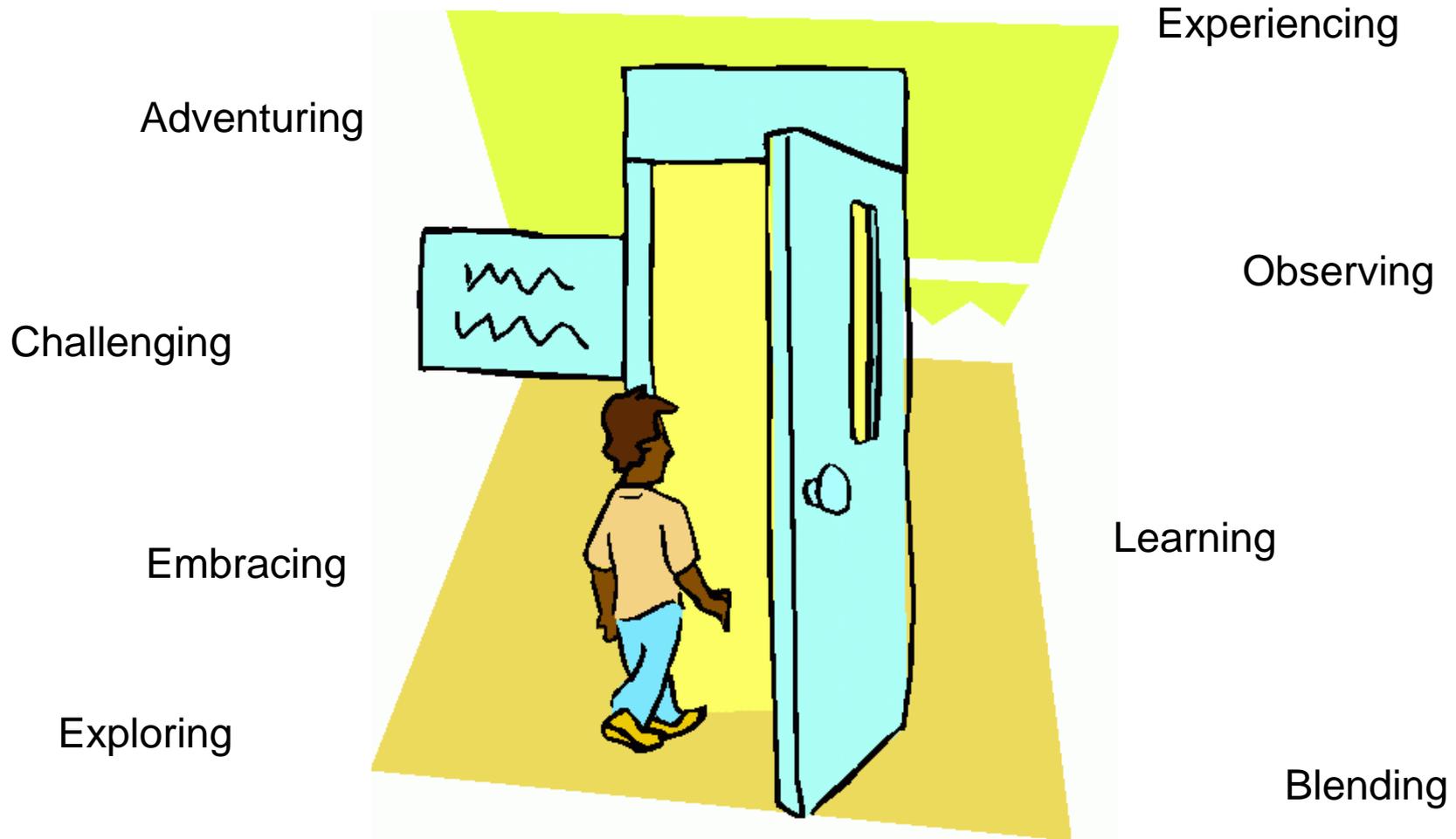
Chat

What do “community” and “migration” mean to you?

Dimensions of Community



Entering a New Community



Strategies, Tips, and Resources

| Physical Migration | Cultural Migration | Community-of-Origin Role Transition |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Definition: Moving to, and getting settled into, a new community.</p> <p>Tips...</p> | <p>Definition: Moving from one culture to another and blending with norms, habits, beliefs, values, perspectives, etc.</p> <p>Tips...</p> | <p>Definition: Redefining your role within a community in which you were raised or have lived.</p> <p>Tips...</p> |
| Feeling Welcomed | Becoming an Active Community Member | Resources for Self Care |
| <p>Definition: Feeling and experiencing an affinity with a community and people within a community.</p> <p>Tips...</p> | <p>Definition: Fully integrating and contributing to a community in personal-relational-professional ways.</p> <p>Tips...</p> | <p>Definition: Reference materials and people which can provide ongoing and further support.</p> <p>Tips...</p> |

Community Entry Best Practices

Best practices for being at home in your community:

1. Community walk-about with peers and/or clients
2. On-the-spot visitations with community residents and business owners
3. Hosting an open house, then a potluck, for neighbors
4. Telling everyone about yourself, about your culture-of-origin, and about your 'home' community right off the bat
5. Use of on-boarding mentors for being at home in an organizational community

Community Entry Best Practices

6. Adventure: Exploring within regional and geographic communities
7. Upon entering your 'new' community, going out and teaching 'them' a few things to prove your intentions and abilities
8. Use of cultural coaches and cultural mentors from local communities
9. Use of meeting-visitation and job-shadowing of stakeholder communities
10. Use of informational interviewing for stakeholder, organizational, and local communities

Community Entry “Traps” to Avoid



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Serving in Your Community-of-Origin

- Do 'they' know your new role and responsibilities?
- Do they 'see you' as a professional, in your new role?
- Are you making assumptions that you 'already have' the relationships you need?
- Have you defined and/or maintained new relationship and information-sharing boundaries?



challenge
ASSUMPTIONS

Chat

Who do you think would be a good community mentor or coach?

Seven Simple Things

Here are seven simple things you can do to connect with your community:

1. Look out but turn within; act out but grow within
2. Stay in the learning and stretch mode
3. Virtues and values will always lead the way and save the day
4. Join in and do local things
5. Demonstrate respect for all cultures and forms of diversity
6. Don't continuously compare and contrast "your culture" to "theirs"
7. Always respect the human condition and relate on basic human grounds

Staying Safe in a New Community

A word cloud centered around the word "awareness". The words are arranged in a roughly circular pattern around the central word. The words include: awareness, protection, resources, risk, assault, theft, smarts, street, danger, safety, injury, instincts, community, knowledge, and security. The word "awareness" is the largest and most prominent.

Safety and Security Issues



Risks Versus Threats

THREATS

What is a threat?

What are the dangers?

Are they real?

RISKS

What is risk?

What's *your* risk threshold?

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THREATS

What is a threat?

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RISKS

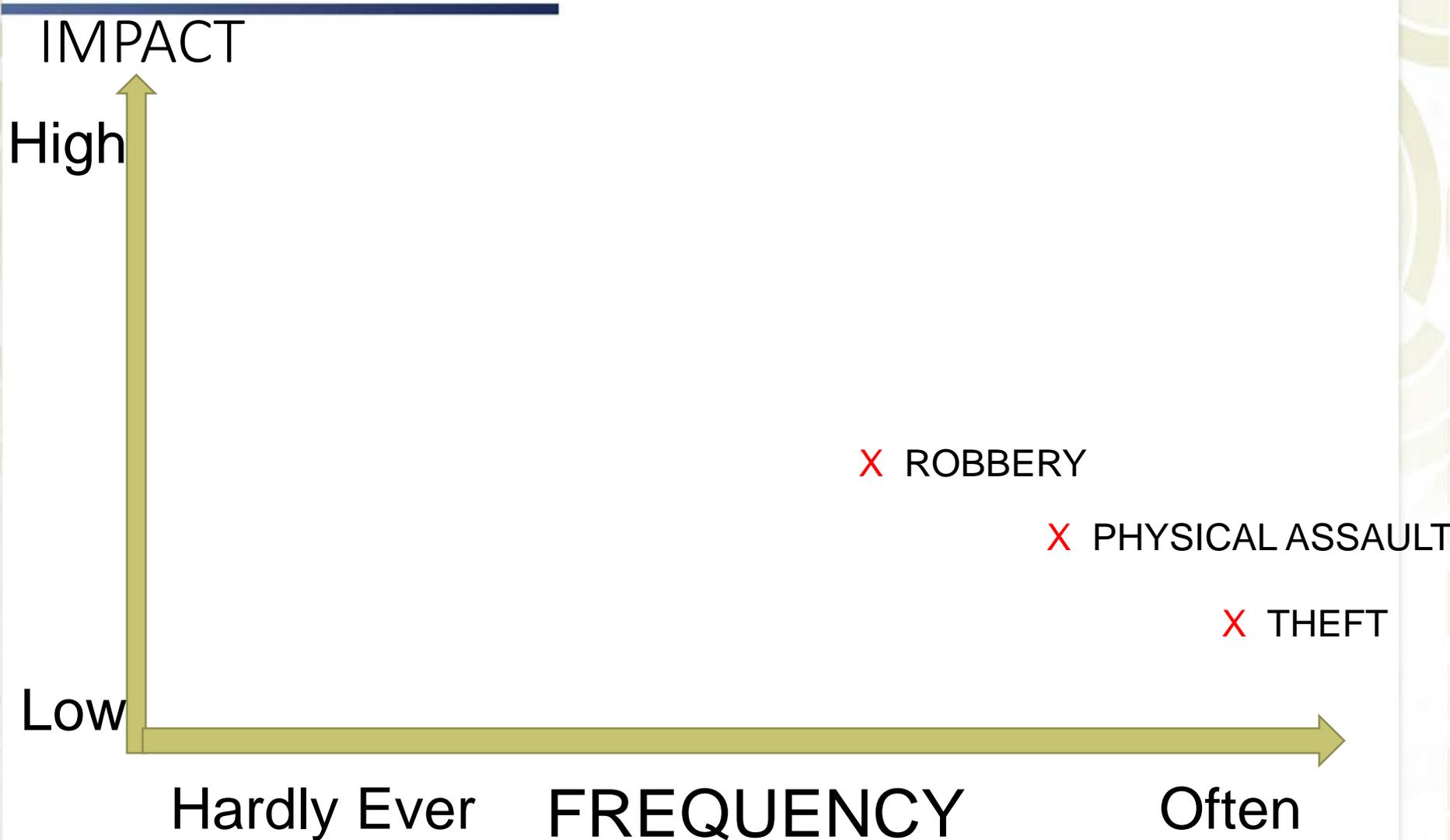
What is risk?

What's *your* risk threshold?

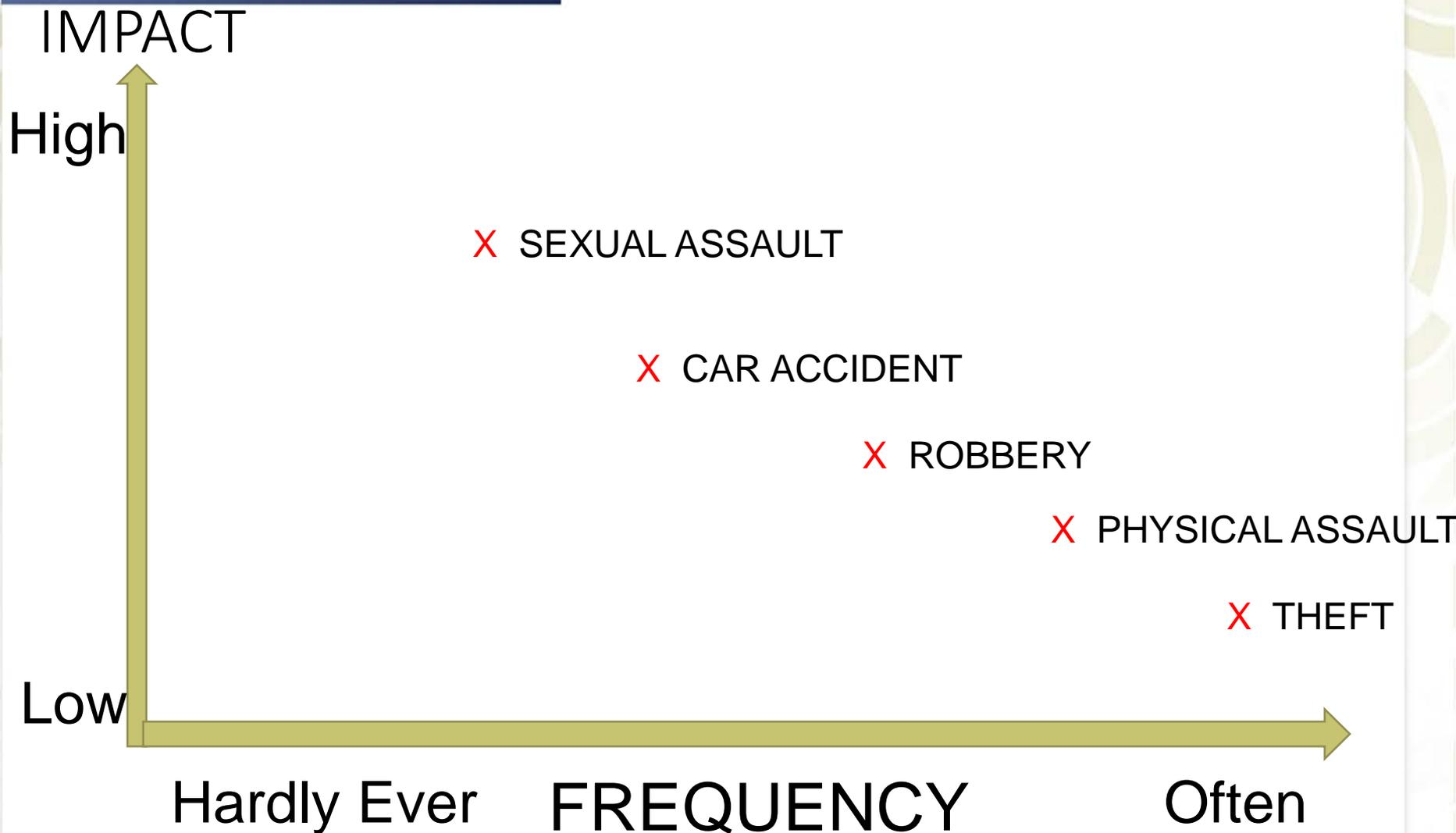
Establish Your Boundaries



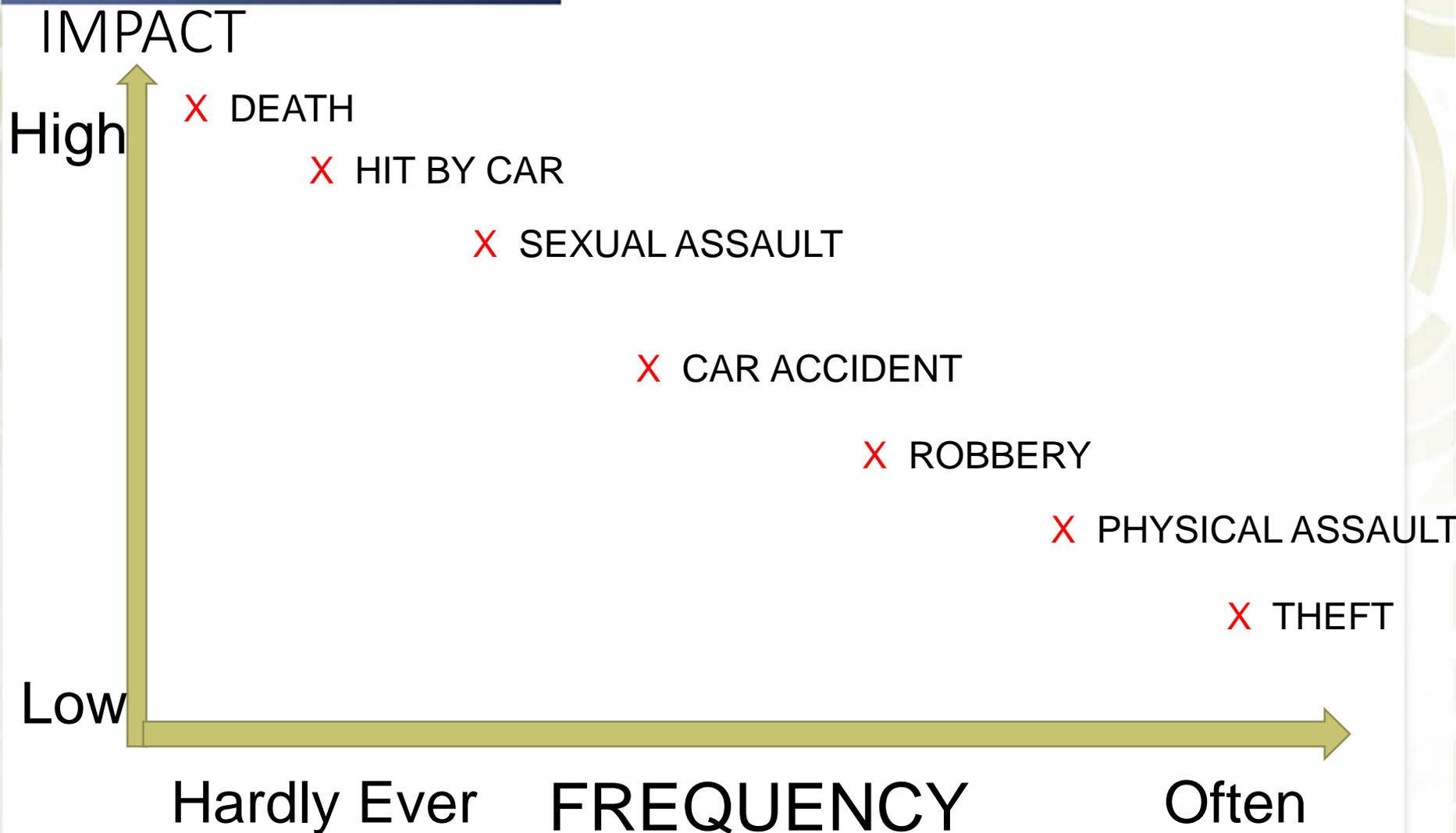
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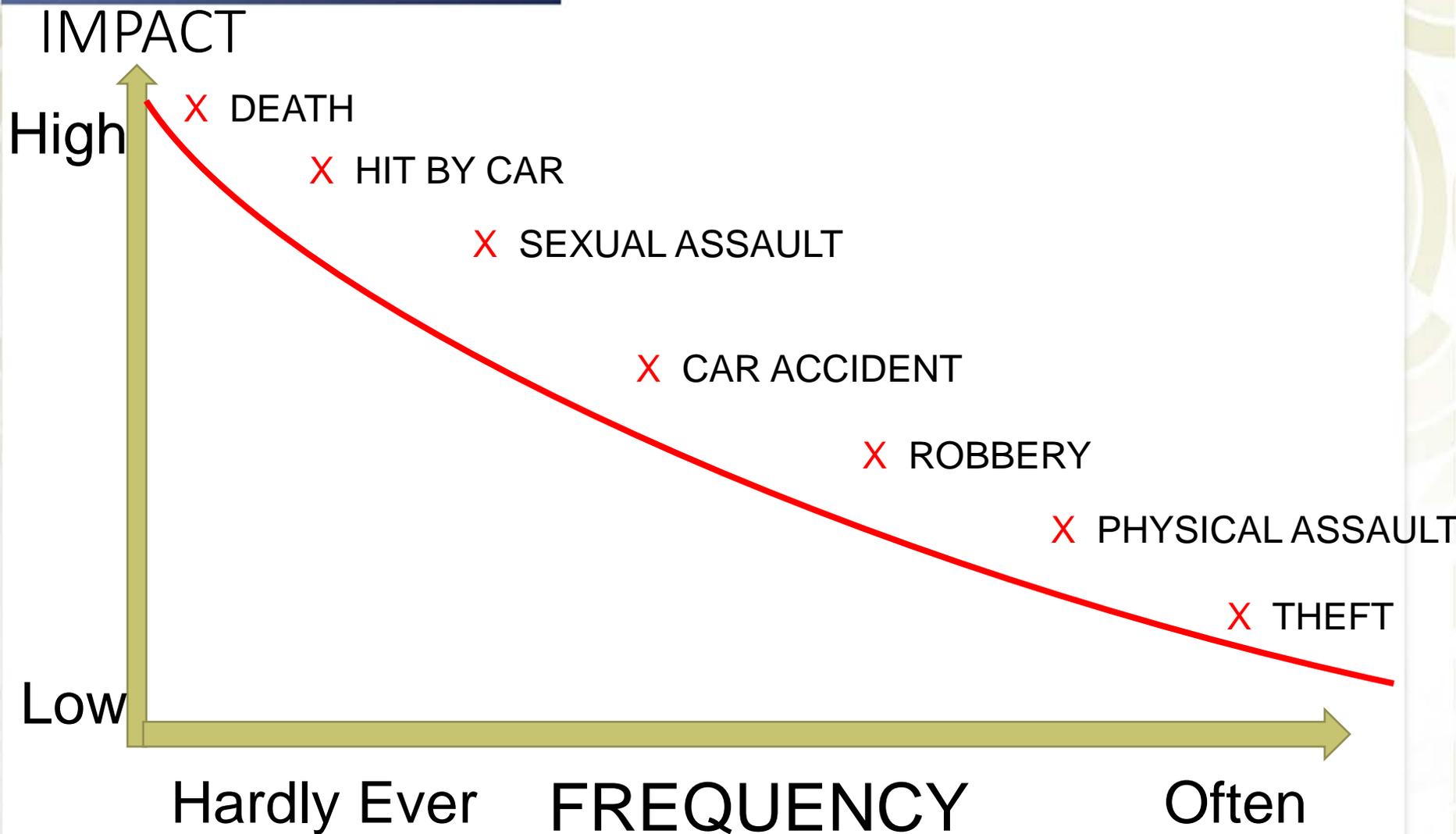
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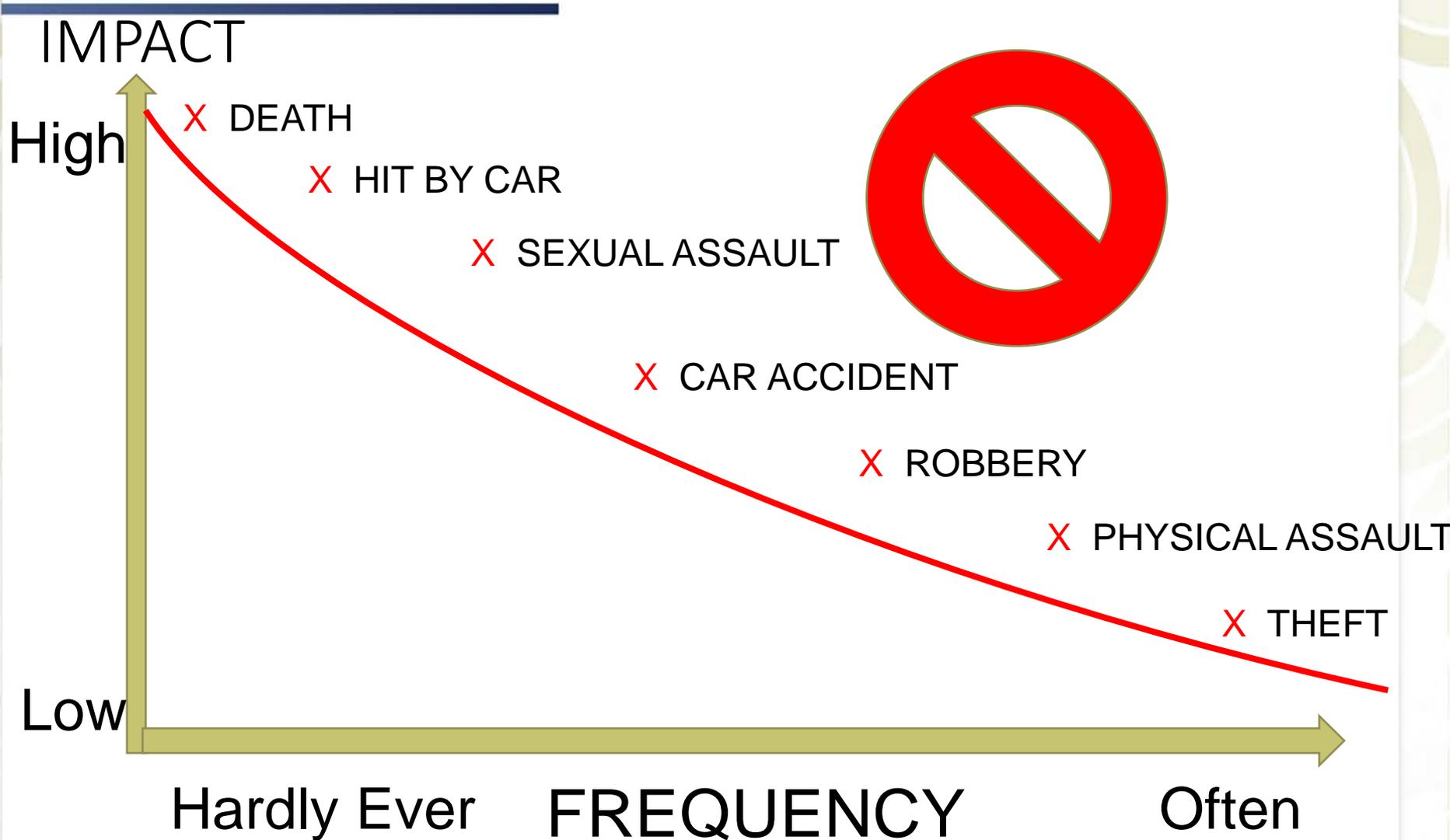
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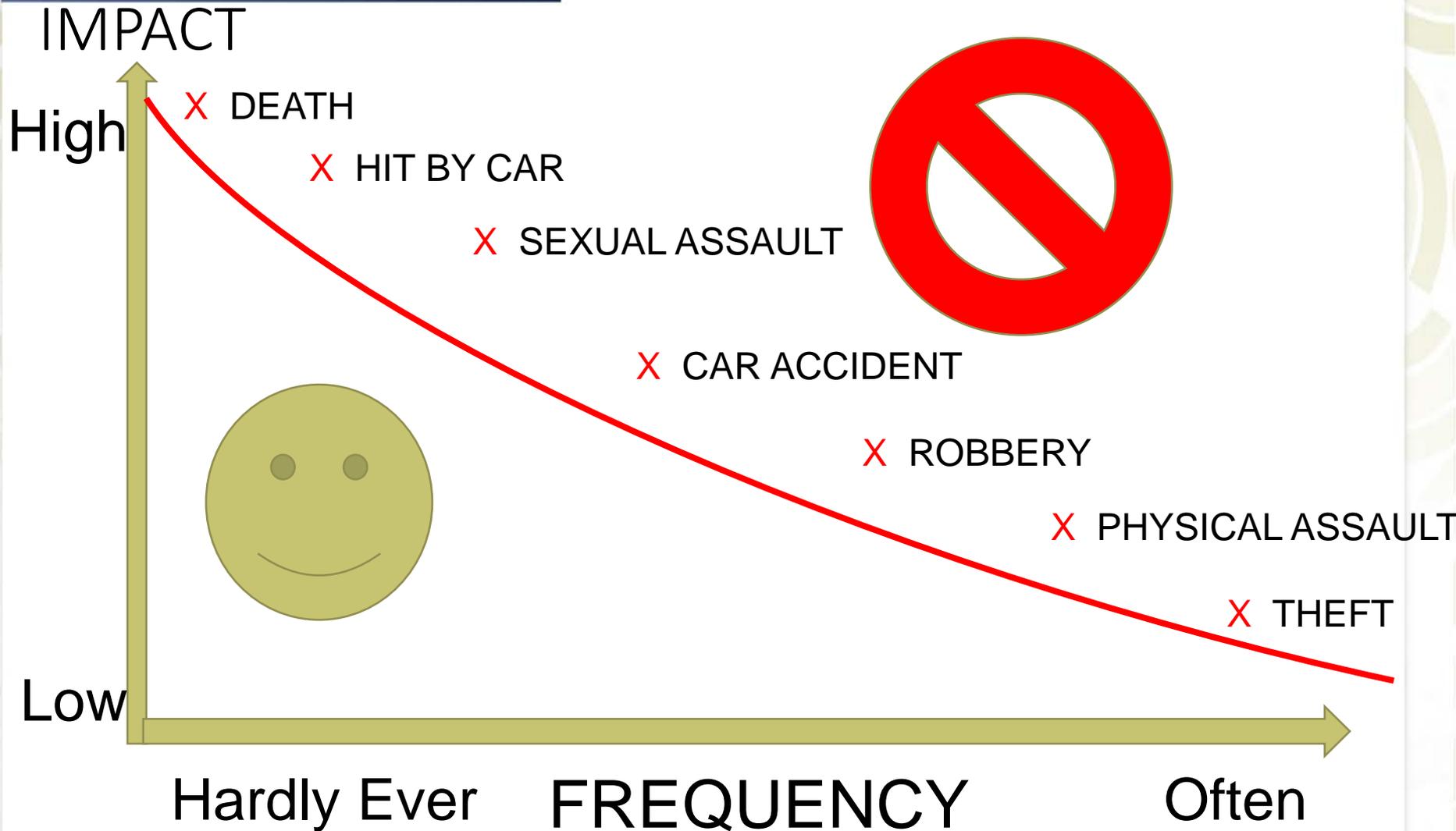
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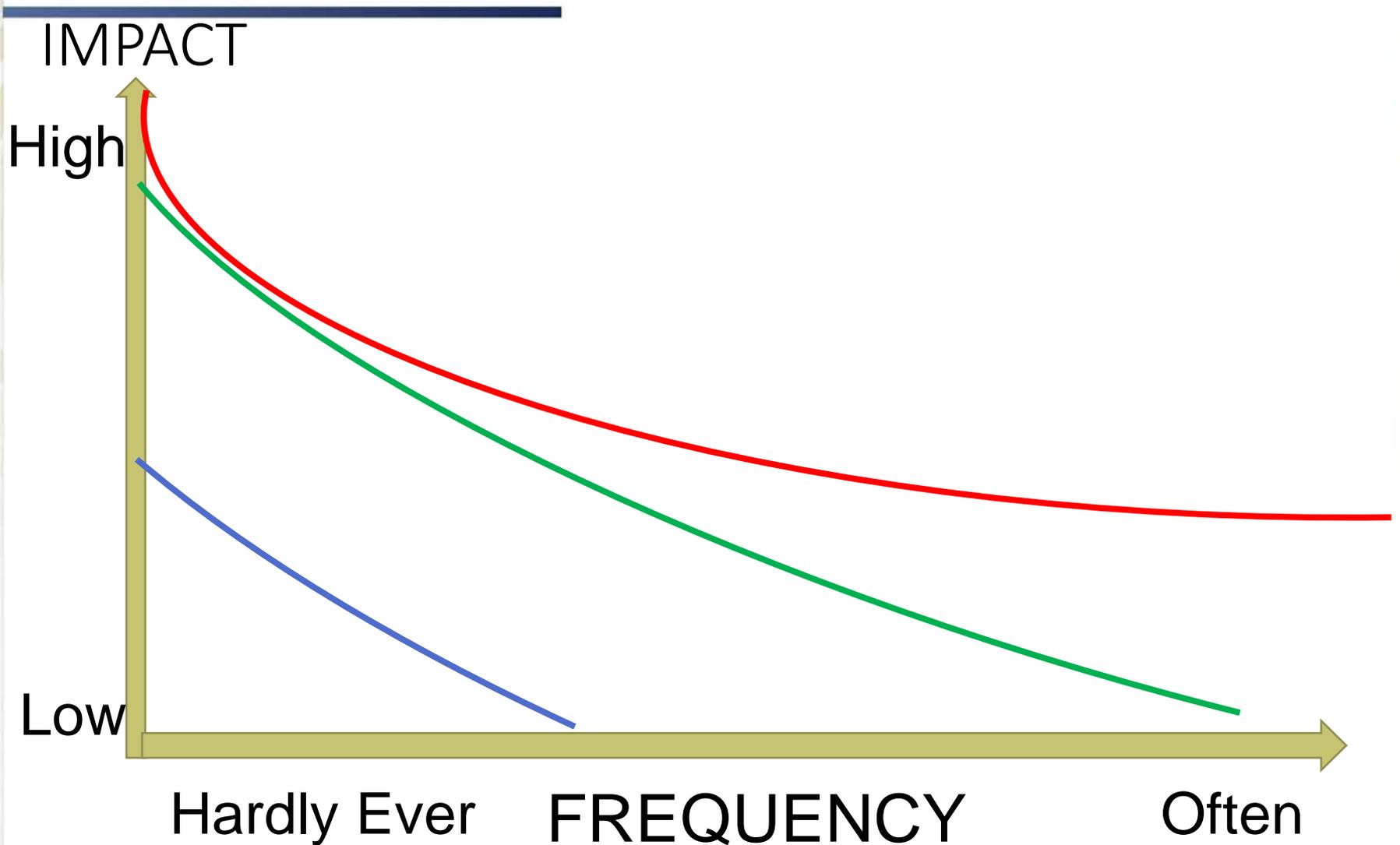
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Establish Your Boundaries



What's Your Risk Threshold?



Personal Safety Strategies and Tips

- Know What You Don't Know
 - Avoid assumptions – real versus perceived
 - Ask questions and develop a plan

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 - Training

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- **Make Connections – Integrate**
 - Socialize
 - Neighbors, co-workers, other VISTAs

Personal Safety Strategies and Tips

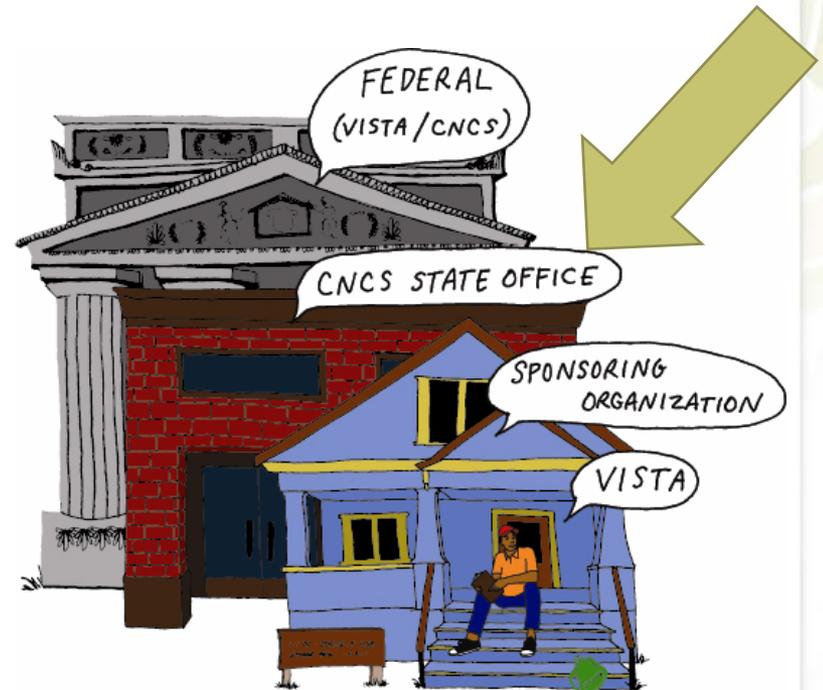
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- Make Connections – Integrate
 - Socialize
 - Neighbors, co-workers, other VISTAs
- **Trust your instincts!**

Chat

What strategies or tips do you use to stay safe?

Resources: Your CSO

- Commitment to supporting VISTA members
- When to reach out to the CSO
- What the CSO can do for you



Next Steps

- Recognize when you need help
- Plan what to do if something does happen
- Find training and resources
- Take care of your community

Evaluation

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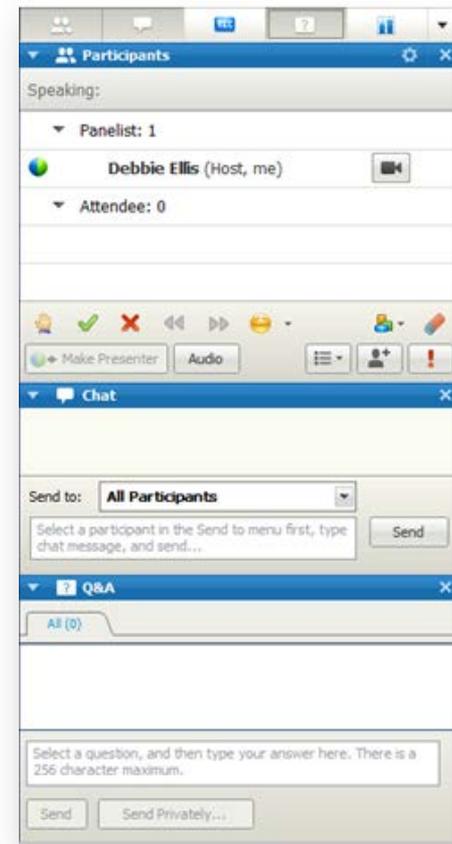
Please take a few moments to share your feedback. How can we improve these sessions? What topics should we include in future webinars?

Thank you very much for your time and participation!

How to Ask Questions

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- To ask a question verbally, call in using the number on this slide and press *1
- To ask a question electronically, use the Q&A feature located in the bottom right corner



Thank You for Your Participation!

Webinars for AmeriCorps VISTAs

Next Webinar:

Managing Up/Managing Expectations

March 12, 2015

2:00 PM ET

Join us:

National Solutions Summit

February 25, 2015

AmeriCorps.gov/VISTA50



Questions? VISTAwebinars@cns.gov

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