



by *Jostens*[®]

CRITICAL THINKING

KYLER ERICKSON

Use the following critical thinking questions to help foster an open, student-led discussion on the theme(s) discussed in this episode of The Harbor.

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1. “OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN OVER 85 SCHOOL SHOOTINGS.”
WHILE THESE HAVE BEEN ISOLATED INCIDENTS, THE TRAUMA FROM
TRAGEDIES LIKE THESE CAN BE FELT NATIONWIDE.

How can we help one another through traumatic experiences at the micro-level (i.e. person to person,
classroom to classroom, or school to school)? How can we help as a community?

2. AS WE ALL KNOW, TRAGEDY IS NOT JUST LIMITED TO VIOLENCE. TRAUMATIC EVENTS
CAN INVOLVE PAIN, FEAR, ANXIETY, DEPRESSION, ABANDONMENT, THE END OF A
RELATIONSHIP, DIVORCE, THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE, OR EVEN A NATURAL DISASTER.

Have you, your friends, your family, or your community been directly affected by a traumatic event?

If so, how did you and those around you cope with the experience?

3. RECALL HOW KYLER INITIALLY REACTED TO THE SHOOTING THAT OCCURRED AT
HIS SCHOOL - HOW HE KEPT HIS FEELINGS TO HIMSELF AND REFUSED TO
“ADMIT THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG” WITH HIM.

Unfortunately, many victims of traumatic experiences internalize their feelings and have a difficult time seeking help.

Why do you think this is? Use Kyler as an example.

4. MANY OF US HAVE KNOWN SOMEONE WHO NEEDED HELP THROUGH A TRAUMATIC
EXPERIENCE, BUT REFUSED HELP OR RETALIATED AGAINST ANYONE THAT TRIED TO OFFER HELP.

How do we help those people who won't help themselves? What can we do to better understand their situation?





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