

**YEAR 8**

**PDHPE**

**SUSPENSION WORK**

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# Exploring Risk (cont.)

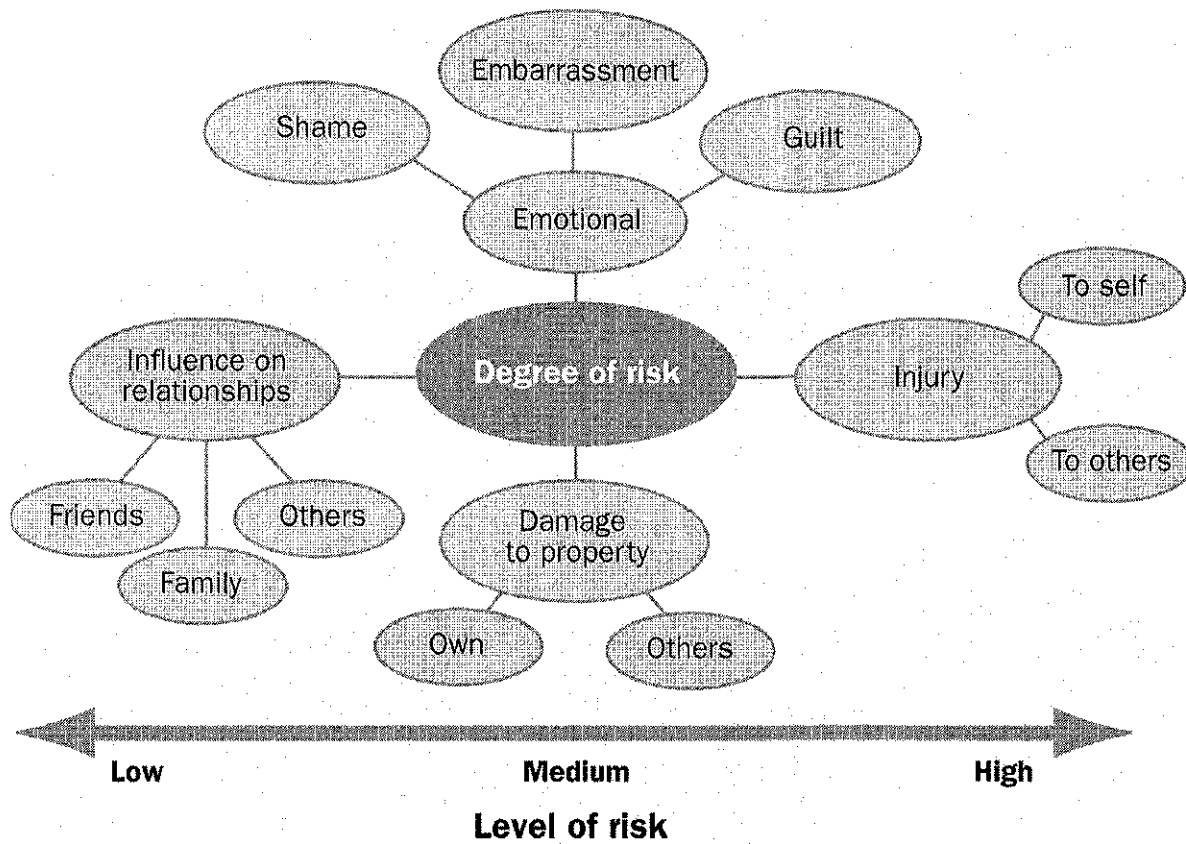


Figure 1– Degree of risk mind map

## Factors influencing risk behaviour

Young people are more likely to be involved in risk-taking behaviour for a number of reasons. They:

- Are more accustomed to a society where we can expect instant pleasure and get fast results
- Do not have life experience of older people, and developmentally need to push the boundaries
- Tend to live more for the moment than for what might happen in 10 years

## Gender

Gender is a major factor influencing risk behaviour particularly in relation to road use. Males tend to associate their gender and risk taking with:

- a 'rite of passage' that all males experience. This can be expressed through behaviours such as speeding and binge drinking
- 'macho' attitudes and a perception that it is part of being tough

# Risk Taking Activities

- a) For each case, write down what you think each risk is, and what the results might be.
- b) Suggest strategies in which the individual could reduce harm, if any.

## Case study 1

Mika has met up with a friend in the city to do some shopping and see a movie. Afterwards, she just misses a train home, but decides to wait for the next one instead of ringing her parents to ask them to come in all the way to pick her up. A group of drunken football supporters scramble on to her carriage just as the train departs. Immediately, she starts to feel uncomfortable and unsafe as she's the only other passenger on board.

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## Case study 2

Ben is cycling to cricket training and is making good time. As he's approaching a traffic light, it changes to amber. He doesn't want to lose his momentum and glances quickly from side to side. He picks up his pace to cross the intersection as the light turns red. He doesn't see the motorcyclist who collects him.

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## Case Study 3

Jade has been over to a friend's house and lost track of time. Fearful of being home late for dinner, she decides to take a short cut through a park instead of walking along the busier roads. In the growing darkness, she starts to suspect that someone is following her.

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# Rank the risk

For each of the following situations

- Identify the degree of risk by ranking it as low, medium or high risk
- List the potential harms that could occur in each situation

Situation	Ranking	Possible Harms
Swimming at night in the surf		• • •
Riding your bike to a friend's house		• • •
Spending the day at the beach with your friends		• • •
Going to a party on Saturday night with your best friend		• • •
Walking home with someone you just met at a party		• • •
Getting a lift in an overcrowded car		• • •
Taking a short cut across a railway line		• • •
Riding your bike on a busy road without a helmet		• • •
Being at a dance for under 18 yr olds and accepting a drink from a stranger		• • •

# ASSERTIVE RESPONSES

With a partner or in a small group, identify five potentially unsafe scenarios that could occur in peer group situations. For each unsafe situation brainstorm a series of refusal responses and assertive behaviour you could use to keep yourself safe.

1. Situation:

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Responses:

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2. Situation:

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Responses:

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3. Situation:

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Responses:

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-  
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4. Situation:

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Responses:

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5. Situation:

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Responses:

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