



SCHOOL BUS  
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# The Restraint Needed to Practice Inaction

MSBO  
May 2, 2017

# The laws of nature

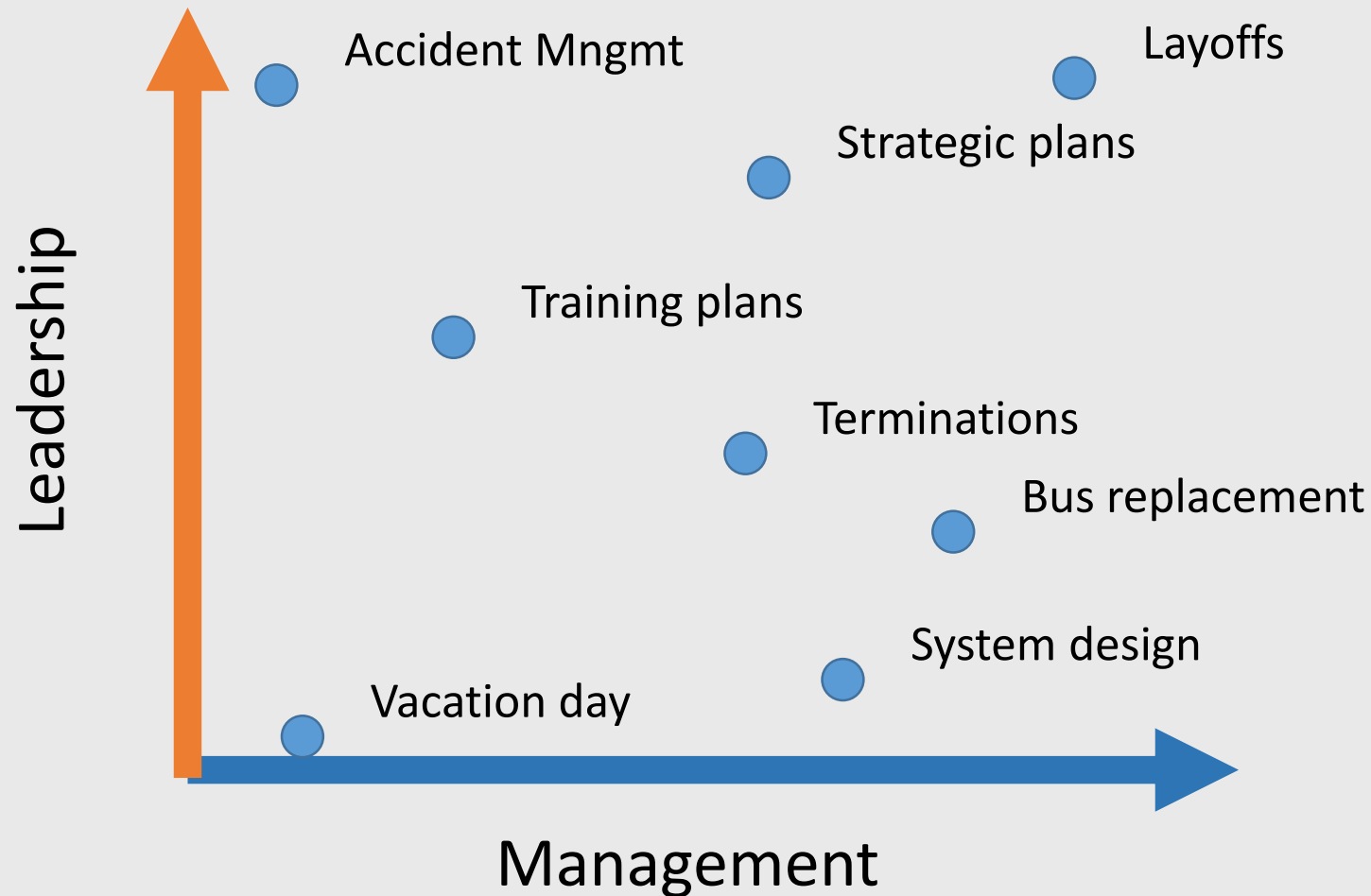


A Cooperative Program to Reduce Incidents of  
Vehicles Passing Stopped School Buses  
in a Coastal Region of North Carolina



REPORT TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION OF THE  
LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

# Oh, the decisions we make





# Making decisions when we don't know everything

- Do we have all the information?
  - ❖ Do we act like we have all the information?
- Do we have a lot of experience making these decisions?
  - ❖ Are we answering the right question?
- How do we structure the decision making process?
  - ❖ I decide, you execute
  - ❖ We decide and no one decided

# Decision making factors

## Things that stop us from deciding

Loss aversion

Status quo bias

Vividness

Availability bias

## Things that impact the way we decide

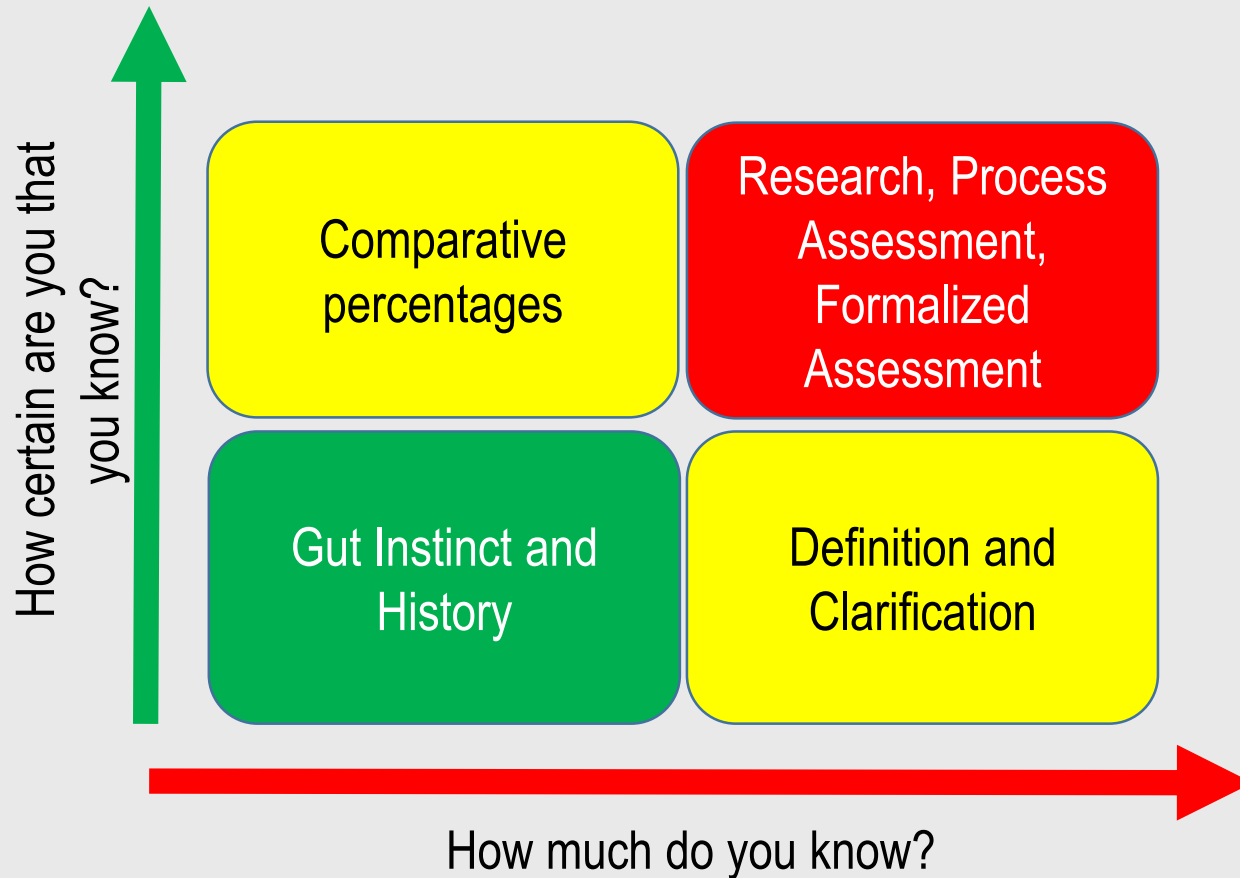
Representative bias /  
Associate decision making

Small samples

Hindsight bias

Optimism bias

# How do we decide?



Adapted from "Introduction to Decision Analysis", David C Skinner

# The rationale for doing nothing

- Transportation is a complex system
- Consequences are often unintended
- Results are often counterintuitive
- Decision fatigue



# How do we practice restraint?

- Create a process for rules and exceptions
- Understand the consequences of your action...and when it might occur
- Forget how good you think you were at your job
- Remember how tired you are!!!

## In summary

- Decision making is about managing uncertainty
- Cognitive bias is in everything you do and isn't always negative
- Having a process gives you both experience and history
- Doing nothing needs to be an option. It needs to be thought out but should be an option



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