

Radiation Attitude Survey

Brainstorm:

What words, images or ideas come to mind when you hear the words “**nuclear**” and “**radiation**”. Write down some of your ideas in the space provided:

* The following terms/names/titles (real life and film/tv) may resonate more deeply with your parents, but do they have any meaning to you?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| - Chernobyl | - The China Syndrome |
| - The Day After (1983 tv movie) | - Dr. Strangelove |
| - Three Mile Island | - nuclear winter |

Take the following quiz. Indicate whether or not you think you would be concerned about any of these situations.

Situation	Worry	No Worries
1. You are living close to a nuclear reactor.		
2. You have eaten something containing low levels of radioactivity.		
3. You have eaten something that has been exposed to radiation.		
4. You take a trip to California on a plane and get there safely.		
5. A serious nuclear accident like Chernobyl happens somewhere far away.		
6. You discover you are naturally radioactive.		
7. You are living on the escarpment rather than in the valley.		
8. You discover you are seated right next to a radioactive source.		
9. Your first “home away from home” is a basement apartment.		
10. You live in a house made from brick or stone.		

11. You discover there are items in your house that contain radioactive material.		
12. You hurt your ankle during basketball and need an x-ray.		
13. A radiation treatment machine is abandoned in a Brazilian medical clinic. Some time later, a scrap metal dealer removes it for the metal.		
14. You are breathing the air in your classroom.		
15. You are walking along the sidewalk.		
16. You take a new job in Denver, Colorado, and move there.		
17. You find out that a large proportion of electricity in Ontario is produced using nuclear power.		
18. You are working in a paper factory.		
19. You get a new job with Campbell's soup.		
20. Doctors think your thyroid gland is malfunctioning. They want to test its function by injecting you with a radioactive isotope of iodine.		
21. You have decided on a career as an airline pilot.		
22. You are working in a mine for the summer.		
23. You are sitting in an empty room with a radiation detector, and it is registering a radiation count.		
24. You like to eat seafood such as oysters and mussels.		

For which of these questions did you wonder about its connection to radiation or nuclear energy?

What prior attitudes or knowledge (or what you think you know) influenced your assessment of risk in the situations described?