

# Risk Assessment Methodology for School Security

**An excerpt from  
“The Effective Use of Security  
Technologies in U.S. Schools”**



## **3 Key Questions Answered by the Methodology**

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- 1. What security incidents are the most important to protect against?**
- 2. What vulnerabilities prevent the school from effectively protecting against each of these incidents?**
- 3. What security measures can be implemented to arrive at an acceptable level of risk?**



## **Question #1: Which incidents are most important to protect against?**

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- **What do we need to protect, and what credible “undesirable events” can result in harm (loss)?**
  - **Students, faculty, band instruments, faculty vehicles, cash box / register?**
- **From whom do we need to protect them**
  - **Criminals, gangs, mentally disturbed individual, irate parent, student, faculty member, Chechen terrorist, rival school students**
- **What is the relative risk associated with each incident (undesirable event / threat)?**
  - **Likelihood (L)**
  - **Consequence (C)**



## **Question #2: What are the current system vulnerabilities?**

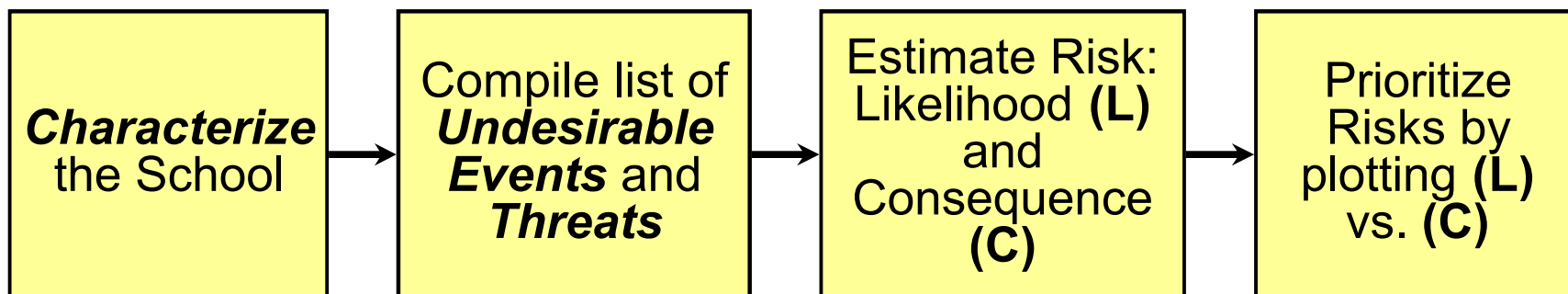
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- **Physical protection system is the integration of people, procedures, and equipment**
- **Requires performance evaluation against the incidents**
- **Need to know specifically where it fails to provide adequate protection**



# Risk Assessment Methodology: Part 1

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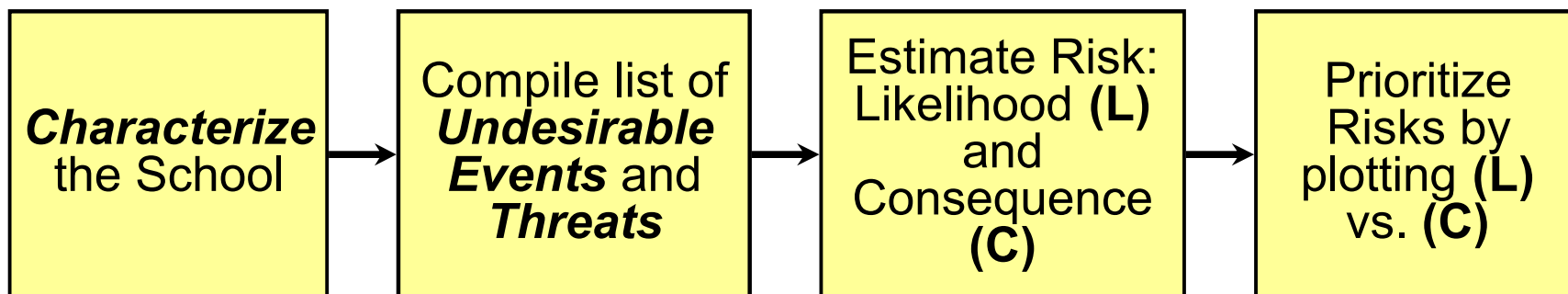


- Site maps / floor plans
- Operational constraints / characteristics
- Policy and procedure documents
- Historical incident data
- Security concerns from faculty, students, etc.

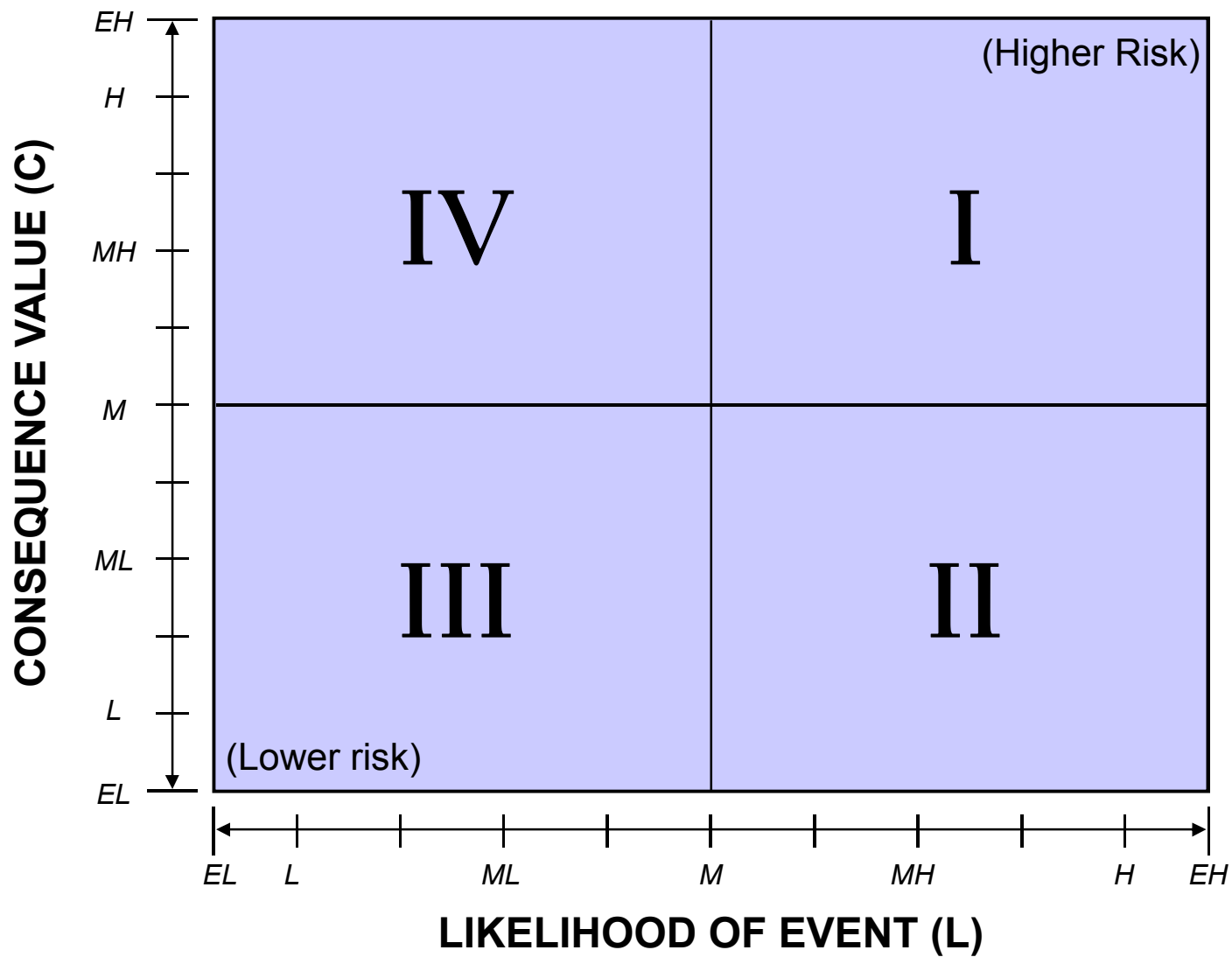


# Risk Assessment Methodology: Part 1

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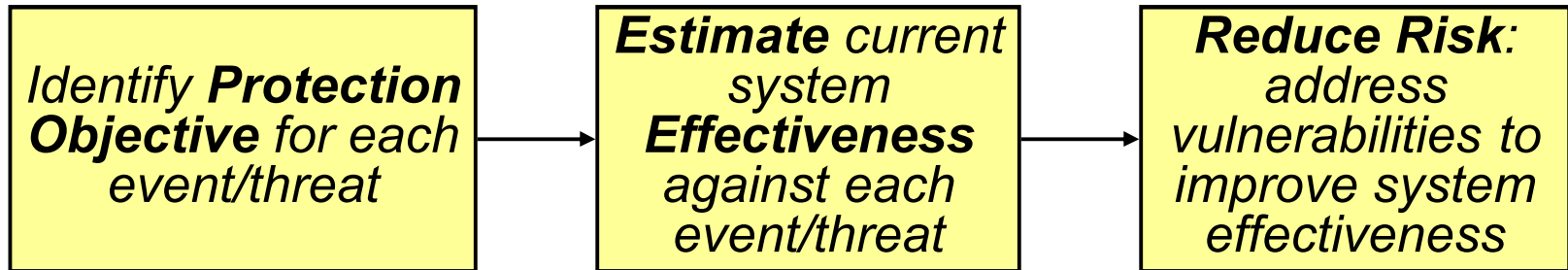
- **Example Undesirable Event:**
  - Use of firearm on campus by **student** to harm **faculty member**





# Risk Assessment Methodology: Part 2

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- 3 basic protection objectives:
  - Prevent
    - Required functions: detect, communicate, delay, respond/interrupt, prosecute/discipline
  - Apprehend
    - Required functions: detect, communicate, apprehend, prosecute/discipline
  - Mitigate