



WHAT WENT WRONG?

A guide to discussing the **Dinner** safety advertisement in your workplace

Workplace safety doesn't become any less important after you clock out. In fact, it's what – and who – we come home to at the end of the day that makes our safety so valuable.

It should never take a loss to put what's important into perspective. This discussion guide is designed to start conversations about workplace safety *before* injuries occur.

In *Dinner*, we see a mother struggle to break her habit of setting four places at the table after her husband dies from a fall on the job. After realizing her mistake, she puts on a brave face for her children. We see the ways they are all forced to readjust their daily lives after loss.

The only acceptable number of workplace fatalities is zero.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION POINTS

- What workplace hazards have you seen or experienced on the job?

- What equipment helps you do your job safely? Do you feel this equipment is sufficient?

- In *Dinner*, we see the worker climb a ladder while his safety equipment hangs idly on the scaffolding behind him. PPE is only useful if it's worn. What helps you remember to wear PPE every day?

- Was the scaffolding set up properly? What could the employer done differently?



Safety starts with conversation. Use this guide at your next team meeting, toolbox talk, or JOHSC meeting.



- What safety measures are used in our workplace to control hazards?

- What hazards are an everyday part of your job? What do you think can be done to decrease the risk of these hazards?

- At our workplace, how do we identify and report hazards? What role do Hazard Reports play in getting safety issues fixed and eliminating hazards?

- How can all employees (and managers) influence a positive safety environment?

- What are some ways that work-related injury impact our lives outside of the workplace?

- Who or what do **you** work safely for?



WHERE FROM HERE?

Dinner shows a family having to adapt to a new life after loss from a workplace tragedy. We see how one workplace incident can change our loved ones' lives forever, and we are reminded that every decision matters. Everyone in a workplace shares responsibility for safety, based on their own level of authority and ability. That's the central message behind the [Internal Responsibility System \(IRS\)](#).

While the hazards we see and identify may seem small to us, the impact of our actions can change the life of someone else. When we understand and commit to workplace safety, we can help make sure this impact is a positive one – where there's no injury and no trauma, where everyone works and goes home safely.

- Get the training you need to safely do your work. If it's not offered right away, ask for it.
- Ask your boss to explain safe operating procedures, and follow them.
- Take the time to work safely. If you're feeling way too rushed, talk to your supervisor.
- Don't take shortcuts, even if other people do.
- Always use safety equipment, including safety equipment and personal protective gear and clothing.
- Operate machinery and tools properly.
- Be an advocate for safety. Help others to speak up too.
- Report anything you feel is unsafe.
- Work with your supervisor and boss to make positive change happen.

REMINDER: If you are working from a height that exceeds three metres, fall protection is required. Under regulation, one of the following is required – a guardrail, temporary flooring, a personnel safety net, a travel restraint system or a fall-arrest system. The details depend on the situation.

Understanding exactly what's at stake when we don't provide safe work spaces or when we don't work safely is essential to preventing injuries, because workplace injury hurts the most at home.

Visit the [Nova Scotia Occupational Health and Safety Division](#) to find out more about the OHS Act and IRS rights and responsibilities.

For more workplace safety tools and resources visit worksafeforlife.ca.