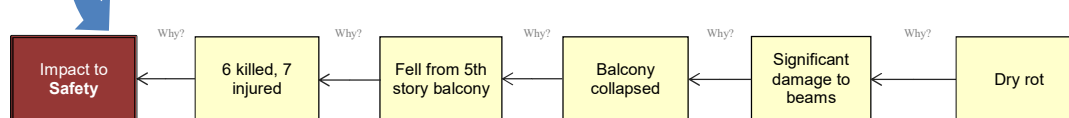


# Berkeley Balcony Collapse

On June 16, 2015, a fifth story balcony in Berkeley, California collapsed. The accident occurred during a 21st birthday party when 13 people were standing on the balcony. Six were killed and the seven were seriously injured.

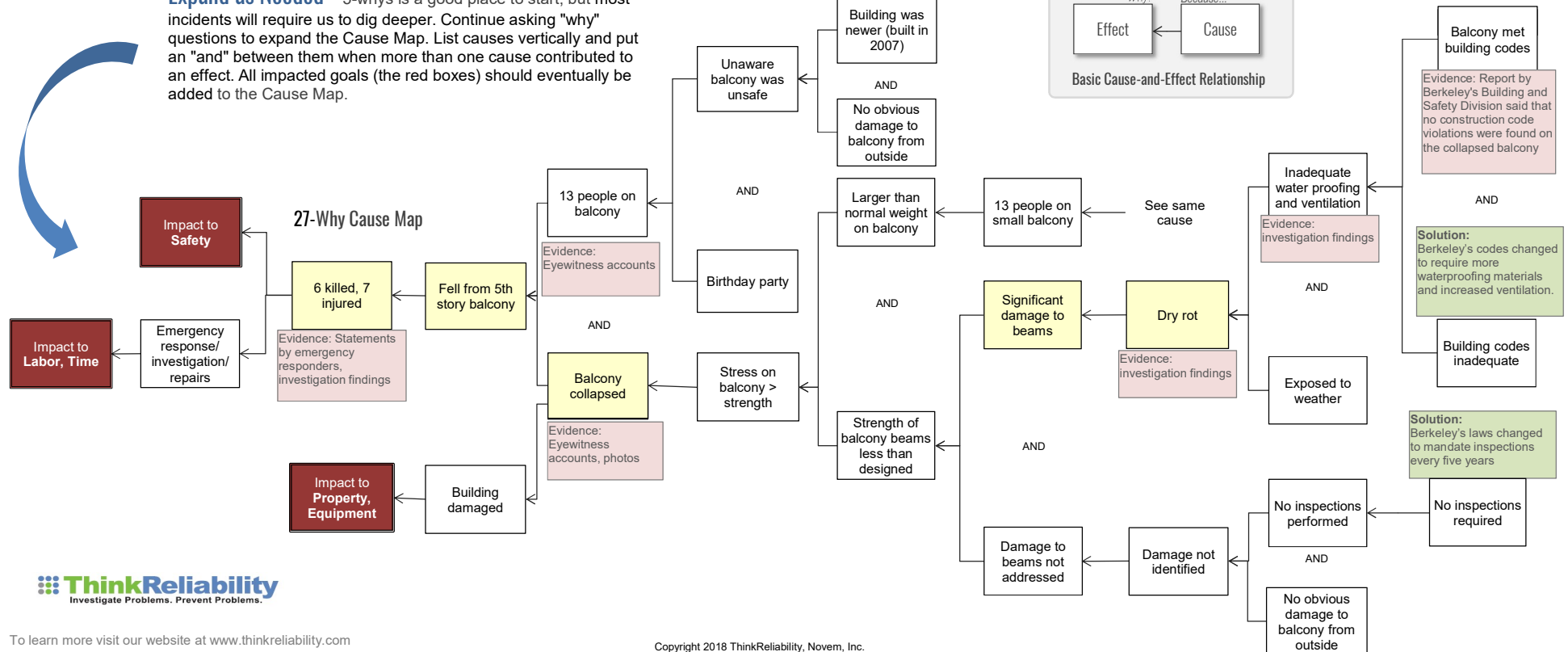
**Start Simple** Start at one of the impacted goals and ask why questions to begin building the Cause Map. In this example, we started at the safety goal and asked five why questions.

5-Why Cause Map



**Expand as Needed** 5-whys is a good place to start, but most incidents will require us to dig deeper. Continue asking "why" questions to expand the Cause Map. List causes vertically and put an "and" between them when more than one cause contributed to an effect. All impacted goals (the red boxes) should eventually be added to the Cause Map.

27-Why Cause Map



## Problem Outline:

**What  
When**

Problem(s)  
Date  
Time  
Different, unusual, unique  
Facility, site  
Unit, area, equipment  
Task being performed

Balcony collapsed, 6 killed, 7 injured
June 16, 2015
~12:30 a.m.
13 people on balcony
Berkeley, CA
Library Gardens apartment complex, 5th floor unit
Party - people on balcony

**Where**

**Impact to the Goals**

<b>Safety</b>	6 killed, 7 injured
<b>Property/ Equipment</b>	Building damaged
<b>Labor/ Time</b>	Emergency response/ investigation/ repairs