

**CRIME PREVENTION
AND PERSONAL
SAFETY TIPS**

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BY

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www.bookstandpublishing.com

Published by

Published by
Bookstand Publishing
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
4641_1

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ISBN 978-1-63498-714-1

Printed in the United States of America.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To anyone wanting personal safety and crime prevention tips.

I am not here to scare you.

I just want to **make you aware** of all the crime out there that we all face on a daily basis. **No one is immune** from becoming a crime victim. I want you to read this booklet from cover to cover then share it with your friends and love ones.

This booklet is broken down into two sections.

The first section is on **crime prevention** and the second section is on **personal safety**.

Under Crime Prevention some of the topics are: Assault, Battery, Kidnapping, Homicide, **Rape**, Arson, **Burglary**, Auto Theft, **Carjacking**, **Home Invasion**, and Mass Shootings.

Under Personal Safety some of the topics are: **Risky** short cuts to a destination, **dimly lit** areas, walking or **jogging alone**, road rage, using earphones when out and about, waiting 3 seconds when you get a green light in traffic, alcohol and drugs at parties, driving drunk, swimming pools, **Malls and Cinemas**.

It may take time to change your bad habits of not locking doors, using an alarm, walking alone, not knowing your surroundings and always on your cell phone. **Once you do apply** my crime prevention and personal safety tips you will be safer.

CRIME STATS:

In 2016: From Facts Gathered From The FBI.

There were **over 1.2 million** violent crimes committed within the USA. A 4.1 percent increase over 2015. There were 95,730 reported rapes and 17,250 murders according to The FBI Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) which were compiled by over 16,000 law enforcement agencies across the nation. There were 7.9 million property crimes with over \$15 billion dollars in losses not counting arson.

Crime is out there. So be alert and aware of your surroundings. You need to protect yourself and your loved ones 24/7.

Start thinking prevention right now. Do not rely on your police department or neighbors to watch your back. They do a great job but it is not enough. Crime stats prove that.

True Story on Crime Prevention:

Every time my own 2 adult children come for a visit I have fits. **Why?** They do **nothing** related to what I tell them they need to do 24/7 on crime prevention. I am **constantly** locking our front and back door, the rear gate to our yard, closing and locking open windows, closing the garage, putting the alarm on and I could go on and on.

Next time they come for a visit I will get them hotel rooms and visit them away from my house. The only way you cannot be a victim of crime is to prevent it from happening in the first place.

I wonder if you will follow my advice in this booklet. You have to think crime prevention and personal safety 24/7, then you have to practice it 24/7. The more you read what I have to say I think and hope you will.

Carjacking:

It is happening more and more and the criminals are becoming tactical. I just read about 4 carjackings in Atlanta in 3 days by 6 criminals. They are armed, dressed in black and used a firearm to shoot at the victims. A very bad and violent group for sure.

The victims in these cases were very lucky. They could have been forced into their home, assaulted, robbed or worse, killed. The crimes can occur at any hour, any day of the week and in any part of the city.

The police spokesman on the 4 carjackings said, "We are not safe. The crimes are happening at the same time in the same area."

One victim was robbed in his driveway, one getting off an entrance ramp after being rear ended and another at a golf course. This tells me they are driving around just looking for targets.

One victim said, "I didn't know where they came from and I'm very aware of my surroundings."

Another victim after being shot at 3 times said, "I am in shock. I shouldn't even be standing here."

Rape Kits:

I heard on the news that over 400,000 rape kits were not even tested but were stored in different warehouses across the USA. This means 400,000 victims that were attacked and the criminals got away with the violent act. Some of the rapists are still out there waiting to attack again.

The victims reported the crimes, yet the police did nothing to find out who the criminals were as they did not test the rape kits for DNA. Very sad to know this.

What is DNA in criminal investigations?

DNA encodes biological information and the police use this DNA as a forensic technique in criminal investigations to identify an unidentified person.

Criminals today are very smart. They watch television and crime shows. While sitting in jail or in prison they talk day and night to their fellow inmates. They discuss their crimes, how they got caught and how to avoid getting caught again. They learn quickly from their mistakes. When released, they team up.

You have to prevent yourself and your loved ones from being their next victim. You have to think like a criminal and say to yourself, “What if?”

“What if I...?” don’t lock my car, place my packages in the open, flash a lot of money in a bar, etc. You might be alright for a while but the criminal sooner or later will make you a victim.

Banks have armed guards, alarms, cameras and they still are robbed.

You have to make yourself a small target by sending a strong signal to the watching criminal that you are alert and aware of your surroundings. Put away your smart phone and pay attention to your surroundings. Know what is going on around you in a complete 360 degree circle.

Be alert all the time.

It is very sad we have to live like this but that is the normal world we live in now. You hear on the news about take-home police cars being broken into at the officer’s own residence and their firearms being stolen from their vehicle.

It happens because the policemen with the take-home cars feel safe. I wonder how the cops that lost those deadly firearms feel now!

Watch people exiting a store. How many are alert to their surroundings? How many are on their cell phone?

Crime is out there. Prevention is the key to not being a victim.

Alarm companies pray on fear.

They show in their ads a home burglarized and then say, “For \$25 a month you can be protected by our alarm system.” So you call and they come out. The alarm is installed in a few hours and monitoring is done at a central station.

“So far-so good, right?” **Wrong!**

Why?

I know you will not use your alarm every time you leave home or when you retire for the night? I use mine 24/7 at my house and I have never been a victim. I had one attempt 35 years ago.

What trick did my criminal use on me?

I later found out that the criminal would ride around our neighborhood in Kendall, Florida on a bicycle waiting for the right time to strike.

In my case it was when we just had our daughter and went for a stroll. I put the alarm on and we left for a walk.

During our ten minute walk by wife asked, “Why put the alarm on? We will be right back.”

“I looked at her and replied, ‘Prevention’. We bought an alarm system so we have to use it each and every time we depart our residence.”

Boy was I right. When I arrived back home a short time later the alarm panel showed an attempt by the front door bedroom window.

I went to the front door and saw a foot print in the dirt, the window pried open and the screen pushed in.

That push on the screen is what caused my alarm to go off and the bad guy to run away. What if.... We arrived home with no alarm on and the bad guy waiting for us with a gun?

We will never know because he ran off with the alarm ringing.

Being a policeman at the time I knew just how it went down.

The criminal saw us leave with the baby stroller, came back to our house and knocked at the front door. No one answered so he stepped to the left, pried open the window and pushed in the screen.

That fast and that simple. This occurred in broad daylight too. He was finally caught. Criminals are opportunists and are out there. They just wait for the right time to strike.

They look for the easy targets.

Why mug a young man when an elderly couple is coming down the block? The mugger knows he can out run an old man in his seventies.

Go one day to the courthouse and sit in on a few criminal cases. You will discover that the courts just issue probation on top of probation when the criminals are caught.

When I was a cop the courts worried more about the bad guy's rights than how the victim was doing. I would be asked, "Did you read him his rights?"

This day and age you have to place the protection of you and your family in your own hands first, every minute of every day.

Prevention. What does this mean?

You start with good lighting, lock your doors at all times and be aware of what is going on in your neighborhood. **If not** the criminals will just pick on each of us one at a time.

If you do install an alarm you have to use it 24/7. When you are at home relaxing you need the alarm on. If you have a dog, you know your pet will bark if it hears noises. Your dog is your early warning system. The alarm is too if it is armed.

Prevention is the key. Avoid being a victim.

Just don't open your front door just because they say your name. Don't just open for anyone you do not know either. You will someday be a victim if you just open the door and say, "Hello."

What will you do if the criminal sticks a gun in your face and says, "Step back now?" You have just endangered not only yourself but your loved ones as well.

Maybe the criminal is looking for money to buy drugs. How nice of you to open your door. **So much for prevention** and keeping your doors locked.

Avoid being a victim of crime. Just think prevention.

A woman pulls up to a gym and opens her trunk. She places her purse inside and closes it. The woman then enters the gym. When she returns an hour later she discovers that the trunk was pried open and her purse is now missing.

The woman then reports her credit cards as stolen and has to replace her driver's license too. The criminal already went on a shopping spree with her credit card. A big hassle for sure.

What the woman should have done.

Just carry ID inside with her and leave the purse at home or place the purse in the trunk earlier, arrive at the gym a few blocks farther down the road, put her car alarm on, lock the doors and enjoy her exercise.

The criminal waiting in the family van would have no clue your purse was in the trunk and you would not be a victim. The poor lady that arrives ten minutes later and places her purse in the trunk will be the next victim.

The criminal would see the blue in color Honda pull up, the customer placing her purse in the trunk, locking the car and going inside.

The criminal would use his co-criminal to block the gym entrance with a large truck to hide them from view, pry open the trunk, remove the purse and drive away.

The truck would sit there 5 more minutes, then the other criminal would join his or her partner at the store and shop with the stolen credit cards.

Think prevention. Think like a criminal.

Your car has locks so use them. Lock your doors as soon as you enter. Hide your packages in your trunk before you arrive at your next destination.

The criminal watching you at your next stop will just see you exit, lock the car and go inside the store. Believe me, there will be a woman along soon enough that parks, leaves packages in the open and then enters the mall.

When pumping gas make sure your car is locked and the keys are in your pocket. Look around when pumping gas. Show the criminals you are alert to any trouble.

When you pull up to the pumps and you see strangers standing around pretending they are waiting for someone, move on to another gas station.

Recently a man left his car running with the keys in the ignition, and a gas pump nozzle in the tank and walked away. He went inside the store and returned a few minutes later. He finished pumping gas and left. He was very lucky a criminal wasn't around to steal his vehicle.

What if a criminal was around?

He steals the car, the victim calls the police, the criminal is spotted and the chase is on. It ends miles down the road with the criminal running a red light at one hundred miles an hour and killing three people in the other car. Just because the victim did not turn off the motor, remove the car keys and place them in his pocket.

It is better to be safe than sorry.

CRIME PREVENTION AND PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

When you are walking to your car make sure you have your keys in your hand and you look around as you walk. Some women carry pepper spray just in case.

If someone does approach and wants you to get in the car then you need to act fast. Whatever you do, make sure you do not get in the car, weapon or not. Scream, yell and run. Drop or throw your car keys at them, but run.

Let them steal the car. It can be replaced. The criminals are expecting you to comply with their demands. "Get in the car." So look at them and run away.

If your kids are already in the car then stand your ground and fight. Scream, yell, spray the criminal with your pepper spray, do anything to get the attention of someone.

Keep your car doors locked at all times. Place your briefcase, jackets and other items in the trunk. Prevent the criminal from smashing a window and taking your belongings left in the open.

Remember:

Criminals will sit and wait all day for the right target to attack. If you are not aware of your surroundings they will someday grab your purse, steal your car or worse, grab you.

Take the keys with you and never leave children in the car unattended.

Check the back seat for a criminal hiding and waiting for you to enter your car. At night it is difficult to see if someone is hiding. Carry a small flashlight with you and always stay alert.

Do not be an easy target.

Look around you when walking or jogging. Do not wear headphones or use your cell phone. Be alert to sounds and to tricks to get your attention.

An example:

You are jogging when an elderly man stops at the stop sign, exits his vehicle with a piece of paper and asks you, “Where is Dorm Street?”

You stop walking or jogging and turn your back to the man to point behind you as Dorm is 2 blocks away.

When you turn around, that is when the man grabs you or knocks you out and drags you to his car and drives away. That easy and that quick.

In this example the woman was able to escape because she was sweaty from running and slipped away from his grip. She was very lucky he didn’t hit her over the head.

It turns out the old man was helping his sick, middle-aged son stop women on the street. They came up with many ways to stop you or to distract you. **Never assume** the old man is just an old man.

Lock your car doors as soon as you enter. Do not sit and talk on the phone or sit there unprotected to put your makeup on.

CRIME PREVENTION AND PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

Watch for women that walk up selling or asking questions. Sometimes they are helping their evil lover grab their next victim.

It is sad you have to think this way but you have no choice.

You have to prevent yourself from being a victim.

If you do take a walk or jog then change up the times and direction of travel. Make it harder for a person to grab you or know a routine. Walk with a partner. Safety in numbers.

If confronted by someone then fight right then and there. The criminal with the firearm will not be expecting you to fight. That is why he showed you the firearm in the first place.

The criminal rather run away now and find an easier target later. Sad but true.

When entering an elevator be sure there are other women inside if a man enters. You might have to step out and wait for the next one.

What if he stops the elevator and tries to attack you?

See, prevention is the key to your safety.

If you have to walk to your car after work or it is dark then ask security to escort you or a co-worker that you trust. Just do not walk to your car alone. That is what the criminal is wanting you to do.

Criminals sit in their cells dreaming of all the ways they can attack you. **You have to out think them.** You have to be alert at all times.

If you arrive home and leave your garage open to unload your items then what will stop the bad guy from just walking in to your open house and attacking you?

They think of ways to trap you: In your car, at work, while on a jog, an elevator, leaving a bar, etc. Be very aware of your surroundings and do not let them take advantage of you.

Always keep your hands free.

Try not to be loaded down with packages or not watching who is walking up to you. They will try to push you inside your car and drive away.

If that happens you need to start fighting for your life. Kick, bite, scratch, yell but do something and do it fast.

Criminals like to run in packs so be aware of crowds. Say to yourself, “Why are those three men standing by the entrance to the mall or a convenience store?” Look for trouble signs and always be thinking safety and prevention.

The police try to do a good job but they can’t be everywhere. They try to drive around when not on calls to try to prevent crime by stopping and checking people out.

Park under street lights or close to the entrances of buildings. Have your keys in your hand and walk with a purpose. Let your body movements say to a criminal, “Hey I am alert and aware of you.”

If you do this each and every time then the criminal will look for some other person as his next victim. He doesn’t want