

Perspectives

NOTES ON SELF-DEFENSE KEY CONCEPTS, PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE DEFENSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Defending From Within

We have a habit of putting our faith to improve into objects. Golfers buy new clubs. Those that like to fish buy new rods and reels. Those that want to feel safe buy firearms or some other force multiplier. But the secret to improvement is within. It's not contained in something we simply buy.

Our ability to think, reason, evaluate, discern, decide, observe, communicate, advise and other abilities are not gained by acquiring tools, they are found within waiting to be developed.

We are not helpless. Everyone has untapped strength from which to draw from and develop.



"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone."—

Ronald Reagan

Tale of Two Cities

Memphis is one of the most dangerous cities in the world – statistically. Yet thousands of people, even with its reputation, come here every year to visit and tour our city.

It has two unique stories to tell that the rest of world can only tell from a post Memphis perspective. Memphis was instrumental in the expansion of Music and Civil Rights.

While not all of it is glamorous or even glorious, it's still our story to tell and people come here from everywhere to experience the place where it all happened. We even have our own unique style of BBQ that is recognized all over the world.

Being labeled as one of the most dangerous cities in the world, it garners much attention we would rather not have to acknowledge. "The crime is out of control" as if we had more control, it would be ok. "Too many guns" flood the streets as if there is a proper number that is acceptable. Consequences are

tempered for various violations out of fear it would impact segments of our population disproportionately.

And it's in this environment that we are exposed to violence that can occur anywhere and at any time.

No one is coming to save us. We have city services that can assist after the fact, but only once we are able to call for help. By that time the perpetrators are long gone. Until then we need to prepare to survive.

We must look out for each other and help whenever we are able to help.

Ideally, we should evaluate our skill sets. Update them and expand our ability to serve regularly. Mitigate our risks whenever possible. Calculate our best course of action. Be prepared to help in extraordinary situations. Be able to read environments and people. Be aware of situations that are potentially dangerous and then act prudently.

That's Our Perspective