

Edged Weapon Concealment and Deployment

Know Thy Enemy and Understand the Technology

In my continued research into the reality of self protection, I realize more and more how important the pre-contact phase of any street encounter is, from a personal safety standpoint. Several weeks ago, I wrote a post specific to firearm pre-deployment awareness that provided information specific to carry and deployment of a concealed firearm (<http://senshido.savi.ca/viewtopic.php?t=4512>). The premise of that posting was that if you know how to identify the subtle cues that indicate a concealed carry, you can anticipate that you're dealing with an armed subject and gain a preventive tactical edge in the areas of timing and positioning, especially when it comes to pre-emption. Early discovery of a concealed weapon, and its deployment, is critical because if you wait until you actually see the weapon; it becomes much more challenging to thwart the attack.

A complete edged weapon tactics/counter tactics program should spend a considerable amount of time in the areas of:

- 1) **Awareness and Avoidance**: are you aware of the types of edged weapons currently being carried by the criminal element, and how this same element are carrying and deploying these weapons, and
- 2) **Counter Deployment Training**: if you are aware of how the criminal element carries and deploys these weapons, usually from a concealed carry, then you can interdict or “foil” their draw prior to full deployment

Sadly, it has been my experience that many “knife defence” programs out there spend no time, or just “lip service”, to these very important learning/protective objectives.

In the spirit of sharing this important information, I have attached three (3) YouTube links that clearly demonstrate:

- The technology of edged weapons,
- The concealment of this technology, and
- The deployment of this technology

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=AlzZ3m48V2I&mode=related&search=>

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=ORBYx1XAtLk&mode=related&search=>

http://youtube.com/watch?v=kCY5e_ugOsc&mode=related&search=

Some common characteristics and indicators that can be observed in these three videos:

- 1) Edged weapons can be carried anywhere on the body, and in any number: One of the three assumptions that we make here at the school is that the subject is likely armed, usually with multiple weapons (the other two are, the threat is trained how to fight, and the threat has friends). People who like to carry knives, usually like to carry more than one.
- 2) Clearly you can see “protective body movement” to protect the concealment of the weapons
- 3) Notice the type of baggie clothing being used to conceal the weapons. Having said this however , there are times when you can observe protrusions through clothing
- 4) Notice how the reaction hand is often used to lift clothing , so that the weapon hand can access the knife
- 5) Watch the drawing motion of the weapon hand elbow, no matter where the weapon is concealed on the body, when accessing the knife

6) Watch how, depending upon where the knife is concealed (like in the front pocket), body language and hand placement is congruent with how a person will stand to:

- Get their hand close to their weapon without drawing attention to what they are doing, and
- Hide the draw and deployment of the knife

Awareness, Awareness, Awareness. Knowledge and the understanding and application of that knowledge is power !!!!!!!

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