

Defensive Strategies



**By Lyn Bates,
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Sometimes one of those YouTube videos just sticks in your mind. Many of the cutest cat videos have that quality for me, but I won't bore you with my personal selection. This is, after all, a firearms venue, not a feline one.

Earlier this year there was a Glock commercial called the "Wrong Girl" commercial. It will be forever preserved in YouTube. You can search there for "Wrong Girl Glock Commercial". Since you undoubtedly won't stop reading to see the video, here is a synopsis:

A young woman comes home alone at night. Across the street, a quintessentially bad man (black clothes, black cap, black beard, black hair, black mood) sits in his surprisingly white van watching her. She exhibits no situational awareness, and doesn't see him.

Inside, she sits on her couch to watch TV. She is dressed in the shortest of shorts and a camisole.

What The Glock Girl Did

Three slow knocks on her front door. She goes to the door, says "Who is it?", looks through the peephole, sees nothing but an empty car across the street (his car), hears no answer. She goes back to the couch, and sits down, starting to look a bit nervous. The knocking at the door happens again. Again she checks the peephole, and sees nothing. The bad man is shown leaning to the side of her door to avoid being seen.

She walks quickly (determinedly? nervously? you decide when you see it) to her bedroom where, under her bed, is a lockbox. OK, not just any lock box. It is a MiniVault from GunVault. Her fingers press the right buttons on the top (or the biometric fingerprint sensor) and the box drops open, revealing a gun. If you paid any attention to the title of this article, you will know what brand of gun it is.

She takes the gun in her hand, walks back to the living room, and sits on the couch again, placing the gun on the seat to her right. She crosses her legs and puts her hands in her lap. Again, the knocking at the door, this time accompanied by an ominous doorknob rattle. She rises, but this time stays away from the door.

A second later, we see her with the gun raised at shoulder height, a good, strong isosceles stance, elbows straight and locked, two handed grip, a look of determination on her face.

Dramatic music reaches climax. The door flies open, the bad man barges in. For a second, we see the Glock 19 (Gen4, 9x19) from the side, the first time we are able to see that much detail. Her grip is unwavering, thumbs forward, trigger finger OFF the trigger, firmly on the slide of the gun.

Bad man comes in looking fierce, quickly changes to surprised as he sees the gun. We watch him fall backward. Her arms (and the gun, though we can't see it now) follow him to the ground. She is breathing deeply.

We see the bad man flat on his back on the ground, eyes closed, but wait, there's no blood, no bullet hole, and we didn't hear a gunshot . . . did we?

When the bad man opens his eyes, he is lying there in handcuffs. An EMT person is there to treat his fainting spell and a police officer in the background, interviewing the girl, is there to haul him off to jail. The EMT says to the camera, "Somebody picked the wrong girl." (R. Lee Ermy plays that EMT to perfection.)

Things I liked about it:

She was confident. She showed nervousness, but there was no abject fear, no panic; she was in control all the time, knew it and showed it.

There was a lockbox involved.

She showed excellent trigger finger discipline. Do you think she knew the rule "Keep your finger

off the trigger until your sights are on target AND you have made the decision to shoot”? Perhaps someone involved in filming the commercial did.

It was amusing, really amusing.

Things I didn't like: Not much, really, given that this is a commercial, not a training video.

This little commercial stirred up quite a discussion.

Here are a few of the positive comments:

- “The LADY shows good gun safety with her finger OUTSIDE the trigger guard and an excellence stance and keeping well back from the door. This could be used in a gun safety course.”
- “If the girl didn't have a gun in the above video the guy could do whatever he wanted to her. She weighs like what? 100 lbs... The guy looked to be about 170 lbs at least. She'd be raped, beat, dead... whatever he wanted. Without the gun she's a victim at the mercy of criminals.”
- “Lol, he picked the wrong damn hobby if he's going to break in and faint.”
- “I love how she's watching the Glock commercial ‘The Wrong Diner’ on TV.”
- “There are no sheriffs in my county so when things happen at night there is no help. A woman was just raped and beaten by an intruder. she called 911 and 911 said there was nobody they could send outside of city limits to protect her against her ex bf who had a history of violence against her.”

Now some of the negative ones. The most common criticism was January-February 2013

that she should have shot him:

- “This commercial should be taken off the web. I absolutely hated it. She should have shot him. He was in her house and it would have been totally legal! Now he's going to jail to watch TV, sleep in a bed, 3 meals a day and hard-working taxpayers are going to pay for it.”
- “Good commercial but she should have shot him.”
- “I would have shot him.”
- “When she said ‘Who is it’ there was no answer. If it was me he would have been dead.”

Other criticisms:

- “I know why they had it in a locked box for candy ass libs who will cry about access by children and all but in my opinion she took too much time to retrieve her pistol. When I'm watching TV at night mine is already within reach. Otherwise I'd have to bolt passed my front door and past an intruder to get to it. My firearm would've been pointed at the door after the first knock with no response.”
- “Would any of those girls be capable of shooting anyone though? Doesn't matter at how many inanimate targets you've shot if you freeze up when it's a fellow human being on the other end of the barrel. Not to mention how they'd cope with it later. No amount of practice will prepare you for the psychological difference between a relatively safe firing range and a potential life or death situation. Odds are pretty good you'll be confused and panicking.

Especially if you're caught in your sleep.”

- “What if it was the maintenance man at apartments???”
- “Why does such a nice place not have a deadbolt and a security system?”
- “The cops would not have been able to stop the guy, but it is a good idea to have the phone ready. Second, yell. Having a gun doesn't mean you have to be quiet. She didn't have surprise on her side; She only had the surprise of the gun. Yelling ‘Jeff get the gun!’, even if there is no Jeff, will probably keep that guy from ever entering.”
- “This video gives an unnecessary level of protection afforded that gun to people who might not be trained to use it. (Various) methods of secondary defense should have been, at least to some degree, shown in the video.”

As is almost always the case, some people just showed their ignorance by the things they claimed or asserted:

- “I was into it until she left her finger out of the trigger guard.”
- “She should have had her finger on the trigger. The quarter second it takes you to move your finger to the trigger is a quarter second you don't have.”

False. The chance of having an unintentional discharge of the gun increases tremendously the moment your finger is on the trigger. Such a discharge would be calamitous to you, and possibly

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fatal to the person you might not have justification to shoot yet. It is much safer for all concerned to keep that finger off the trigger until, as I keep saying, your sights are on target and you have made the decision to shoot.

“Most people tend to twist the pistol high and right under stress. Aim low.”

False. Most people jerk the trigger under stress, which pulls the shots low. Right handed people tend to pull the muzzle low and right, left handed people put it low and left. Where you should aim can change depending on circumstances. I can't quarrel with the Glock girl aiming high, where she expected the bulk of the man coming through her door to be.

“If you point a gun at someone, better use it since its a myth that the sight of a gun is enough to scare most people.”

False. If you point a gun at someone, be prepared to fire it, but you probably won't have to. Gary Kleck, one of the researchers who has seriously studied gun issues, found that in 99% of situations where a citizen draws a gun against a perpetrator, the perpetrator is deterred without the citizen having to fire a shot.

“Silly woman didn't even do a chamber check.”

“We were trained to do a mag check & chamber check every time we uncase a pistol. Otherwise she did just fine.”

Mag and chamber checks are administrative actions that are excellent in situations where you have a lot of time, such as after

you have cleaned a gun, or when you are uncasing one at the range, or putting one in your lock box. The Glock girl was in a situation where seconds counted. Taking time for this administrative action would not have been a good thing.

Robert Farago wrote a scathing blog titled Self-Defense Tip: Don't Do What the Glock Girl Did. He dissected everything he could find wrong with the home security, personal security, and tactics in the commercial. It is a masterful analysis, including the number of seconds it took her to get her gun, but come on guys, it was a commercial, not a training film.

Her house had to have the flimsiest lock, so he could rattle it threateningly and then break in dramatically. She had to have no holster, because the real clothes that a real holster would have required would have ruined the “sexy babe” vibe that was there to get the attention of male viewers. She might have gone to get her gun sooner, and kept it in her hand rather than setting it down beside her, but those are minor quibbles.

See for yourself What the Glock Girl Did, and decide whether it is a training film, a cautionary tale, a personal protection disaster, or an effective/ineffective commercial.

Glock ads vary from very serious to even funnier than the “Wrong Girl” one, all with R. Lee Ermy. Check YouTube for Wrong House, Wrong Man, Wrong Convenience Store, and Wrong Diner.

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certified by the superintendent of the State Police, which administers the SAFE Act. Then it can start 30 days after that.

“This is not ready to go live in January, or we'll have an Obama-like website,” Lawrence Keane, senior vice president and general counsel for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, told the Times-Union.

W&G

SAFE Act Opposition Helps NY Sheriff Win

“Four words that he uttered at a news conference last May helped Timothy B. Howard win a third term as Erie County sheriff,” is the way *The Buffalo News'* Dan Herbeck opened his Nov. 6 story.

The words were “I won't enforce it,” meaning the contentious SAFE Act pushed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) that has outraged gun owners.

“The support of angry firearms owners helped the Republican sheriff to a big win ... over his Democratic Party opponent, retired Sheriff's Deputy Richard E. Dobson, and Sheriff's Lt. Bert D. Dunn, a Law and Order Party candidate who lost the Democratic nomination in the September primary.

Late election night, a jubilant Howard thanked his supporters and leaders of the Republican and Conservative parties for helping him win. He said people all over Erie County have thanked him for his stand on the gun issue.

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Women&Guns