

ISRAELI COMBAT POINT SHOOTING

ICPS

PRAGMATISM OF THE ISRAELI COMBAT POINT SHOOTING METHOD FROM A SELF DEFENSE PRESPECTIVE

~By Albert Timen

The purpose of the Israeli Combat Point Shooting method of training, or ICPS is not to develop marksmanship; it is not to compete with other shooters; it is not to punch holes in paper targets; and certainly is not designed for hunting small game.

The purpose of the training is to enable one to quickly and effectively stop someone who is trying to make you a victim. In short, Combat Point shooting trains people to win in a life threatening situations when you need to react in a fraction of a second in order to defend your life, or protect other innocent people, often referred as a self defense discipline.

This pragmatic methodology was developed in Israel - a country that is constantly experiencing and facing the violence of terrorist nature. It became the most tested system when it comes to armed self defense, and it's been offered now to people worldwide by few of the qualified Instructors that had been actively involved in developing it.

The problem is that the innocent citizen or Police officer must wait until the predator (of criminal or terrorist nature) makes an overt act; one cannot shoot another on mere suspicion. This places the defender in a situation where he, or she must react to another's actions. In a gunfight the aggressor has the advantage and the defender is usually a second or two behind. Thus the citizen/defender/victim is already coming second in the contest; and in this type of situation, there are no second place winners!

In order to win, given this terrible disadvantage, the defender must be able to overcome this lag time with a combination of aggressive speed and accuracy. This is the main components we teach: aggressive speed and accuracy in an armed encounter which translates into a mindset that enables the defender to win in a gunfight, even when the aggressor has the advantage.

There are no rules in a gun or Knife fight and street fight that puts you in a fraction second survival chance. There are only facts, which if understood, can give you a winning edge. Let's review the main ones:

Fact: Almost all gun and knife attack scenarios (assaults or fights) occur at distances of under three meters (10ft).

Fact: Most gunfights and assaults are over in two to three seconds.

Fact: A high percentage of armed assaults occur in dim light, or where sights are hardly visible.

Fact: In a spontaneous life-threatening situation the body undergoes changes which deteriorate fine and complex motor skills, while vision is focused exclusively on the threat.

Conclusion: Winning in a gunfight, or surviving a life threatening situation assault, requires great speed and accuracy in drawing and firing the gun at close range without the use of sights. This is called instinctive shooting or point shooting.

Violence, whether recreational or otherwise, is part of the culture in almost all societies and in the new era of terrorism it knows no boundaries. Therefore, whether we like it or not, violence is going to be a feature of our lives for a long time to come. Rather than to ignore it or hide away from it, we must learn to handle it. If we wish to stay in this beautiful but troubled globe we have to learn to deal with these problems.

The only objective way we can live with violence is to avoid it, deflect it, or reduce its impact by being prepared for it because it will not go away! This is a terrible notion for folks who just want to live in peace, but one we can no longer ignore.

The key answer lies in nature itself - The human animal's natural instincts, which include spontaneous reaction to sudden attack. These are formidable powers which will usually ensure survival under extreme situations, but only if harnessed correctly.

To my experience there are two main factors which constantly interfere with our ability to defend ourselves - The inappropriate equipment and inadequate training, which caused the deaths (and continue to kill) many "good guys".

After many long years of involvement in personal security matters I have reached the conclusion that in order to give full reign to the natural survival instincts of the human body, equipment and training must be kept as simple as possible.

Attacks are sudden and without warning. A huge bonus during such attack is a concealed handgun capable of immediate action, one that requires no time-wasting two-handed loading operation or a frantic search for a cunningly hidden safety catch. What is needed is a handgun that can be pulled, pointed and fired repeatedly without a fuss or bother, as well as capable of being carried safely whilst in this ready mode.

