

FREEDOM'S FOUNDATION

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NAPSI

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Obstacles to a Solution

By: Nic Shoffner

The choice to carry a gun each day is nothing more than an extension of a previous decision one has made in their life. This decision was that of self-preservation. The concept that my life, or your life, or the lives of those we care about is more valuable than the lives of criminals that would seek to do us harm.

Anyone that has made such a decision generally then takes steps to ensure they can prevail against a criminal attack. They acquire the tools and training and they develop a mindset and lifestyle that will allow them to avoid a fight if possible but win a fight if necessary. It's only logical that handguns would come up in this evolution of tools and training. Handguns are easy to carry on your person and they are generally more efficient at ending a fight than a club, knife, or any less lethal weapon at stopping an attacker. In fact, the only things that usually perform better than handguns are rifles and shotguns.

Having said that, self-defense is not about guns. It's not about knives, Krav Maga, pepper spray, or any other weapon you may choose. Self-defense is about problem solving. As the victim of an attack, it's your job to recognize that you have been attacked and then instantly devise a strategy to win the fight. To win the fight, you must "solve" the "problem."

Why, then, do so many people intentionally place obstacles between the attack and the win?

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What's New at NAPSI?

From the NAPSI Training Department

• *Welcome to the First Edition of "Freedom's Foundation"! The official newsletter of the National Association of Professional Shooting Instructors! In this bi-monthly publication, you will find informative articles, training tips, advice on guns and gear, and the latest updates from the NAPSI Training Department!*

• *2016 has come to a close and a new year is upon us! In 2016, NAPSI Approved Trainers provided training to over 100 new students nationwide!*

• *2017 already looks to be a busy year for NAPSI! We have new training programs under development and NAPSI Approved Trainers are already scheduling NAPSI classes all over the Midwest and as far away as Texas and Arizona!*

• *The dates have been set for the 2017 NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop! See page 3 for details!*

The Paradigm of Tupperware - Part 1

By: Tim Jett

Before we begin, let me start by saying that this is not just another 1911 fanboy rant about the evils of polymer pistols; in fact it's quite the opposite. So grab a cup of coffee and settle in for what I hope will be an interesting read.

I'm kind of old fashioned. I still say yes sir and no sir, yes ma'am and no ma'am. I like to hold the door open for people whenever I get the chance. When it comes to firearms, I like steel and wood and who doesn't like the smell of leather? To me there is nothing quite like the feel of a quality firearm in my hands.

I was exposed to the venerable 1911 back in 1977 when I enlisted in the United States Army. Up to that point I had never fired a semi-automatic handgun; my exposure was limited to revolvers. To say a love affair ensued would be putting it mildly.



Obstacles to a Solution - continued from page 1

If you spend more than two minutes on social media browsing through the various thousands of gun related pages, groups, channels, etc., you are bound to find someone with a very firm and usually vocal opinion on why a carry gun should be equipped with an external safety device, why you should always carry in a level 2 retention holster, or why you shouldn't carry a chambered round. These opinions are usually based on outdated or insufficient knowledge of self-defense.

Attackers wait until the most opportune moment to attack you. They have all of the advantages. They know when the attack will occur, how it will occur, whether or not they have accomplices, and to what ends they are willing to continue the attack. The methods, techniques, and tools you have chosen to carry and use may need to be employed in the span of a heartbeat. Purposely choosing to utilize methods, techniques, tools, equipment, etc. that require additional steps to employ is nothing more than placing yourself at further disadvantage in the fight.

It is akin to intentionally blocking the way out of your home just in case it catches fire.

Take some time this week to evaluate your skillset and the defensive tools you carry. I'll give you a few hints on what to look for.

- Mastering a single technique to accomplish a specific task, such as a reload, is faster than learning several.
- Moving out of the way of an oncoming attack is faster than trying to use some kind of choreographed move against the attacker.
- Fixed blade knives are faster to deploy than folding knives.
- A gun that fits your hand can be shot faster and more accurately than one that does not.
- A gun with a chambered round and no external safety device is faster to deploy than an empty gun that has an on/off switch.
- A passive retention holster is faster to draw from than those with a button to push or a strap to remove in order to draw.
- A gun in a holster that is attached to your waistline is faster to employ than a gun in a purse, shoulder holster, or ankle holster.
- A gun that holds twelve rounds will shoot twelve rounds faster than a gun that holds six.
- Hits end fights faster than misses.

Self-defense should be an ever-evolving quest for the best technique, the best method, the best equipment, the best training, the best mindset, the best everything. It's your job to find the best possible tools and techniques because the criminal attacks at your worst possible time. The moment a fight begins is a bad time to realize you are ill equipped to win.

Remove the obstacles that may lie between you and victory in a fight. Set aside the extraneous and inefficient methods you may have picked up over the years. Use your training resources wisely to develop the best skills possible. Choose your tools and learned skills carefully. Your life and the lives of those you care about depend on them.

Nic Shoffner
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*The Paradigm of Tupperware - Part 1
continued from page 1*

I had always considered myself a pretty good shot when it came to pistols; the fact that I was mostly shooting a Smith and Wesson model 28 in .357 magnum probably had something to do with that. When I first shot the 1911 I was amazed at its accuracy and dang, I could shoot it a lot faster than the model 28 and still maintain that accuracy. So yes, at some point I became a 1911 fanboy.

I don't remember the exact date although I should, after scrimping and saving I had come up with the money to go out and buy what I thought was a quality 1911. I purchased a Kimber Pro Raptor II after doing quite a bit of research. It fit the bill perfectly for its intended use. I wanted a compact .45 that I could use as my everyday concealed carry weapon.

Once again I was amazed by the 1911 design. The Kimber was everything I had hoped for. The accuracy was amazing. And for those who have never fired a 1911, let me tell you, their triggers are amazing. This pistol is amazing!

Now just for total disclosure, I will be the first to admit that my Raptor doesn't like certain types of ammunition. No problem, I don't load it with those types and it runs just fine.

I started to train with my Kimber. I took the Dynamic Defensive Pistol course offered by my friends Chris and Nic at Armed Missouri, Inc. The DDP course is a fairly grueling one-day course that teaches students how to use a defensive handgun more efficiently and effectively under the dynamic circumstances you are likely to encounter in a lethal force situation.

Chris and Nic both warned me beforehand that 1911 shooters were typically the students that had the most issues with running their guns through the program. I was undaunted. I had confidence in the Kimber to handle the load and quite frankly it didn't disappoint. Only one slight issue was encountered and that was a failure for the slide to go into battery. I believe it was ammunition related and a little forward assist cured the issue immediately and I continued to fire. It ran the course so well I think even Chris and Nic were a little impressed.

So I had the pistol I always wanted. It was everything I had hoped it would be. I knew it would run flawlessly. I carried it every day to protect myself and the ones I love. I was completely confident that if the need ever arose, my Kimber would be the tool I could count on!

Or maybe not? Be sure to check out the next issue of Freedom's Foundation for Part 2 of my story!

Tim Jett
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The 2017 NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop

September, 2016, marked the first ever NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop. Out of the nearly 20 people who requested an application, 4 well-qualified applicants were eventually chosen for inclusion in the workshop.

Having made it past the application process, those 4 candidates then spent nearly 32 hours over the course of 4 days, taking part in the new NAPSI Instructor Development Program consisting of a mix of both classroom and range instruction. As any of the 4 candidates can attest, it was an intense 4 days of training. Even though all of the candidates had previous experience as instructors with other programs, they had never

been exposed to an Instructor Development Program as comprehensive and intense as the NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop. Now, 6 months later, NAPSI is ready to announce the dates of the 2nd NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop.

NAPSI prides itself on providing the most comprehensive Instructor Development Program of any national training organization in the country. Our focus is on developing professional trainers who can actually TEACH, and teach well! We're not in the business of simply certifying mere shooters who are then sent out in the field with a lesson plan and a PowerPoint presentation and left to figure it out on their own.

Every interested candidate is required to successfully complete an application and interview process, in addition to satisfactorily completing the appropriate end-user course before they are allowed to attend the NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop.

Once successful applicants are given access to the Instructor Development Workshop, they will be under constant subjective evaluation by our team of Senior Instructor Trainers. NAPSI Approved Trainers will have to be able to TEACH at a professional level! You will have to put in the work and strive to perform at a high level in order to make the cut!

And NAPSI Approved Trainers not only have to be able to teach practical information to an extremely high standard, but they have to be exceptional in their shooting and gun-handling skills as well. Instructor candidates who successfully make it through the application and interview process must complete a rigorous live-fire qualification as well as a subjective skills evaluation, and must earn a passing grade on each, in order to be eligible for NAPSI approval. Non-shooters and armchair instructors need not apply!



Successful candidates will enjoy access to some of the most up-to-date defensive firearms-related coursework available anywhere in the country in addition to unrivaled support and mentorship from the NAPSI team. And all NAPSI coursework has been developed specifically in the context of the DEFENSIVE use of firearms, rather than from the context of recreational or bulls eye shooting.

The 2017 NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop is scheduled for the dates of June 8, 9, 10, and 11 and is, once again, being hosted by Pistol Prep Academy in Atlanta, Illinois. The first two days (June 8 and 9) will cover the NAPSI Instructional Methods and Procedures (IMP) course. Days three and four (10 and 11), will cover the NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol Instructor Development (FDPID) course. Successful candidates will receive a rating of NAPSI Approved Defensive Pistol Coach and will be authorized to conduct both the NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol and NAPSI Basic Defensive Shooting Skills coursework. Additionally, successful candidates will be eligible to attend the NAPSI Essential Defensive Pistol Instructor Development Course that is being planned for the fall of 2017 where they can earn the NAPSI Approved Defensive Pistol Instructor rating.

Anyone interested in submitting an application to be considered for attendance in the NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop should send an email to Annette Chapman (annette.chapman@napsitraining.com) or Chris Shoffner (chris.shoffner@napsitraining.com). Please use "NAPSI Instructor Development" as the subject line of your email message. Please include contact information including your first and last name, a valid email address, and a daytime phone number in your email message. All applications must be received by May 8, 2017 in order to be eligible for consideration. Enrollment information, as well as a complete equipment list and a list of all prerequisites will be provided to those who apply. Don't miss this opportunity to become a part of the most up-to-date defensive training association in the country!

More information can be found at www.napsitraining.com/instructor-development.html. Thank you and we hope to see you there!

Upcoming NAPSI Training Opportunities - Spring 2017

- March 5, 2017 - NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol (FDP) - Atlanta, IL
Contact: annette.chapman@napsitraining.com - www.pistolprepacademy.net
- March 12, 2017 - NAPSI Basic Defensive Shooting Skills (BDSS) - Madrid, IA
Contact: Jim Egeland, (515) 290-1994 - www.facebook.com/midwestfirearmsacademy
- March 19, 2017 - NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol (FDP) - Vinton, IA
Contact: wkeller@napsitraining.com - <http://eiaft.com/>
- April 15, 2017 - NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol (FDP) - Madrid, IA
Contact: Jim Egeland, (515) 290-1994 - www.facebook.com/midwestfirearmsacademy
- April 16, 2017 - NAPSI Basic Defensive Shooting Skills (BDSS) - Madrid, IA
Contact: Jim Egeland, (515) 290-1994 - www.facebook.com/midwestfirearmsacademy
- April 15, 2017 - NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol (FDP) - Mount Sterling, MO
Contact: nic.shoffner@napsitraining.com - www.armedmissouri.com
- May 13, 2017 - NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol (FDP) - Madrid, IA
Contact: Jim Egeland, (515) 290-1994 - www.facebook.com/midwestfirearmsacademy
- May 14, 2017 - NAPSI Basic Defensive Shooting Skills (BDSS) - Madrid, IA
Contact: Jim Egeland, (515) 290-1994 - www.facebook.com/midwestfirearmsacademy
- June 7, 2017 - NAPSI Foundations of Defensive Pistol (FDP) - Atlanta, IL
Contact: annette.chapman@napsitraining.com - www.pistolprepacademy.net
- June 8-11, 2017 - NAPSI Instructor Development Workshop - Atlanta, IL
Contact: annette.chapman@napsitraining.com or chris.shoffner@napsitraining.com - <http://www.napsitraining.com/instructor-development.html>

"Freedom's Foundation" is the official publication of the National Association of Professional Shooting Instructors. All questions, inquiries, and submissions should be sent to chris.shoffner@napsitraining.com.

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