

Reprinted with permission from the author, Chris Bird, from his excellent book entitled – Thank God I Had A Gun

Chapter 7

Her Home Is Her Castle:

Deanna Eggleston

An Englishman's home used to be his castle. He could defend it with deadly force against criminal intruders, and he possessed the arms that were the most effective tools to accomplish this.

In the late 1700s the great British jurist William Blackstone identified the possession of arms as a fundamental right of Englishmen. Since 1920 however, successive governments have systematically eroded this right. At the beginning of the twenty-first century, it is virtually against the law in Britain to use force, let alone deadly force, to protect one's person or property, and the government has confiscated most privately owned firearms, which are the most effective means of self-defense.

For decades British governments have not considered self-defense to be a legitimate reason for possessing a firearm. **As a result the rate of violent crime in England has surpassed that in the United States.** According to author Joyce Lee Malcolm, in her excellent book *Guns & Violence: The English Experience*, **almost half of all burglaries in Britain take place when a resident is home.** In the United States it is only 13 percent. **The obvious conclusion, supported by research, is that criminals in the U.S. are afraid of confronting an armed homeowner.**

In Britain burglars do not care, because they are confident they will meet no resistance. Fortunately, in most of the U.S., an American's home is still her castle, and she is as likely as not to have a firearm in it to protect herself. Nevertheless, **the majority of people who defend themselves with guns in the U.S. never fire a shot.** Production of the gun is usually enough to remind the bad guy, and it usually is a guy, that he has urgent business in the next county.

Gary Kleck, a criminology professor at Florida State University, has conducted extensive research on the defensive use of guns in the United States. **He estimates ordinary citizens use guns about 2.5 million times a year** to defend themselves or others against criminal threat or attack. More than two-thirds of these cases involve use of a handgun. In the book *Armed: New Perspectives on Gun Control*, which he co-authored with Don Kates, Kleck states: "Only a tiny fraction of criminal gun assaults involve anyone actually being wounded, even non-fatally, and the same is true of defensive gun uses. Neither victim nor offender is hurt in the vast majority of cases."

You can read the rest of this chapter as well as all of the other extremely detailed and well researched actual accounts re-told in this very important book, by purchasing a copy.

After you have read a few, you may wish to recommend it to your friends and family.
<http://amzn.to/1GQKYix>

David Getoff, CCN – a believer in bringing back our freedoms in the U.S.

In addition, Repealing the Patriot Act, would bring back many more of our previously constitutionally guaranteed freedoms