

### ***The "It won't happen to me" Syndrome:***

When you know what to do to stay safe, you will be less afraid of the unknown. Part of learning to stay safe is to get rid of the "It won't happen to me" mentality.

*Having an awareness of the possibilities is good; denial that it could happen to you is not.*



There are far more crimes committed than are ever reported. The ones that are reported become statistics and those statistics are frightening. Don't rely on luck or "the odds." Take a proactive roll in keeping yourself safe.

*I am not trying to frighten you; I'm trying to open your eyes to the possibilities so you can see that your safety should be considered.*

Here are just a few examples of crimes that have already occurred:

- A 63-year-old real estate agent was raped at knife point inside a vacant Coral Gables home by a man who had an appointment to see the property.
- A caseworker for a children's services agency was stabbed to death while interviewing a couple. She had been making regular visits with the family trying to unify them.
- A nurse was killed after she discovered two victims shot by the son of her patient. The nurse was shot while making a call to 911. This took place in Girard, a town of about 4,000 people in Southeast Kansas.
- A 27-year-old social worker was at a family's apartment to discuss a case plan with the parents. The father was the only one home when the social worker arrived. She stayed and explained the case plan to him.

As she prepared to leave, he grabbed her by the throat and pulled one of her arms behind her. He then took the woman into the dining room and showed her a suicide note he had written. He forced her into the living room and raped her on a mattress.

- A Child Welfare worker is beaten with a hammer and suffocated during a home visit.
- A Daytona Beach real estate agent was stabbed to death by someone apparently posing as a customer.

**Statistics:** In a study of the information from the U.S. Department of Labor- Bureau of Labor Statistics, it was found that between 1992 and 2002 there were 724 deaths of workers in residences due to crime. This includes only victims that died from assaults and violent acts committed against them. This does not take into consideration the victims that survived an attack and all the attacks and attempts that went unreported.

***Crimes happen to all types of people. You are not protected just because of your geographic area, the social status of the client, your race, your age or any other demographic.***

The best protection is knowledge of how to recognize a potentially dangerous situation as it develops and knowing how to either diffuse the situation or get out of it quickly...

To read more...

Safe Home Visits is available for \$19.95 from the publisher: [www.Trafford.com](http://www.Trafford.com).