



**Date Rape
& Express Kidnapping**

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Protective Service & Training

Creating a Safe World

Risks Incorporated is a progressive, European - owned and managed specialist security and training company that has proven itself many times on international operations. We have compiled this document to help people identify potential problems they may encounter and to take preventive action to protect themselves, their families, and their assets.

Risks Incorporated's clients can be assured they are getting the best training and services available from experienced professionals! I personally have over 27 years experience working in the international security industry, what we teach is based on reality, not what someone with no real operational experience thinks would work in a hostile situation. I am a published author and have been interviewed by numerous international TV and media outlets ranging from the New York Times to Soldier of Fortune Magazine on topics ranging from kidnapping, organized crime to maritime piracy. My books "International Security" & "Life or Death" are available on Amazon.

Contact us for more information on our training courses in US, Europe & The Middles or about our international security services.

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: **Date Rape & Robbery Drugs!**

Think about how many times when you have been at bar or club and left your drink unattended, for less than 10 seconds with someone you have just met who seemed like a nice person. That would have been more than enough time for them to spike your drink with drugs such as **Ketamine, GHB or Rohypnol**. How often has a waiter or bar tender given you an open bottle of beer or the like which could have been spiked with illegal drugs such as Ecstasy or prescription drugs such as Xanax?

I have spent more time than most in bars in developing countries and I can't remember being served a can of beer, bottle of beer or bottle liquor that was not opened in front of me. The main reason is so the bar patrons know they are getting what they ordered and not a cheaper brand of alcohol that has just been poured into a quality brand name bottle. This from a security perspective also makes it harder for the drinks to be spiked by the bar staff and waiters. I tend to avoid drinking draft beers or shots unless I can see the drinks being poured, to me that's not being paranoid it's being careful!

At this time, I am living in South Florida and hear regular stories of males and females having their drinks spiked in bars and clubs. The motive is commonly thought of as the "Date Rape" but this criminal tactic is also used in robberies. There has been a change in rapist and criminal tactics where many have gone over to using prescription drugs which are widely available, especially in South Florida, as from a legal standpoint it's more difficult for the victim to argue they were drugged and not taking the drugs by their own accord. This is a common defense of not only the rapists and criminals but also the venues where people have initially been drugged.

Rapists target males and females alike and in addition to the physical injuries of the assault they are also the issues of pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. Not only are drugs used for sexual assaults but also robberies. Back in the 1990's when I was doing business in Eastern Europe there was one nightclub in Riga, Latvia where it was common knowledge that visitors who flashed their money and Rolex's around could end up drugged and robbed, they would wake up in the morning somewhere missing their valuables. When they reported the robberies to the police they would not take the victims seriously, what was to prove they did not drink themselves unconscious, the victim could not remember what they were doing, so they could have given their valuables away etc. As long as no-one got hurt the police in Riga weren't concerned.

In South Florida it's common for men to meet a woman at a bar to have their drink spiked and be robbed of their Rolex, if they manage to make it home before passing out they tend to lose a lot more. These crimes are regularly reported and I expect a lot more are not.

You don't have to go to bars and nightclubs to be exposed to the risk of being drugged, one Gypsy tactic in Europe is to get their small children to go out and sell glasses of tea or soft drinks to tourists, who would expect a little girl to give you a spiked drink. The children are accompanied by teenagers who then watch and follow the victim until they passed out or go and help them when they start to stumble at which time they rob them.

A drug that is regularly used in crimes in Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador is Burundanga or Scopolamine which is extracted from the Borrachero tree. Scopolamine has numerous legitimate medical uses but

when used by rapists and criminals it renders their victims into a compliant zombie like state of which they remember nothing. Victims have the outward appearance of being okay but are in fact in a trace and no nothing of what they're doing. Victims of Scopolamine overdoses are common in Colombian hospitals as are the deaths of those who received a large dose or had a low tolerance. This drug is more common than people think and is out there, I have come across similar in Haiti and West Africa, once administered through liquid or powder form the victim is completely compliant and helpless.

The common date rape like Rohypnol, GHB, **Ketamine** are tasteless and odorless drug and take approximately 15 to 30 minutes to take effect and usually lasts three to six hours, depending on dosage. These drugs make the victims weak, making them unconscious and unable to remember what happened. Prescription drugs such as Klonopin and Xanax have similar effects all of which are enhanced when the victim had been drinking alcohol.

If you are out at a bar, club or just accepted a drink from a stranger and start to feel weak or dizzy for no apparent reason get help immediately. Get to a safe location, get to trusted friends, call your friends or family, even call an ambulance but do not go with strangers!

This is only a short article but hopefully you can see it's better to be careful and thought paranoid than it is to end up drugged, abused and dumped in the gutter!

Express Kidnapping and Being Kidnapped

Express kidnapping is a crime which has boomed over the last decade with incidents taking place globally, from Caracas to Vladivostok. Express kidnapping can be classed as a more comprehensive version of mugging. Express kidnappings are safer and more convenient for criminals, who do not need to be highly skilled and connected to pull them off. In a typical kidnapping the criminals will usually go to a wealthy area and look for a suitable target, someone who looks like they have some money and then snatch them. Once they have the victim they'll be robbed, taken to ATM's, sexually assaulted etc. If the victim has a cell phone the criminals may use it to contact their family for a ransom, the amounts requested in express kidnappings tend to be low.

The main problems with express kidnappings are that the kidnapers are generally not what could be classed as high end criminals. This means they tend to be more violent and unpredictable than groups that target higher profile victims for large ransoms. As always, if ransoms are paid in express kidnappings there is no guarantee the victim will be released, especially if they can identify the criminals or have been sexually assaulted.

If you are caught in a kidnapping or hostage situation the most dangerous time will be the first ten to fifteen minutes as the kidnapers will be very nervous and will have to let everyone know they are in control. If you're being kidnapped you can expect to get hurt, pain makes people comply. In a group kidnapping or hostage taking it would be a good professional practice for the criminals to identify any group leaders or potential trouble-makers and execute them in front of the other hostages, as would give them the clear message of who was in control. There is also a high risk to those who have health problems such as high blood pressure or heart conditions; you need to keep calm.

Once it is clear that the kidnapping has been successful and you cannot safely escape you do not want to offer any resistance, just do as you are told. You can now expect to be blind-folded, bound and searched

for cellular phones, identification, weapons and valuables. If you have a weapon, you should have a good excuse ready for having it. I have told clients who are going to the Middle East to join a couple of Muslim associations and carry the association membership cards and literature with them, hopefully if they are kidnapped this will lead to more favorable treatment. This tactic can be applied in most places, pretend to have sympathies with the local bad guys, it's all about you staying alive!

You never want to appear to be a threat to your kidnappers and should comply with what they want you to do. This may be the opposite advice you would expect when you're in a life threatening situation but suffering from broken ribs or a fractured skull will severely limit your ability to successfully escape. Think about it, who are the kidnappers going to put more security on, someone who is putting up a fight or someone who is having a nervous breakdown, you need to preserve your energy, look after your health to be able to survive or escape.

If you don't cause any problems for the kidnappers they should start to relax, this is when you should try creating personal relationships with them without overstepping any boundaries and always being aware of Stockholm Syndrome.

Kidnapping for sex trafficking

I am asked regularly about this threat, usually by parents who have a daughter going on holiday overseas. I cannot recall any incidents of where a tourist's has been kidnapped and sold into slavery. Incidents of female tourists being kidnapped, raped and killed, sure, that happens; this crime is about sex and control, sex trafficking is about business.

The human traffickers that kidnap girls for the sex industry tend to target those from poor and developing countries, where the police and government response if one of their citizens disappears will be minimal if any. The traffickers usually lure the girls from their native countries with adverts for decent jobs in Western Europe or the Middle East, when the girls arrive at meeting points where they believe they'll be taken to their final destination they are kidnapped. The kidnappers take the girls' passports, travel papers and traffic them to illegal brothels where they are usually drugged and forced to work as prostitutes.

If the families of these girls report them missing to their countries law enforcement there is not much they can do, the girls left home at their own will, they are young and maybe they don't want to call their families, there is no evidence to launch an investigation. This scenario is a lot different than a tourist being snatched off the street to be used in the sex trade. Professional criminals are not stupid and do not want unnecessary attention for law enforcement, it's bad for business, so why take the risk to kidnap a tourist when you can promise a girl a job and she'll turn up at your door.

If you have any questions let me know. At Risks Incorporated we provide a full range of kidnap prevention, close protection/bodyguard training, tactical firearms, international bodyguard and security services.

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We hope the information in this document has been of use to you. Please remember this is basic information, if you have any questions then please feel free to contact us.

We supply corporate investigations, maritime security services, executive protection, tactical firearms training, kidnap and ransom services, tactical training, travel security, kidnapping prevention, community security group, SWAT, and bodyguard training. Our clients range from entrepreneurs to corporate law firms and from trainee bodyguards to specialist tactical police units and government agencies actively engaged in counter narco terrorism and counter insurgency operations. We have training location in US, Europe and The Middle East, our instructors are also available to travel to your locations.

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