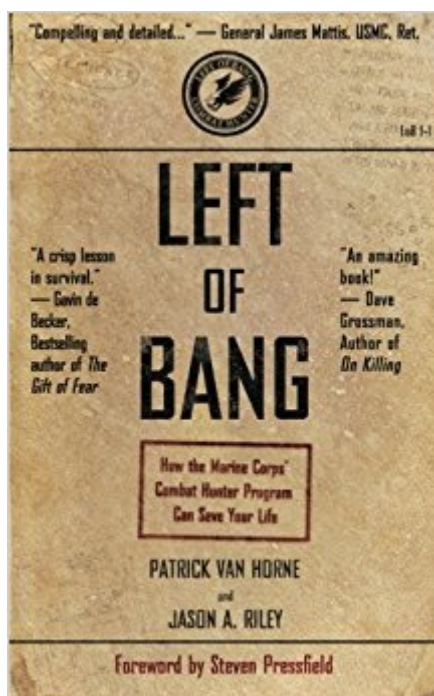


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# Left Of Bang: How The Marine Corps' Combat Hunter Program Can Save Your Life



## Synopsis

"At a time when we must adapt to the changing character of conflict, this is a serious book on a serious issue that can give us the edge we need." — General James Mattis, USMC, Ret. "Left of Bang offers a crisp lesson in survival in which Van Horne and Riley affirm a compelling truth: It's better to detect sinister intentions early than respond to violent actions late. Left of Bang helps readers avoid the bang." — Gavin de Becker, bestselling author of *The Gift of Fear*

"Rare is the book that is immediately practical and interesting. Left of Bang accomplishes this from start to finish. There is something here for everyone in the people business and we are all in the people business." — Joe Navarro, bestselling author of *What Every BODY is Saying*. "Left of Bang is a highly important and innovative book that offers a substantial contribution to answering the challenge of Fourth Generation war (4GW)." — William S. Lind, author of *Maneuver Warfare Handbook*

"Like Sun Tzu's *The Art of War*, Left of Bang isn't just for the military. It's a must read for anyone who has ever had a gut feeling that something's not quite right...be it walking down the street, sitting in a corporate boardroom, or even entering an empty home." -- Steven Pressfield, bestselling author of *The Lion's Gate*, *The Warrior Ethos* and *Gates of Fire*

"An amazing book! Applying the lessons learned during the longest war in American history, and building on seminal works like *The Gift of Fear* and *On Combat*, this book provides a framework of knowledge that will bring military, law enforcement, and individual citizens to new levels of survival mindset and performance in life-and-death situations. Left of Bang is an instant classic." — Lt. Colonel Dave Grossman, U.S. Army Ret., author of *On Combat* and *On Killing*

-- You walk into a restaurant and get an immediate sense that you should leave. -- You are about to step onto an elevator with a stranger and something stops you. -- You interview a potential new employee who has the resume to do the job, but something tells you not to offer a position. These scenarios all represent LEFT OF BANG, the moments before something bad happens. But how many times have you talked yourself out of leaving the restaurant, getting off the elevator, or getting over your silly "gut feeling" about someone? Is there a way to not just listen to your inner protector more, but to actually increase your sensitivity to threats before they happen? Legendary Marine General James Mattis asked the same question and issued a directive to operationalize the Marine Corps Combat Hunter program. A comprehensive and no-nonsense approach to heightening each and every one of our gifts of fear, LEFT OF BANG is the result.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Patrick Van Horne is the founder and CEO of The CP Journal, a behavioral analysis training company. His firm provides training support to the U.S. military, federal and local law enforcement agencies and the private security industry. Van Horne is a former infantry officer in the United States Marine Corps, earning the rank of Captain before returning to the private sector. His company's training programs are focused on teaching people how to prevent violent acts from occurring and finding attackers hiding in plain sight. Jason A. Riley is currently a Major in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, with over six years on active duty. While with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, he served as an infantry platoon commander, company executive officer, and company commander, and deployed twice to Iraq with the 24th and 22nd Marine Expeditionary Units. He also served as a combat advisor to the Afghan National Army in an eastern province of Afghanistan. From 2009 until 2011, he was a mobile training team leader Officer-in-Charge with the Combat Hunter program at the School of Infantry (West). There, he developed training courses and taught behavioral profiling, among other duties. He currently serves with a reserve unit at Camp Pendleton, California. Jason is also pursuing his PhD.

This book is an excellent guide to decision making in any time-critical profession where safety and lives are on the line. It presents several strategic formulas for making decisions under pressure, which will instantly challenge you to improve the depth of your daily level of observation and awareness. These invaluable lessons from the Marine Combat Hunter Program will teach you how to read your environment and respond to it faster than those around you. By learning how to read baseline body language, and immediately detect anomalies, you can begin to know what people are going to do before they do it. More importantly, with these skills you can recognize when someone

is trying to pull you into a bad situation, and know the proper countermove. The Israeli system of "characterization" - correlating objective suspicion indicators with known or plausible environmentally specific M.O.'s - is extremely effective for stopping criminal activities and terrorist surveillance dry runs or attacks. This book complements that standardized system very well, by revealing microbehaviors in baseline activity that help us to form a faster understanding of both an individual's and a group's intentions - before they act. This is a book that is extremely useful for training others in time critical decisionmaking - not just in a law enforcement or military environment, but in natural disasters as well. This book will teach you how to steal time when you need it most, by interpreting events and outthinking situations before they harm you. I highly recommend this book to anyone in a profession that involves time-critical decision making : airline pilots, doctors, nurses, paramedics, police officers, and soldiers will all find something helpful in this book to ramp up their powers of observation and daily decision making, to protect and care for the people they are responsible for. This book is for those who embrace the responsibility of being the one person who by their training can make a difference and win the day. Be that person. Buy this book. Every time you read it, you'll discover yet another nuance that puts things into a whole new light.

Left of Bang is a fantastic book. A book every cop and security officer should read. Anyone concerned for their safety looking to avoid dangerous situations through recognizing the signs and signals of crime and danger should read this book. Left of Bang is a metaphor for preventing the attack, the first shot, the explosion etc. The authors advise "to think about an attack on a timeline, bang is in the middle. Bang is the act. Bang is the IED explosion, the sniper taking a shot, or the beginning of an ambush. Bang is what we want to prevent. Being left of bang means that a person has observed one of the pre-event indicators, one of the warning signs that must occur, earlier on the timeline for the bang to happen. Being on the other end of the timeline is referred to as being right of bang. Most of the training that military operators and law enforcement personnel receive is reactive. They learn skills and techniques that rely on someone else taking the initiative, which means waiting for the enemy or criminal to act first. Unfortunately, whoever strikes first possesses a powerful tactical advantage. When a person is right of bang, they are reacting to the action that took place. These lessons from Left of Bang will teach you how to read your environment and respond to it faster than those around you. By learning how to read baseline body language, and immediately detect anomalies, you can begin to know what people are going to do before they do it. More importantly, with these skills you can recognize the signs and signals when someone is trying to lure you into a bad situation. Through pattern recognition in

baseline activity that help us to form a faster understanding of both an individual's and a group's intentions before they act. Left of Bang is book that develops your ability to read human behavior through what the authors label the Six Domains. These domains range from autonomic to deliberate and personal to social. They are:

- Kinesics: Conscious and subconscious body language.
- Biometric Cues: Biological autonomic responses.
- Proxemics: Interpersonal spatial interaction.
- Geographics: Patterns of behavior within and environment.
- Iconography: Expression through symbols.
- Atmospherics: Collective attitudes that create distinct moods within an environment.

Getting Left of Bang is based on understanding these domains intuitively. Intuition is a powerful force; however, it is poorly understood. Intuition is not black magic or some inexplicable force of nature. Intuition is nothing more than a person's sense about a situation influenced by experience and knowledge. Intuition is the way the mind picks up on patterns and uses experiential and learned knowledge to guide a person during a given situation. However, intuition is often driven by the subconscious. It's rightly called a "gut feeling," since people can literally have a physical response when their intuition tries to make them aware of something they do not consciously know. Crime and violence do not just happen. There are signs and signals presented long before the crime is committed or the assault take place. Seeing a man approach you pointing a gun at you, is an obvious sign of danger. A man getting out of a vehicle after being stopped for speeding and angrily demanding to know why you stopped him is a clear sign of high anxiety. When he continues to shout and closes distance with you after repeated commands to get back, is a clear sign of impending attack. After an assault by this man he disengages, goes to his vehicle and retrieves a firearm! The answer to what's about to take place, based on the context of the situation is obvious. This is a worst case scenario of a person about to inflict deadly force and your orientation, decision and action should be clear. Obvious signs and signals of crime and danger can be clearly seen to the trained law enforcement and security professional. Yet they all too often go unseen or are seen too late. The most common danger signs experienced, however are subtle feelings, a hunch, you intuitively know something is wrong. The alert observer that listens to his intuition based on facts and circumstances presented at the time can seek advantage and prevent crime and dangerous circumstances from unfolding. The ability to observe these subtle signs and signals and orient to what they are telling you, can give you the clear advantage in dealing with conflict. I highly recommend you go and read the book.

I have suggested this book to many people. As our country has went to a time when threats are happening everywhere and more often. I travel a fare amount 300 flights a year. I have found that the information has help me to read people better. I also don't want to be the guy on the news channel talking about what happen. I want to stay left of the bang, I have disrupted and caused upset people to calm down by realizing early what was going to happen. TSA moving at the speed of a slug sometime I have had someone near me in line that was going to slow everything down. I can start a conversation by asking question. This has helped me to get thru security faster and I feel safe that it not someone causing a distraction. It is a great read and everyone that go's shopping to the movies anywhere and if you think our world is dangerous. Take the time to read this book it will give you a peace of mind that you are in much more control of the area you are in than you think.

This book is great. I really learn a lot and it can be applied to daily life. They use military experiences and explain it to you in detail of how it can be applied to daily life. I really like how they bring up a experience and then explain what has happened. Use an example and how this could have been prevented. Great book for anyone who is interested in this stuff. After i read the first chapter of this book i could not stop reading it. This book is very addictive because i deal with the public on a daily basis.

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