

As a woman, how safe would you feel as an Uber driver?

Katlyn Gardenhire, KTHV 10:56 AM, CST December 31, 2016



LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (KTHV) - As a woman, how safe would you feel as an Uber driver? In 2015, it was revealed only 14% of Uber drivers in America were women (<http://www.forbes.com/sites/ellenhuet/2015/01/22/uber-study-workforce/#15a2b3d31244>). So, why aren't women driving more Uber cars?

Most of the women we interviewed had the same response.

They all said they wouldn't feel safe being an Uber driver as a girl. One person said they wouldn't do it because they felt it would be too scary for them.

But, Uber driver Elizabeth Thomas disagreed. She said there's plenty of ways to keep yourself safe. The first step, Thomas said, starts with the passengers ride rating from other Uber drivers.

"You can look at the star rating and if [a passenger] is a three you don't pick them up," she said.

Thomas also said she carries pepper spray at all times in case a customer may get too rowdy. She also has a camera that she uses to record both inside and outside of the car. One other thing she stressed was staying in your comfort zone.

"Drive during the day and stay in certain areas of town. Stay in areas that you feel comfortable with," Thomas suggested.

Also, at any time you can refuse or end rides with people that are out of hand. Thomas said she's never had a bad encounter and she plans to keep going as an Uber driver.



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