



You are at an intersection about to turn right and it is raining softly. The photograph here shows the view from the driver's seat, and you see a number of pedestrians. The vehicle in the oncoming lane is moving slowly, so you decide to turn in front of it, as you keep an eye on the man crossing the road.



Your Position



Weather



Time of Day

You are about to turn right in front of an approaching vehicle.

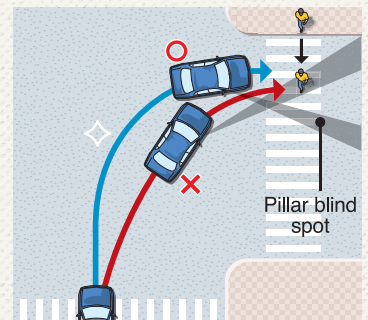
What should you be looking at right now?

**ANSWER**

You should be looking at the person's feet visible just under the pillar of the windshield.

As you tried to turn right behind the man crossing the road, you almost struck the woman who was hidden behind the windshield's pillar. Behind the woman there was another man, so there were actually two people hidden in the blind spot of your pillar. In the original photograph you could actually get a glimpse of the woman's feet through the window be-

neath the pillar, however, as the blind spot created by the pillar is quite large, it was possible to keep her within the blind spot depending on how the turn was made. When turning right, it is extremely important to be cautious and move one's head from side to side to confirm whether or not there is a pedestrian or cyclist hidden in any blind spots.



**How to turn safely**

The blind spot formed by a vehicle's windshield pillar moves depending upon how a turn is completed. (See diagram.) If a driver tries to rush through an intersection by taking a shortcut, they may keep any pedestrians within that blind spot, and it becomes more difficult to see pedestrians or cyclists coming from the right. Drivers should turn almost at a right angle from the center of the intersection, and go through the pedestrian crossing at a low speed.

Diagram by Hideaki Kinjoh  
Photography by Norihiro Ochiai

