A Humintell Workshop

Tactical Interviewing: Behavioral Indicators

CA POST Plan IV Certified #31465
Advanced Interview and Interrogation

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How Well can you Detect a Liar?

- Each of the following individuals has committed a crime (theft) or not in "the file room," and are asked "tell me what you did in that room."

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Truth or Lie?

- And the reasons you thought so

- Video 1
- Video 2
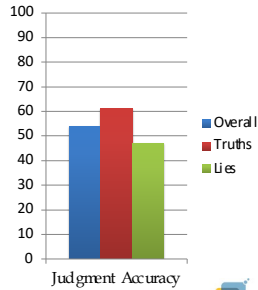- Video 3
- Video 4
- Video 5

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How Good are People at Judging Truths and Lies?

- Your accuracy rates
- Average accuracy rate for judging truths and lies (Bond & DePaulo, 2006)
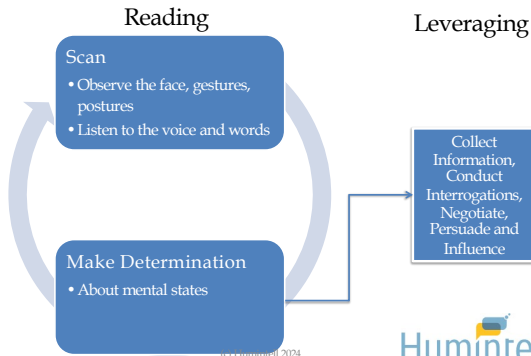 - *k* = 206
  - *N* = 24,483

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The "Usual" Way of Reading People

Reading

Leveraging

Scan
- Observe the face, gestures, postures
- Listen to the voice and words

Make Determination
- About mental states

Collect Information, Conduct Interrogations, Negotiate, Persuade and Influence

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Our Approach

- We want to get the whole story from people – suspects, witnesses, victims
- FACT: Non-confrontational interview techniques based on rapport building have been *proven* to be the most effective in eliciting truthful information

Laura Morton / Special to the Chronicle

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Take Home Message #1

- Interview strategies based on rapport allow individuals to feel trusting and safe, and to tell their story
- Creating these relationships requires you to read people well
- Thus, we train skills for reading people – emotions and nonverbal behaviors – as foundational skills to interviewing and surveillance

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Our Approach

- When receiving information, we need to evaluate its credibility

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Characteristics of Our Research on Credibility Assessments and Deception

- Highly motivated individuals
- Choose to do wrong
- Choose to lie about it
- High stakes if caught
- Funded by ARPA, DARPA, HSARPA, CTTS-TSWG, AFOSR, FBI HIG

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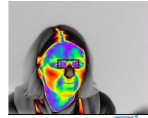
Research

- A typical scenario in our studies
  - Behavioral measures
    - Facial behavior, scored using FACS
    - Body behavior (emblems, illustrators, postures, movement)
    - Voice behavior (Fundamental frequency
    - Verbal behavior (latencies, errors, content)
    - Words and statements
  - Physiological measures
    - Thermography
    - Pupil dilation
    - HRT via Laser Doppler Vibrometry

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What Cues Should you Focus On?

- Based on the research, which of these statements are true?

- When questioned, eyes looking up and to the left are reliable signs of lying
- When questioned, eyes looking down are reliable signs of lying
- Fidgeting feet and hands are reliable signs of lying
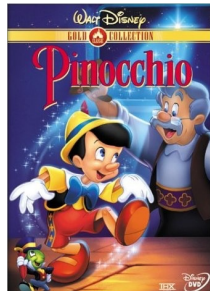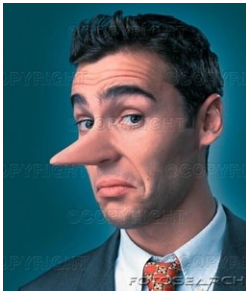- Mouth open and lips moving is a reliable sign of lying

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Take Home Message 2:
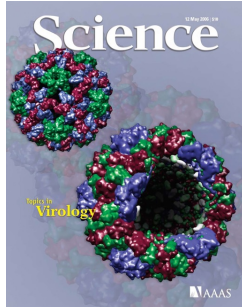## There is no Pinocchio Response

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Our Approach

- EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING
  - Behavioral cues based on scientific research published in top-tier scientific journals
  - Vetted by practitioners (law enforcement officers, intelligence and security agents) in the field

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Take Home Message #3

- Cues to deception do exist, but occur in *leakage* that can occur in *clusters* across multiple channels
  - Nonverbal Behaviors
    - Face, voice, gesture, body posture
  - Verbal Behaviors
    - Verbal style, verbal content

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Classification Accuracy
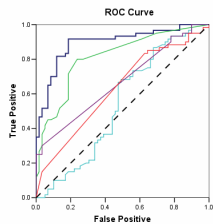
Optimized Combined Model				
	Predicted			
Actual	Deceptive	Non-Deceptive	Total	% Correct
Deceptive	55	5	60	91.67%
Non-Deceptive	11	48	59	81.36%
Total			119	86.55%

Area Under the Curve	
Sensor Type	AUC
Combined Sensors	0.89
Video	0.81
Audio	0.54
Thermography	0.67
Pupilography	0.63

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Validated vs. Non- (or Un-) Validated Indicators

- Validated
  - Demonstrated to reliably differentiate truths from lies across studies, investigators, laboratories, and
  - Works in the field

- Non-Validated
  - Tested in laboratory settings but not found to differentiate truths from lies
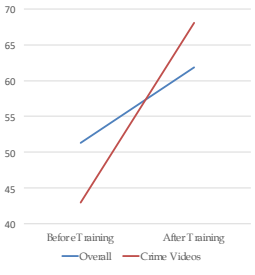- Un-Validated
  - Not yet tested

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Training Goals – Knowledge about Validated Indicators

- About nonverbal behaviors
  - Face, voice, gesture, body posture
- About verbal behaviors
  - Linguistic and grammatical features
- Psychology of truth telling and lying

Before Training — After Training
— Overall — Crime Videos

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Training Goals – Skills to Recognize Validated Indicators

- Nonverbal skill training
  - Reading faces
    - Emotions
    - Cognitions
  - Body language
    - Speech illustrators
    - Emblematic gestures
    - Manipulators
    - Body postures
  - Vocal cues

- Verbal skill training
  - Statement analysis
- Indicator detection

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Overall Goals of the Training

Identify meaningful signals from noise

Organize what you see

Place them into meaningful buckets

Get a template for how to understand what you saw

Increase Efficiency

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Outline for Remainder of the Training

- Improve Foundational Skills (Take Home Message 1)
  - Reading Emotions in Others (Day 1)
  - Reading Nonverbal Behaviors (Day 2)
- Build Knowledge: Understanding the Psychology of Truth Telling and Lying
- Improve Indicator Detection Skills (Take Home Messages 2 and 3)

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Next

- Reading Emotions in Others

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