TESTING THE IMPACT OF PRETRIAL BIAS
AND CONSCIENTIOUSNESS ON MOCK JURORS'
PARTICIPATION IN THE JURY DELIBERATION

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The purpose of this study is to examine the influence of pretrial bias (a general tendency to favor the prosecution regardless of the evidence) and conscientiousness (carefulness, thoroughness, and self-discipline) on a juror's involvement in the deliberation process. 118 participants were randomly assigned to one of two evidence strength conditions and they engaged in a computer-mediated deliberation involving scripted interactions with five other jurors. When trial evidence was strong, participation for less conscientious individuals did not vary as a function of bias. However, highly conscientious individuals participated markedly more as bias decreased. It was also shown that when evidence was strong, the highly conscientious and less biased jurors tended to be more active than other jurors in the deliberation. Conscientiousness did not impact participation when evidence strength was weaker, but more bias resulted in less participation. Jurors with higher pretrial bias were also less likely to refer to probative evidence when deliberating. The current findings suggest that greater pretrial bias can undermine both the quality and quantity of participation in a jury deliberation, but conscientiousness can result in more participation when evidence is strong.

DISCRIMINATING VERACITY BETWEEN CHILDREN'S REPORTS
OF SINGLE, REPEATED, AND FABRICATED EVENTS: A CRITICAL
ANALYSIS OF CRITERIA-BASED CONTENT ANALYSIS

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The present study examined Criterion-Based Content Analysis (CBCA) in distinguishing between reports of a unique event, an instance of a repeated event, and a fabricated experience. A literature review of both theoretical and empirical research was conducted to critique the use of CBCA in cases where children are recalling in-stances of repeated events. Based on this review, we hypothesized that CBCA is inconsistent with attributes of recall based on script memory, and thus would under-perform for reports of true instances of a repeated event. A brief study undertaken to test this hypothesis involved 26 8-year-old children who participated in one play session, four similar sessions that varied across encounters, or were coached to fabricate participating in the event. One day after the target event,

the children were interviewed. Trained researchers coded the reports using CBCA and intuitive judgments. As hypothesized, CBCA accurately discriminated reports of the true unique event from the fabricated report, but did not discriminate reports of the true instance of a repeated event from the fabricated event. The forensic implications are discussed.

AUTISM, PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, AND DEFICIENT ERIKSONIAN DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTING TO CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

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A case study is presented, involving a person with an autism spectrum disorder, psychopathology and psychosocial developmental deficits who engaged in trespassing, impersonation, and the stealing of trains, buses, trucks and cars. Prior research highlighted certain features of autism or psychopathology as accounting for the relationship between some persons with autism and criminal behavior. This case study illustrates that both autistic-based deficits and psychopathology interacted with psychosocial developmental deficits, contributing to criminal behavior. An Eriksonian-based therapy model, reconstructive therapy, is discussed and proposed as the therapy model that is most appropriate. Finally, the positively resolved Eriksonian developmental tasks are presented as possible protective risk factors that would be included in a risk management plan.