

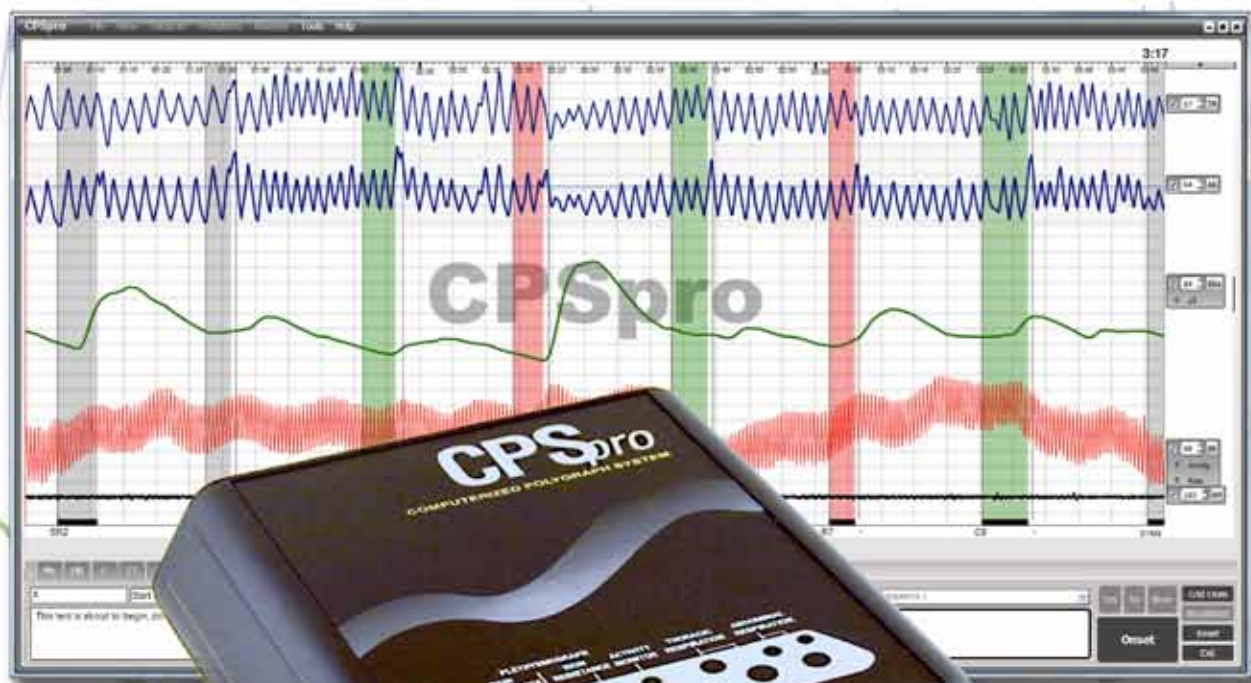
APA MAGAZINE

The Magazine for the Polygraph Professional

January/February 2014
Volume 47,1



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Deadlines

This issue closed on January 10, 2014.

Deadline for March/April, 2014 issue is March 7, 2014.

Submission of Articles

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Editor's Corner

With 2014 now upon us, we might take a moment to reflect upon the past year, and to consider how we might dedicate ourselves in the new. In 2013 we witnessed the continuing improvement of our collective practices, but we also experienced the passing of prominent APA members, not the least of whom were Cleve Backster, Don Weinstein, and TV O'Malley. Perhaps we might look to other members now to step forward, to commit themselves to advancing the profession as did Cleve, Don and TV, to serve on committees and to run for office. To give a little back to the Association and the profession. Is 2014 your year?

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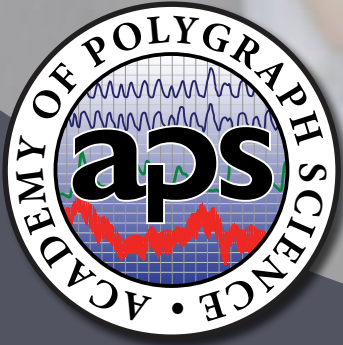
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THE ACADEMY OF POLYGRAPH SCIENCE

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SIMPLIFYING POLYGRAPH

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2014 Training Schedule

Basic Examiner’s Course

- Fort Myers, Florida: Jan. 6 - Mar. 14, 2014

Post Conviction

Sexual Offender Training Course

- Fort Myers, Florida: March 17-21, 2014

Basic Examiner’s Course

- Fort Myers, Florida: Apr. 7 - Jun. 13, 2014

Basic Examiner’s Course

- Fort Myers, Florida: Jul. 14 - Sept. 19, 2014

Post Conviction

Sexual Offender Training Course

- Fort Myers, Florida: Sept. 22-26, 2014

Basic Examiner’s Course

- Fort Myers, Florida: Oct. 6 - Dec. 16, 2014

For registration, tuition and general questions, contact Instructor Ben Blalock

TEL: (630) 258-9030

E-mail: Ben@apsPolygraphSchool.com

FAX: (630) 860-9775

Academy of Polygraph Science

8695 College Parkway, Suite 2160

Fort Myers, Florida 33919

www.apsPolygraphSchool.com



Buy and Sell

Business for sale

Polygraph office in North Fort Myers, Florida. It is a turnkey operation and a complete suite. If interested, email Wade Moss at agipvt@gate.net or call toll free at 1 (877) 500-3768.

For sale

LX 4000 Lafayette. Used about five times. Includes finger cuff, activity sensor pad, tubing, arm cuff. Photos available. Asking \$2500.00.

Contact Richard Fitzpatrick at rfitzpatrick@afncorp.com or (909) 973-7445.

In Memoriam

Terrence Vincent “T.V.” O’Malley

The American Polygraph Association is saddened by the loss of Terrence “T.V.” Vincent O’Malley who passed away on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at the age of 62.

For 30 years Mr. O’Malley was the owner and operator of Behavior and Testing Forensics, an investigative and polygraph agency based in Fayetteville, NC. Prior to entering into private practice, T.V. worked as a police officer with the City of Charlotte. He was a lifetime member of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Mr. O’Malley joined the APA in 1982 and had been a very active member throughout his career. He served on numerous committees, served as an APA Vice President from 2000-2005, and in 2005 was elected as President of the APA. T.V. had also served as President of the North Carolina Polygraph Association, was a member of South Carolina Association of Polygraph Examiners and the American Association of Police Polygraphists. He was a member of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry.

T.V. was a loving husband, father, brother and grandfather. He is survived by his wife Cindi O’Malley, daughter Erin O’Malley Bentley and husband Dusty; son Donald Marley, and two granddaughters Ally and Kaitlyn Marley.

The polygraph community owes a debt of gratitude for T.V.’s many contributions and his leadership. We will miss him.



photograph courtesy of Bob Heard

Announcement Regarding the 2014 APA Election Schedule

If you are interested in running for office, please take note of the positions being voted this year:

President Elect (1 year)
Vice President Government (1 yr)
Vice President Law Enforcement (1 yr)
Vice President Private (1 yr)
Director 2 (2 yrs)
Director 4 (2 yrs)

Applicants must specify which of the six offices he or she is a candidate.
Candidates can only run for one office per year.

Below are important dates to remember

- * **May 1 – May 30:** Period to submit nominations and self-nominations in writing to the National Office. Nominations must include a cover letter specifying for which office the candidate is vying.
- * **June 14:** Last day to submit a candidate statement of up to 500 words for the *APA Magazine* and on the APA website.
- * **June 15 – 30:** Validation of eligibility for holding APA office.
- * **July 5:** Closing date for the *APA Magazine*. Candidacy letters published on APA website and the *APA Magazine*.
- * **July 12:** Email notification of upcoming elections (Ensure your email address is correct with the National Office and APA website).
- * **July 14 – 20:** Electronic elections.
- * **July 22:** Posting of results of the APA elections.
- * **August 1:** Email notification to members of a runoff, if necessary.
- * **August 4 – August 10:** Runoff elections if necessary.
- * **August 11:** Notification to winners. Posting of final election results
- * **September 11:** Swearing in of officers at the Annual Banquet.

For additional information contact George Baranowski at directorbaranowski@polygraph.org

In Memoriam

Arthur “Art” Hadel

The APA regrets to announce the passing of former APA member Arthur Hadel of Huntington Station, New York, on December 31, 2013.

Art was a retired Suffolk County Police Detective, and a Past President of the American Association of Police Polygraphists. He was also a U.S. Army veteran.

He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Renate; his son Christopher and two grandchildren, Victoria and Connor.

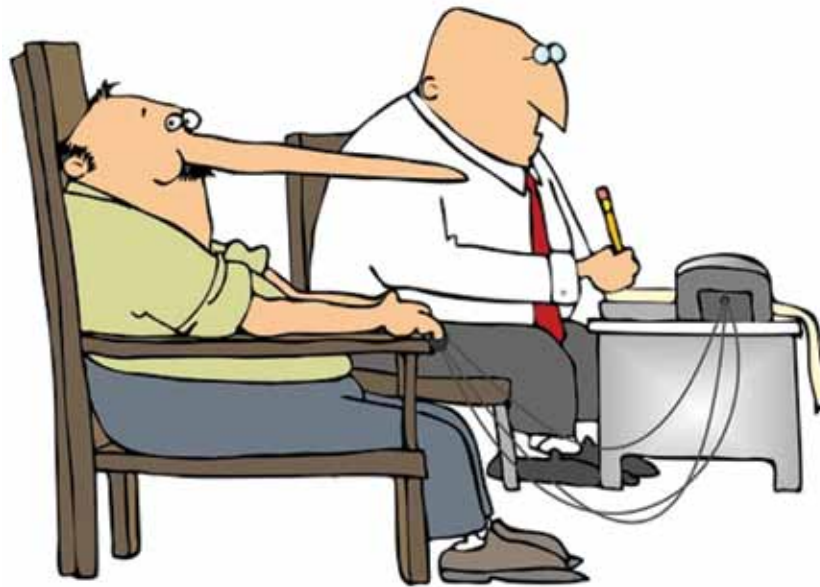
Announcement

Israeli Polygraph Association

The Israeli Polygraph Examiners Association (I.P.E.A.), an APA Divisional Member, elected during their annual conference the following members as their officers for the next 2 year term:

Tuyva T. Amsel - Chairman
Ms. Chava Yodfat – Secretary
Ms. Michal Wolf Hagigi –Treasurer
Mr. Yacov Erez – Director
Mr. Eldad Meiron – Director

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Employment

Las Vegas Police Department

Effective January 15, 2014 Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department has an opening for a Civilian Polygraph Examiner. The closing date for this posting is 12:00 midnight on Wednesday, February 5, 2014. This is a full time position, with a starting monthly salary of \$5,668.00. This position includes health, vision and dental insurance benefits. LVMPD employees are covered under the State of Nevada Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). Best candidates will be an Active Member of AAPP and/or APA as well as having Law Enforcement experience.

The selection process overview will be a Practical Exam and Oral Interview on Monday, March 3 or Tuesday, March 4 by INVITATION. By the end of the business day on Tuesday, March 4th, all candidates will be notified via telephone of their results and the TOP 4 candidates will be invited to stay and complete the ISAS/Background process. Those top 4 candidates will take a written Psychological Exam on the morning of Wednesday, March 5th and submit to a Background Investigation interview that afternoon. On Thursday, March 6th they will submit to an Oral Psychological Interview and Polygraph. By the end of the business day on Thursday, March 6th, the top 4 candidates will be able to return home.

To apply for this position, please go to:

<http://lvmpd.com/Sections/ProtectTheCity/JoinTheForce/JobOpenings/tabid/489/Default.aspx>

Click on “See All Current Openings” and then search for “Polygraph Examiner” PA#13189.

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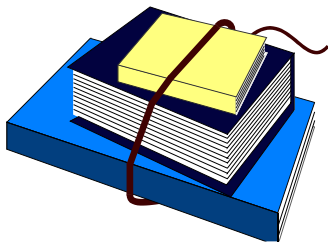
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Polygraph Examiner Training Schedule

Academy for Scientific Investigative Training

Basic Examiner Course

February 17 - April 11 (Pretoria, South Africa)
March 3 - April 25 (Philadelphia)
September 15 - November 7 (Philadelphia)

Advanced Polygraph Course

February 15 - 16 (Pretoria, South Africa)
April 1 - 2 (Cape Town, South Africa)
July 28 - 29 (Philadelphia)

Basic PCSOT

April 28 - May 1 (Philadelphia)
November 10 - 14 (Philadelphia)

Advanced PCSOT

July 30 - 31 (Philadelphia)

Forensic Assessment Interview and Interrogation Seminar

February 24 - 28 (Pretoria)
March 10 - 14 (Philadelphia)
November 10 - 14 (Philadelphia)

Morgan Interview Theme Technique

April 24 - 25 (Singapore)

Academy of Polygraph Science

Basic Examiner Course (Fort Myers)

January 6-March 14, 2014
April 7 - June 13, 2014
July 14 - September 19, 2014
October 6 - December 16, 2014

Backster School of Lie Detection

Basic Examiner Course

January 6 - March 14, 2014

Gazit International Polygraph School

Basic Examiner Course

January 26 – April 3, 2014

Marston Polygraph Academy

(all listed courses taught in San Bernardino, CA)

Basic Polygraph Instruction (400 hours)

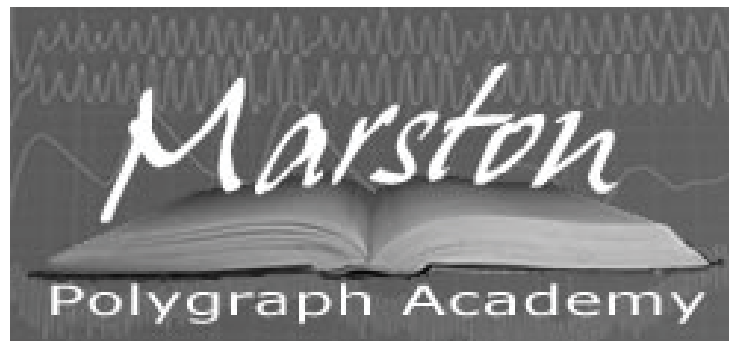
January 6, 2014 to March 14, 2014
April 7, 2014 to June 13, 2014
July 7, 2014 to September 12, 2014
October 6, 2014 to December 12, 2014

PCSOT Basic Course (40 hours)

March 17, 2014 to March 21, 2014
June 16, 2014 to June 20, 2014
September 15, 2014 to September 19, 2014

Attention School Directors

If you would like to see your school's course dates listed here, simply send your upcoming course schedule to editor@polygraph.org.



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Why should I attend the 2014 AAPP

From the training perspective, there has been an enormous amount of change in polygraph in the past few years. The very techniques that many used and how they evaluated those techniques have changed as a result of virtually every technique that can be defended, the science behind it so examiners can choose what to do based on research and where the field is headed in areas from screening to false confessions. In addition we are seeing a lot of research and where the field is headed in areas from screening to false confessions. In addition we are seeing a lot of research at the same time...see schedule. I see this as a necessity for those examiners/departments to update their knowledge.

Being a member of a national organization such as AAPP certainly lends to the professionalism and credibility of the department when the examiner maintains continuing education hours through the association training. The resulting positive impact the training would have on the examiner's ability and effectiveness is worth the investment.

The American Association of Police Polygraphists (AAPP) offers the latest in training and research. We have examiners who do things correctly and provide guidance when it is needed. A discipline like Polygraphing needs the best training and best practices – this is provided by the AAPP. The networking alone is worth the membership.

Reminder: Henderson is not in Las Vegas, it is more of a destination location for training with few exceptions. We have three sessions at all times.

The 2014 Course Outline / Schedule is posted on line at www.policepolygraph.org. Hope to see you there.

Upcoming Seminars

New Jersey Polygraphists, Inc. will hold their next training seminar on **May 5 - 7, 2014** in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Speakers will be Dr. David Raskin of the University of Utah, and Donald Krapohl, APA Editor. For further information is available by visiting their website at njpolygraph.net, via phone at 973-931-2028 or by email at Callmps@aol.com.

The Annual Seminar of the **American Association of Police Polygraphists (AAPP)**, co-sponsored by the **California Association of Polygraph Examiners (CAPE)**, will be held on **April 27 - May 2, 2014** at the **Hilton Lake Las Vegas Resort & Spa in Henderson, Nevada**. Please visit the AAPP website www.policepolygraph.org for more information.

AAPP Seminar in Henderson, Nevada?

...st five years and especially in the past year or two since the publication of the “validated techniques.” ...lt of the research/science and that is an active and ongoing process right now. This seminar addresses ...t works for them best and what they can defend with science/research, plus information on current ...e covering a number of areas that haven’t been covered in a number of years and especially not all at ...ir practices based on current standards that may have changed in the past few years.

...credibility of the examiner and their department in any testimony situation; and also greatly benefits ...aining, and remaining current with peers and colleagues regarding research, techniques, trends, etc., ...where the department would benefit most.

... Every examiner, whether in a licensing state or not, benefits from this. The AAPP supports our ...aph, like so many other LE disciplines, is not stagnant. All examiners need to avail themselves to the ...membership. Examiners working in a silo are not destined for success.

...y distractions. The seminar will run five days with training (8) eight hours a day and a minimum of

...u in Henderson in 2014.

Board of Directors' Reports

Walt Goodson **Vice President, Law Enforcement**

Hello all! I hope you are well and 2013 was as good to you as it was to me. As I look forward to all the promises of the New Year and reflect on last year, I realize there is really only one constant in polygraph. That constant is, “polygraph works in spite of us.” Most members of the APA have much more tenure than my meager 12 years as a polygraph examiner. However, despite my relative lack of experience, it becomes more evident to me every day that many things I learned in polygraph school no longer seem to be the best way of doing things. This caused me to wonder if our more seasoned members feel the same way. First of all, to be clear, I’m not being critical of my or any other polygraph school. I was trained in a curriculum very similar to the federal (DoDPI) model and most of the continuing education I received following my basic training provided affirmation to the quality of my original training. I’m just saying that quite a bit has changed over the past decade and

I’m quite confident that in 2023, I will reflect back to 2013 as the year that I had no idea what I was doing and will again be thankful that polygraph worked in spite of me.

When I really think about the mistakes I have made and seen in 2013, it seems that practically all of them were related to overly complicated methods I learned in polygraph school and made worse over time with my own unnecessary ideals. So what theme will I carry forward into 2014? Without a doubt it is, “less is more.” There is plenty of scientific evidence to indicate that persons and companies with simple easy to pronounce names are more successful, that priming affects subsequent human behavior and complex rules decrease reliability. Then why do we strive to make polygraph so darn complicated? Forensic Psychophysiological Detection of Deception anyone? I have some theories to why we prefer to follow rules instead of thinking and why keeping polygraph complicated adds to our perceived expertise; however,

this speculation is for another article as I don't want to lose the few readers who have made it this far.

For those still with me, I just want to present you with a list of things I have learned over the past dozen years. Specifically I will limit these to some of the things I've been doing to make polygraph much more complicated than it had to be. My hopes are that this list will provide you with some satisfaction that polygraph is constantly evolving and when you reflect back you quickly realize how far we have come. And if the past is a good predictor of the future, what changes remain ahead. I respectfully ask that if you have your reasons for not employing the changes below that you consider them with an open mind. Also, I beg of you to keep asking why and strive always to minimize any unnecessary contamination of this scientific process. So let me very briefly cover just a few changes. There is no doubt that a book could be written on the history of each of these topics.

Test Data Analysis. Twelve years ago, DoDPI taught me that there were 23 features I needed to consider when scoring charts. Some of these we now

know have questionable validity and are much more likely to be caused by countermeasures. The Empirical Scoring System (ESS) has since proven that a scoring system with one-third the number of rules will decrease inconclusive calls without increasing decision errors. It's also much quicker to use and easier to teach. The federal scoring system previously required two days to teach at the DPS Polygraph School. We can teach ESS in two hours and the students don't fret about not being able to score charts.

Test Question Construction. Ten years ago I anguished about the semantics of my questions and dedicated hours of study and debate to this topic. Engrained in me was the absolute that each of my questions held different meaning and the examinee's reaction to each of my questions was based on a "psychological set" to that specific question. Therefore, giving careful thought to my questions would allow me to see exactly where the examinee was lying. The crazy thing is that this was proven false by Kubis in 1962 and current studies in publication support Kubis' findings but I was still taught this. My greatest fear was "missing the target" as I believed that I could discuss

an issue for 30 minutes in the pretest and then somehow not ask a relevant question exactly right thus allowing my deceptive examinee an avenue to rationalize my question was not referring to his/her behavior. I'm not saying test question construction does not matter but instead that polygraph has repeatedly been proven to not be question specific and that we sometimes outsmart ourselves in preparing relevant questions. The examinee only has to demonstrate an understanding of what you are asking him/her. Too many times I've seen overly lengthy questions when a simple, "Did you do that bad thing?" would have worked. As a simple rule, if I have to pause for breath when asking a relevant, I return to the drawing board.

Inclusive Comparisons. When I graduated from polygraph school I appeared before the Texas Polygraph Examiners Board as a step toward my polygraph licensure. I specifically appeared before a panel of polygraph experts to whom I had previously provided a sampling of my polygraph work. As I have firsthand knowledge of this fact, I can assure you I would have failed this portion of the licensing process if my comparison questions

were not separated from the relevant issue by time, place or category. We know now as we have known since Podlesny and Raskin's 1978 study that this complication does not matter. A simple, "Have you ever lied to stay out of trouble?" is a valid comparison question.

Directed Lie Comparisons. Studies as early as 1981 have shown directed lie comparisons are less complicated to set up and easier to explain to lay persons yet they are as, if not, more effective than probable lie comparisons. We have found a number of other advantages such as increased disclosure in screening exams but enough said. If the directed lie is not in your tool bag, you are not being as effective as you could be.

Pretest Interview. I was taught in polygraph school that I needed to follow a pretest regimen that included detailed and complicated explanations regarding Fight, Flight or Freeze (we now know that Fight or Flight is not related to Freeze), how the instrument worked and human physiology. Also that I needed to give detailed in-test instructions on following instructions, remaining still, focusing

on the test questions, not employing countermeasures and breathing normally. I have to admit that what I'm about to say does not have specific polygraph research to support it. It instead is my anecdotal observations from looking at 1000's of polygraph charts from dozens of polygraph examiners over the last nine years. However, my casual observations do have mountains of empirical support from the psychological community. What I observed during these polygraph quality assurance reviews was examiners with concise pretests collected better chart data, made more conclusive calls and were less likely to have countermeasures employed against them. To the contrary, examiners providing complicated explanations of instrumentation and detailed in-test instructions including instructions to breathe normally and not to employ countermeasures encountered an opposite outcome. Myself and other polygraph quality assurance supervisors noticed a correlation between success in the polygraph suite and an efficient pretest interview. What this taught us and what we now all employ is a pretest focused more on developing good rapport, a detailed interview of the

main issue and one that does not prime or plant unnecessary seeds in the mind of the examinee that may have an effect on the chart data.

These are just some of the things I have learned in my few years and I bet each of you has your own lengthy list of things you once thought were a good idea and now reflect on as the good old days. If you have any questions or there is anything I can do to help you, please let me know at vp-lawenforcement@polygraph.org.

Thank you again for your professionalism and I look forward to seeing you all at the AAPP conference in Nevada and/or at the APA seminar in Seattle.

William L. Fleisher
Director

I hope everyone is starting the New Year in good health and with an abundance of ambition to be a better polygraph examiner. President Chuck Slupski has made me the chair of the Continuing Education Committee with the responsibilities of overseeing all APA approved continuing education. As such, I would like to express some of

my thoughts as to the importance of attending APA approved continuing education training.

In my experience, the road to being the top of your game in any profession starts with good basic training, then actually practicing what you have learned, and continuing to pursue additional education in your field of study by attending seminars, short training courses and engaging in extensive reading of the latest literature and research regarding your specialty.

This could not be truer for us polygraphers. When, in 1975, I completed the APA accredited Backster School of Lie Detection polygraph training course, I was very confident that I could attach a subject to the instrument, develop good relevant and comparison questions, collect clean charts and finally, analyze them well enough that I could render a professional opinion as to truth or deception. However, I must admit I did not completely understand how the whole thing worked. I knew what a cardiograph baseline arousal looked like, but could not tell you physiologically exactly what was occurring in the body.

I did, however, have considerable faith in my training, talents and a strong belief that the polygraph did indeed work.

Still, I knew that if I was going to truly be an expert in my field, I would have to continue to educate myself by reading copious issues of *Polygraph* journals, attend every seminar I could and pursue what I did for a profession with a fervor to be the best polygraph examiner I could be.

Fortunately, there were many opportunities available to me to better educate myself in my craft. Almost all of those were APA sponsored or supported. For that, I am grateful to the APA. Thanks to my continuing education, I have no hesitancy to declare myself an expert in the field of forensic psychophysiology.

The APA Continuing Education Committee wants all of our members to feel the same way about their proficiency, as your Officers and Board do, by availing themselves to the considerable polygraph continuing education opportunities out there. Please check with your school, the *APA*

Magazine, and your State Associations to find information about those training opportunities.

I wish you all success on your continuing education as a professional polygraph examiner. Have a great year.

George Baranowski
Director

Since this is my first board report in 2014, let me wish everyone a happy new year. As I write this report, the entire Midwest is snowbound. We started out with 12 inches of snow and I got involved, with the help of Paula and my son Jeff in clearing my sidewalk around the house and the parking pad twice yesterday, and I've come to the conclusion that either I have to get a shorter sidewalk or a better snow blower. Then the gigantic snow storm came later that night, bringing in an addition 18 inches of snow, and brought chill factors of 40 degrees below zero. We are now officially snowbound. Everything is closed, no one is allowed on the streets and in fact, some cities in Indiana have posted that anyone on the road other than for an emergency is to

be arrested. Now if you also live in this targeted Midwest select group of states, you know what I'm talking about.

However, I'd really rather talk about some upcoming happy and positive events. The Board continues to progress toward positive developments for the Association. The work of these members continues to impress me. We all look forward to 2014's conference to be held in Seattle. In addition to an array of interesting professional speakers and APA conference functions, there are also a number of other surprises about Seattle itself to explore. I think that most residents feel that one of the best known features of the City is historical Pike's Place Market. It's said to be over a hundred years old and continues to draw remarkable crowds. It has the rather huge outdoor market right at the Bay Waterfront and just a few blocks from the conference hotel. It's brimming with vendor displays of everything from fresh fish, fresh fruits and restaurants, to clothing, jewelry, and various handmade and craft items.

One of the things I was knocked out about was the love of coffee that Seattle residents must have. There

are Starbucks and Seattle's Best Coffee stands all over the place. You can see one just about on every block, in fact you can see sometimes two and three on the same block. The building right across from the conference hotel actually had four Starbucks in that building. I didn't know this, but Starbucks originated in Seattle, and they still have the first ever Starbucks coffee house right by Pike's Place Market. Paula and I went there just to be able to say we were in the very first Starbucks and were greeted by a half-a-block long line of individuals who apparently had the same idea, just waiting to go in.

There are a number of other famous attractions, for example the Space Needle which is the City's Symbol. There is obviously a lot going on in Seattle as you can see. We will be at another fabulous hotel this year, The Seattle Sheraton Hotel. However, there is one thing I want to alert you to. It's my understanding that at this time it only has 500 rooms guaranteed to the APA for our conference. Keep in mind that the 2012 conference in Austin had close to 700 in attendance and last year's conference in Orlando had well over 700 in attendance. The point I'm making is that if you're planning to book into the

Seattle Sheraton Hotel, I'd encourage you to do it soon rather than risk having to stay at an offsite property. I stayed at the Sheraton and I can attest that it is a great hotel at a great location.

In closing, once again I want to thank each of you for your dedication to the American Polygraph Association and to your dedication to the professionalism of our profession.

Michael Gougler
Director

Fellow Members,

It is less than nine months until the seminar in Seattle, Washington. We are working with members of the Northwest Polygraph Association to ensure that this year's event will be a memorable one. The APA is extending the APA membership rate to all members of the NWPA who are in good standing with the association. Don Clendennen is coordinating the effort with the Northwest Polygraph Association.

The Tuesday night event is still undetermined as Robbie Bennett explores various possibilities.

We will have an outstanding program that will emphasize “Act With Integrity,” the theme of this year’s conference.

Special thanks to Steve Duncan who is handling the technology issues for the classrooms.

Please get your nominations in for the annual APA awards. Skip Webb is leading the awards committee this year and he will coordinate the process with Donnie Dutton as the General chair.

Special thanks to Limestone Instruments for once again donating a complete Limestone Polygraph system to the recipient of the Yankee Scholarship.

We will have interpreter services in classroom A and B throughout the seminar. Thanks to Lafayette

Instruments for again providing the interpreters for the APA seminar. Chris Fausett has continued to be one of our most generous supporters. Ray Nelson is again handling the coordination of translators.

Thanks to Melanie Javens and Complete Equity markets for once again providing support to the association.

The Sheraton Seattle is the fabulous venue right in the heart of downtown near Pike Place Market! The room rate is government per diem until our allotment is sold out. Rooms are limited so please book early.

A schedule of classes and events will be posted soon on the website for your review. I look forward to seeing you in Seattle!

Quotables

Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things.

~ Peter Drucker

Do Test Results Matter?

Raymond Nelson and Mark Handler



It has been suggested to us that the polygraph is a tool for obtaining more information. We agree. What is questionable is whether the polygraph is *only* a tool for obtaining more information.

If obtaining information were the *only* objective then it would not be necessary to score and interpret the test data. In fact, even recording the test data would be unimportant because neither the examiner nor anyone else would need to look at it. If obtaining information were the only use for the polygraph test – and the test results themselves were useless – then there would be no need for quality control, and indeed no need for numerical scoring. There would assuredly be no need to understand the

level of statistical significance, alpha cutscores, or p-values that quantify the degree of certainty and uncertainty of each individual test results. The notion that each test result is unique, with some unique level of confidence – as opposed to the idea that all test results are the same – would be a moot point. The test result would be meaningless and useless if the only objective were to obtain more information.

The logical procedure, if obtaining more information were the only objective of the polygraph test, would be to leverage every possible opportunity to obtain more information – during the post-test phase and pre-test phase - without concern for the impact it would have on the effectiveness of the test results.

This is, of course, contrary to field practices today – which emphasize the use of a semi-structured, detailed, and non-accusatory pretest interview intended to enhance, and not detract from, the accuracy of the test result. The reason for this – and the reason for numerical scoring, quality control, norm-referenced cut-scores, and the use of validated question formats and validated test data analysis models – is that *test results matter*. Take a moment and imagine the public reaction if our profession were to take the position that the test results don't matter.

Obtaining more information is a useful and important objective: both interviewing and interrogation practices are intended to achieve this objective. Polygraph testing is intended to directly serve, among other objectives, the objective of enhancing the ability to obtain information. The goal of obtaining better and more detailed information is enhanced when professionals interact with the subject from a position of confidence, knowing that the person does in fact have information to disclose. This knowledge can be premised on the results of the polygraph test if the test is conducted using standardized evidence-based protocols that permit the reliable

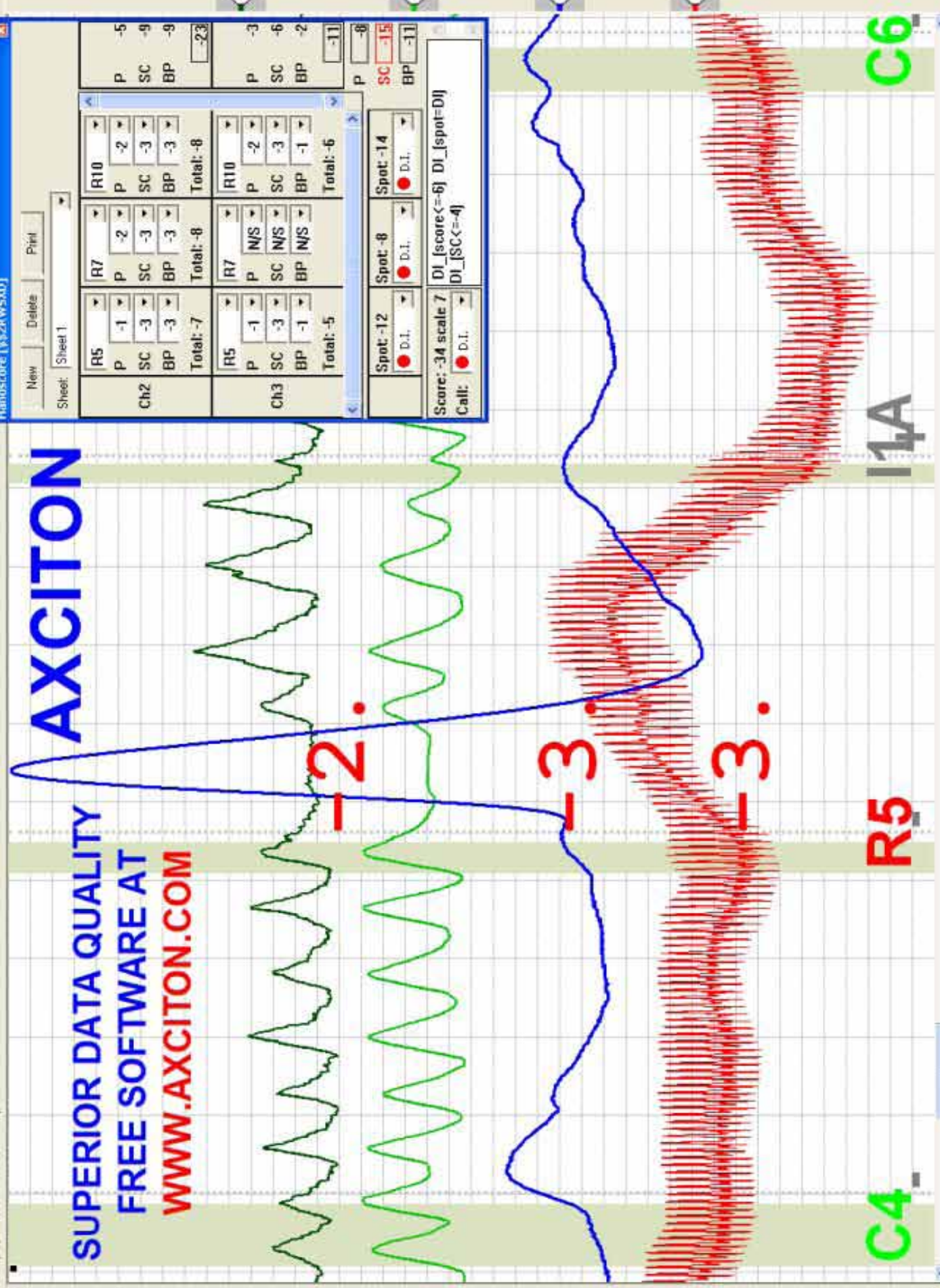
classification of deception and truth-telling.

If we want to the maximize our ability to obtain information, then *always* interview and interrogate people who have information and *never* waste time interviewing or interrogating persons who do not. While concepts such as always and never are useful in the abstract, they are impossible in practicality. Our objective is to use testing procedures that get us as close as possible to *always* and *never*, and quantify the degree of success we can achieve.

All of this leads to the next question: if test results matter, what do the test results actually mean? If not factual evidence, what form of evidence do the test results represent? Are the results useless if they are not perfect? Is it wiser to come to terms with probabilistic results, or is it better to endure frustrated hopes for deterministic perfection? These are topics for another time. For now, it is important to conclude that part of the value of the polygraph is, if we use it correctly, that it can – more effectively than any other tool currently in use – tell us who does and does not have information for us to obtain.

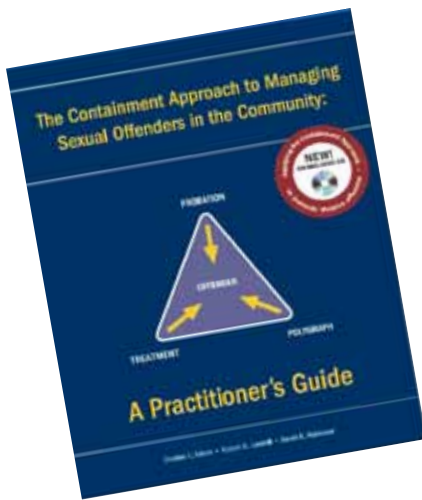
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E3 ARE YOU COMPLETELY CONVINCED THAT I WILL NOT ASK YOU A QUESTION ON THIS TEST THAT WE HAVE NOT ALREADY REVIEWED?

Book Excerpt



The Containment Approach to Managing Sexual Offenders in the Community: A Practitioner's Guide

II: CHAPTER 5 – DENIAL AND SANCTIONS

Denial is common to many fields of counseling, such as substance abuse treatment. However, we propose that the motivation for denial is stronger for sex offenders than other criminals and addicts. It is one thing to admit one has abused alcohol or drugs, committed burglaries, or even assaulted someone; but to confess sexual contact with a four-year-old stepdaughter, for example, is another matter. An offender performs major feats of deception and internal cognitive distortions to allow himself to sexually abuse that four-year-old stepdaughter in the first place. For these reasons the challenge of denial is generally more problematic with sex offenders than other cases.

Denial in Sex Offenders

Various sources discuss denial with sex offenders. It comes in many forms and can be viewed on a continuum, as Anna Salter explains (1988). Her treatment of the subject is similar to Freeman-Longo and Blanchard's categories of denial (1998), which we have abridged, below:

This is an excerpt from the third edition of the book *The Containment Approach to Managing Sexual Offenders in the Community: A Practitioner's Guide* (2011) by Charles F. Edson, Robert G. Lundell and David R. Robinson. Book has 152 pages, and a CD of essential forms. Readers can obtain a copy by contacting Robert Lundell at ntrgpoly@aol.com or (541) 840-7878, or by sending a check for \$25 to: Polygraph Associates of Oregon, 329 S. Ivy, Medford, OR 97501. Price includes postage.

Denial of facts: This is obvious, “in your face” denial. The client says he didn’t do it, that the victim is lying or confused. The offender may claim that an enraged spouse put the victim up to it, or the victim concocted the allegations as retribution for some discipline, for example. He may say the victim was sexually precocious and initiated the activity.

At times offenders will admit some aspects of the crime, but deny others. Usually their denials and minimizations are logical. However, if there is no logic or major inconsistencies in their admissions and denials, practitioners may be inclined to believe him. We warn against this and advise that polygraph results are more reliable than logic and intuition.

Denial of sexual intent: The offender may claim that he was attempting to educate the victim about his/her body or sexuality or that the contact was accidental.

Denial of responsibility or awareness: The offender may attempt to evade responsibility by blaming alcohol, drugs, a non-responsive wife, or a medical condition. A more elusive form of denial is where the offender claims he cannot recall what took place – he was in an alcoholic blackout, too messed up on methamphetamine, asleep and dreaming, or suffering from post traumatic stress and had a nervous breakdown.

Freeman-Longo and Blanchard do not discuss Denial of Planning in these words, but it seems to be a form of denial of responsibility or awareness. We mention it because it is important for offenders to recognize how they set up their offenses in order to learn to reduce their prospects of relapse and reoffending (relapse prevention).

Denial of impact (minimization): Here the offender minimizes what he did or its effects. He might downplay his behavior and admit he touched her thigh, but deny he touched her vagina. Another form of minimization is to claim that his conduct had no or little adverse impact on the victim.

Denial of denial: This sounds like double-talk and it is. Freeman-Longo and Blanchard describe the offender being disgusted that he is victimized by these unjust accusations. He may offer names of those who will say that he is incapable of such conduct including his wife and minister. We believe another tactic may fit here: The offender may proclaim, “I will lie and admit falsely to the offense in order to comply with your demands” although he really continues to renounce his guilt.

Other Considerations: Sometimes clients may admit all he has done to his victims but then lie in another arena, for example in Part Two of the Full Disclosure. Clients may deny they have ever had sex with a prostitute, engaged in homosexual activities, or ever had sexual activities with animals, when one or more of these are true. It is ironic they are sometimes more embarrassed with these forms of behavior than they are with sexually abusing children.

Some offenders are raised in environments where parents and relatives have sexually and otherwise abused their children, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren for generations – including the client. This may create intergenerational denial where it may be extremely difficult for the offender to acknowledge these behaviors are abnormal, much less illegal.

Obviously, psychiatric disorders complicate matters. Many offenders present with personality disorders including antisocial, narcissistic, histrionic, and paranoid. Robert Hare has developed a Psychopathy Index, which gives insight into the degree of criminality expressed in individual cases (Hare, R.D. 1970, 1980, 1996).

Sex offenders are often obsessive/compulsive or dependent or borderline. All these can compound denial. Depression and bipolar mood disorders can complicate matters. Then, many offenders abuse alcohol and illegal substances, all which can cloud judgment and strengthen denial. Actively delusional offenders are not appropriate for this form of treatment.



Hopefully Helpful

So You Want Fewer Bring-backs?

by Walter H. Greene

Introduction by Dale Austin

Introduction

In this edition of Hopefully Helpful, our friend, Walt Greene, discusses, “So you want fewer bring-backs?” A “Bring-back” means our subject needs to return for additional testing because not all issues were resolved during session one. Walt lists some reasons for bring-backs, and, of course, offers some solutions. Being efficient with our examination time is always important. It is crucial if you have a defined amount of time to spend with your subject before he or she must be released.

About the author: Walter Greene is a retired federal polygraph examiner. The opinions and comments expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Government or the American Polygraph Association.

When does a subject become a “bring-back?” Is it when we have more time to work with the subject, but choose not to? Not hardly. In the majority of cases, we simply run out of time. Our documentation often refers to so-called “time constraints,” or the amount of time spent on a particular issue to the exclusion of other issues, or maybe we refer to repeated tests failing to resolve a bothersome topic.

Unfortunately, a review of session tapes has shown that a large number of “bring-backs” are the direct result of wasted time during test sessions. At the risk of ruffling some feathers and bruising some egos, there exists a number of “bring-backs” that should have been resolved in one session instead of two, or in two sessions instead of three. Not counting the stubborn subject who withholds information despite our

best efforts—and there will always be some—here are the time wasters that cause most of our “bring-backs:”

Failing to pick up subjects on time:

Make every effort to brief and pick up subjects as soon as possible. A waste of five minutes here is a loss of five minutes of chart time or interrogation time later.

Unnecessary discussions about irrelevant topics:

Except for initial conversations designed to establish rapport and decrease general nervous tension, keep conversations focused on relevant, productive issues that will either help resolve the case or produce meaningful, reportable information. As soon as your subject’s conversation begins to ramble and encompass topics that are not productive to the issue at hand, it’s time to refocus. But,

*”twice in succession”: Walt is referring here to the RI technique. In this method, it is common to ask each Relevant Question three times. A “Significant Response” call would be appropriate whenever a subject responds a majority of the time, e.g., either two or three times. If the subject responds to the first two presentations, there is no need for a third asking, as it would have no effect on the ultimate SR call. Saving time is always a good idea; however, in the more strictly formatted Control Question Technique, like the Law Enforcement Pre-Employment Test (LEPET), the examiner does not have the option to fail to present each question. Each chart is numerically evaluated, so failing to present the requisite number of Relevant Questions could change the final evaluation.

remember, controlling the conversation can be done without being rude.

“Cranking out” too many charts:

If the subject reacts appropriately to a question *twice in succession, don't waste interrogation time by running the question over and over again. Don't construct and administer breakdown tests too soon. Know the questions and sequences for the more common breakdowns so that time isn't unnecessarily wasted while constructing them.

Prolonged periods of silence in the room:

Silence is almost always a waste of time, seldom a good substitute for questioning, and sometimes gives the impression that the examiner is stuck. While it's sometimes necessary to quickly flip through our charts to verify reactions to one or two particular questions, we should not have to spend much time studying the charts in or out

of the room. We usually know which questions have elicited the greatest, most consistent reactions as soon as we finish our phase testing. We should usually focus on resolving those questions first. Silence during interrogation is more often a waste of time than it is a productive technique.

Unfocused conversations or interrogations:

General interrogations are a poor substitute for specific, narrowly focused interrogations on a particular topic. Asking a subject what s/he was thinking when a particular question was asked ranks very low on the productivity list and very high on the time waster list. Keep away from that tactic if at all possible. Let the polygraph charts point you to the topic of interest, and keep extraneous conversations to an absolute minimum. If you are having more than your share of problems with erratic, unreadable charts, get help!

Quotables

Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence.

~ Vince Lombardi

Practicum

Advances are made by answering questions
Discoveries are made by questioning answers

Do you really “Believe your Chart?”

by

Tuvya T. Amsel

Another day at the office ...

The responses to the comparison questions were clear and accented, numerical scores were high positive numbers, the charts were a perfect textbook demonstration of a Non Deceptive Indicative examinee, yet there was a disturbing low humming noise in the back of your mind whispering

in an inaudible but annoying voice: “Countermeasures.” You enlarge the readings, examine it carefully with a magnifier glass, seeking supporting evidence to the slowly arising suspicion within you, but you cannot find any supporting clues to the existence of countermeasures. Then the background noise cries out loud and clear: “The responses are too perfect to be true.”

The author is a private examiner in Israel, and a regular contributor to the publications of the American Polygraph Association. The views expressed in this column are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily represent those of the American Polygraph Association. Publishable comments and replies regarding this column can be sent to editor@polygraph.org.



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Can you honestly say that you “believe your charts?”

What made you totally ignore your eyesight, your training, the golden rule of “believe your charts” and act upon a non-established ambiguous presumption that has no visible factual support or any solid evidence? Most examiners’ instinctive answer to this question will be: intuition. What is intuition? The common synonym to intuition is “sixth sense” while the dictionary defines it as “knowledge or belief obtained neither by reason nor by perception.”ⁱ

“Really,” asks the little counter voice within you, “or you’re just rationalizing?”

You conduct a fruitless posttest interview, so you invite the examinee to be re-tested at a later date but he never shows up claiming that he did so “... subject to my legal counsel’s advice” Now you are more convinced than ever so you verbally report to your client, “I believe the examinee practiced countermeasures so I am pretty sure that the subject is deceptive.” End of scene.

But there is more to it than just being psychic. There is always a real subconscious clue that triggers intuition. In this case will it be the case data that you read and/or the biased briefing that you have received and/or the examinee’s behavior symptoms displayed during the pretest interview and/or lack of chemistry with him and/or maybe a slight fleur of prejudice and/or just a bad day and/or all of the above. In many instances instincts may be wrong and misled by concealed and unidentified subconscious clues. But instincts may be

ⁱ *Collins English Dictionary* - Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition 2009, William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. From WWW edition, <http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/intuition?showCookiePolicy=true>

right as well, so why shouldn't we try to surface to our conscious those clues and somehow factor them into our decision making process? After all, any decision making theory preaches to collect as much information as possible prior to rendering any decision.

Polygraph decision making methods

In the early days of polygraph, examiners were instructed to factor case data into their decision making process, examinee's behavior and alike, in addition to their chart analysis. In fact, some polygraph schools (Reid, Arther, Marcy) taught their polygraph students to use a behavior checklist which, when completed, would give the (examiner) an assessment of the examinee's truthfulness or deceptiveness on the basis of his/her demeanor and behavior. This assessment would then be compared with the findings obtained from the examinee's polygraph charts. If the two evaluations did not match, inconclusive

findings would be rendered.”ⁱⁱ Jane (1993)ⁱⁱⁱ suggested examiners factor into the decision making the examinee's social history, past criminal behavior, motivation, opportunity and physical and circumstantial evidence. On the other hand advocates of the numerical approach, which render their decision solely on the numerical evaluation, claim that, “From a scientific point of view, it seems absurd and illogical to augment the results of a technique that is for instance 95 percent accurate with another technique or method that is only 62.5 percent accurate (56% & 69% - Drs. Raskin, Barland, Podlesny 1978). By adding the two methods together you in effect realize a combined accuracy of only 78.7 percent, thus significantly reducing the accuracy by Global Evaluation.”^{iv} While there is no doubt that the numerical analysis of polygraphic data upgraded the analysis from subjective to a quasi-objective, an objectivity which is associated, at

ⁱⁱ Matte, J.A., (1996), *Forensic Psychophysiology Using The Polygraph*, J.A.M Publications, Williamsville, NY, p. 259.

ⁱⁱⁱ Jayne, B. C., (1993), The Use of Alternative Opinions in the Polygraph Technique, *Polygraph*, 22(4), 299-312.

^{iv} Ibid, Matte, p. 294.

least on the surface with science, many researchers concluded that examiners' decisions based only on chart evaluation tend to be less accurate than decisions rendered on chart evaluation combined with the examiner's observation.

The charts representing the examinee's responses should always be our main diagnostic factor in the final decision making process. Yet, being as objective as they are, charts are not free of influence and actually they are an outcome of the pretest. For example, if the examiner approached the pretest being aggressive and interrogative, and the comparison questions were poorly phrased, then a false positive result may be expected. Or, in a case in where an examinee is concealing a prior violation and the comparison questions are overly strong, it may lead to a false negative. A representative example might be taken from computer programmers. In the early sixties of the 20th century when computer programming was still in its diapers in line with the GIGO (Garbage In Garbage Out) risks "... programmers were required to test virtually each program step and cautioned not to

expect that the resulting program would "do the right thing" when given imperfect input" which in our case leads to the conclusion that *the scoring analysis might be objective but the data upon which it relies might be subjective, which in return raises the question, "How objective can such an analysis be?"*

How does medical diagnosis work?

Medical Diagnosis is the process of attempting to determine and/or identify a possible disease or disorder and the opinion reached by this process. Medical doctors have a variety of medical diagnostic tools at their disposal: instrumental (X-Ray, MRI, fMRI, CT, etc.), laboratory tests (blood, urine, etc.), and alike. Yet, the diagnostic tools are but one factor amongst others in the process of reaching a final diagnosis. Unlike the common layman belief that medical diagnosis is solely based on diagnostic instruments or laboratory tests, the final medical diagnosis is a composition of the following factors: the patient's complaints, patient's past medical history – including his family's medical history, social habits (drinking and smoking), patient's physical

^v Garbage in, Garbage Out. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garbage_in,_garbage_out

examination and the diagnostic tools and tests results. Once doctors have all the information they will proceed to the final step which is called “Differential Diagnosis,” which is basically asking two questions: “What are the bad things that should be ruled out?” and, “What are the other things that could cause the symptoms?” So essentially the medical diagnostic process is rather an elimination process or a process in which the obtained information rules out and reduces probabilities rather than a positive diagnostic identification.^{vi}

Suggested modus operandi

As in any methodical decision making process, where the more information we acquire a better judgment is made, non diagnostic factors such as case data **facts**, verbal and non-verbal clues, examinee’s **factual** background data (such as being tested in the past and alike) and general impression, shouldn’t be overlooked. Of course their weight **should not overpower** the chart analysis outcome

but on those instances where all other factors (except the charts) are pointing without any shadow of a doubt, toward an opposite conclusion than the chart, we should re-test the examinee. In those instances where the examinee objects to being retested, a “No Opinion” decision should be given. In those instances where the non-diagnostic factors are not decisively conclusive, **ONLY** the chart should be considered. It should be emphasized that in all cases the charts should have a vetoing power over other data, and the extra-polygraphic data should be considered as a type of additional non-decisive opinion supporter. In spite of the above, examiners should avoid auto-pilot practicing where personal differences between examinees and their effect on the responses are ignored and only numerical analysis approach is considered, or as Thomas Jefferson put it, *“There is nothing more unequal than the equal treatment of unequal people.”*

^{vi} Gordon, J., “How a Diagnosis Works”, WWW., <http://www.dentalcomfortzone.com/story.php?aid=208>.

Lamberts, R., “How Do Doctors Solve Medical Mysteries?”, WWW., <http://www.quickanddirtytips.com/health-fitness/prevention/how-do-doctors-solve-medical-mysteries?page=all#>

Wikipedia, “Medical Diagnosis”, WWW., http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medical_diagnosis



Differential Saliience

by

Michael Lynch

That's Nice, But So What?

'He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts... for support rather than illumination.'

~ Andrew Lang (1844-1912)

The Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 forced the profession to prove the validity and reliability of polygraph techniques and formats through research. Research is a good thing; but only if understood and effectively employed by the end user.

There are three end users of polygraph research; government, the courts and polygraph examiners. Government and the courts use polygraph research to prove or disprove the underlying theories of polygraph. Polygraph research has identified this audience and writes very well to satisfy that demand.

About the author: Michael Lynch is a Primary Instructor with Marston Polygraph Academy. He can be reached at mlynch@lawyerspolygraph.com. The opinions and comments expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect those of Marston Polygraph Academy or the American Polygraph Association.

Polygraph examiners use polygraph research to conduct proper pre-test interviews, write effective test questions and form opinions based upon validated test data analysis. Altogether too often, polygraph research has not identified this audience and therefore has not written to meet this demand.

Abstract: This research will examine the psychophysiological response capabilities between neurotic and non-neurotic human females between the ages of thirty-five and fifty-five. The Null-Hypothesis assumes there is no significant differences between these two groups.

Methodology: One hundred human females were identified as suffering from manic depression and or mood disorders. One hundred human females were identified as free from manic depression and or mood disorders. A Bosa Nova Three-Tailed Variance test for neurosis was administered to all subjects. The subjects were then administered a specific issue polygraph examination in which one half were pre-conditioned to deception and one half were pre-conditioned to non-deception. Test data analysis was performed by

computer algorithm using both a Bonaventure Test for validity and a Pasquali Test for reliability.

Conclusions: Test data from both groups was evaluated using a Raunch Order Specificity protocol. Incadator and Floatum numbers were all within a \pm tolerance of $<.001$. The Null-Hypothesis is not supported.

That may be good information for those dully initiated into the secret society of statistical analysis, but how does this research affect decisions made by field examiners not so initiated? Do the *Conclusions* mandate a scoring shift from the vertical to horizontal? Are ESS Scoring Rules to be preferred over Valid Features? Is the Directed Lie protocol to be used to the exclusion of the Probable Lie. Are adjustments in cut scores required to accommodate the differences tested for?

Successful advertisers have always applied the principle “know your market.” Ice cubes may sell well in Death Valley during July but have no value to the Unangax people of Alaska in December. Research, no matter how well intended, is meaningless unless it can be understood and effectively employed by the end user.

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