



The Fontana PD Case & The Yogurt Shop Murders

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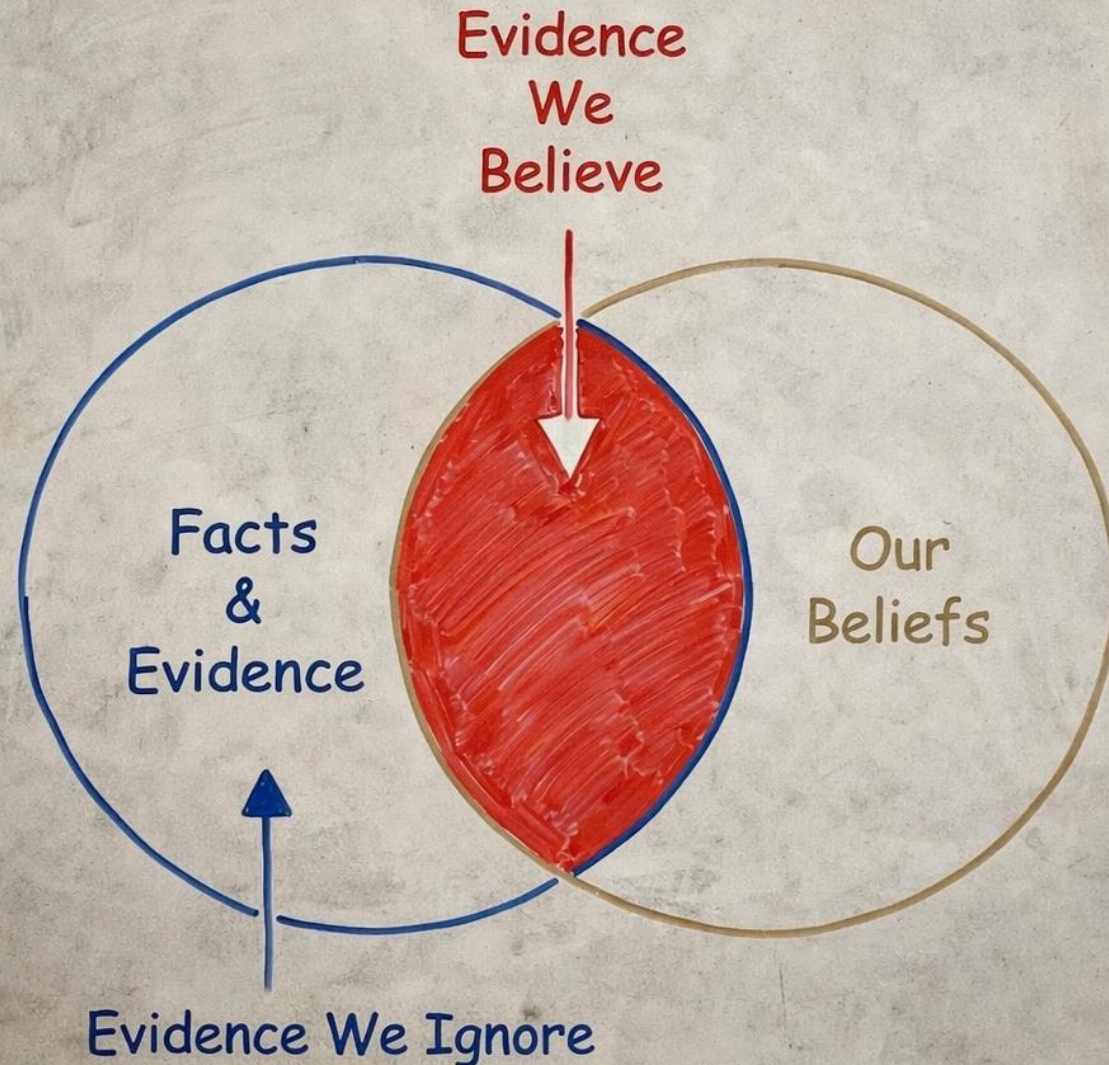
PARIS
IN THE
THE SPRING

ONCE
IN A
A LIFETIME

BIRD
IN THE
THE HAND



CONFIRMATION BIAS



Confirmation Bias+ Legacy Interview Training

A report released by the Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy at University of California Berkeley and the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice at the University of Pennsylvania showed that wrongful convictions cost California taxpayers at least **\$221 million** from 1989 through 2012.





CONFESSING TO A CRIME YOU DIDN'T COMMIT

False confessions
under pressure
lead to wrongful
convictions.

THE 1-IN-3 PROBLEM

1 IN 3

An illustration showing a chain of three links. The middle link is broken and is colored red, while the other two links are blue. To the right of the broken link is a DNA double helix structure, also colored red and blue.

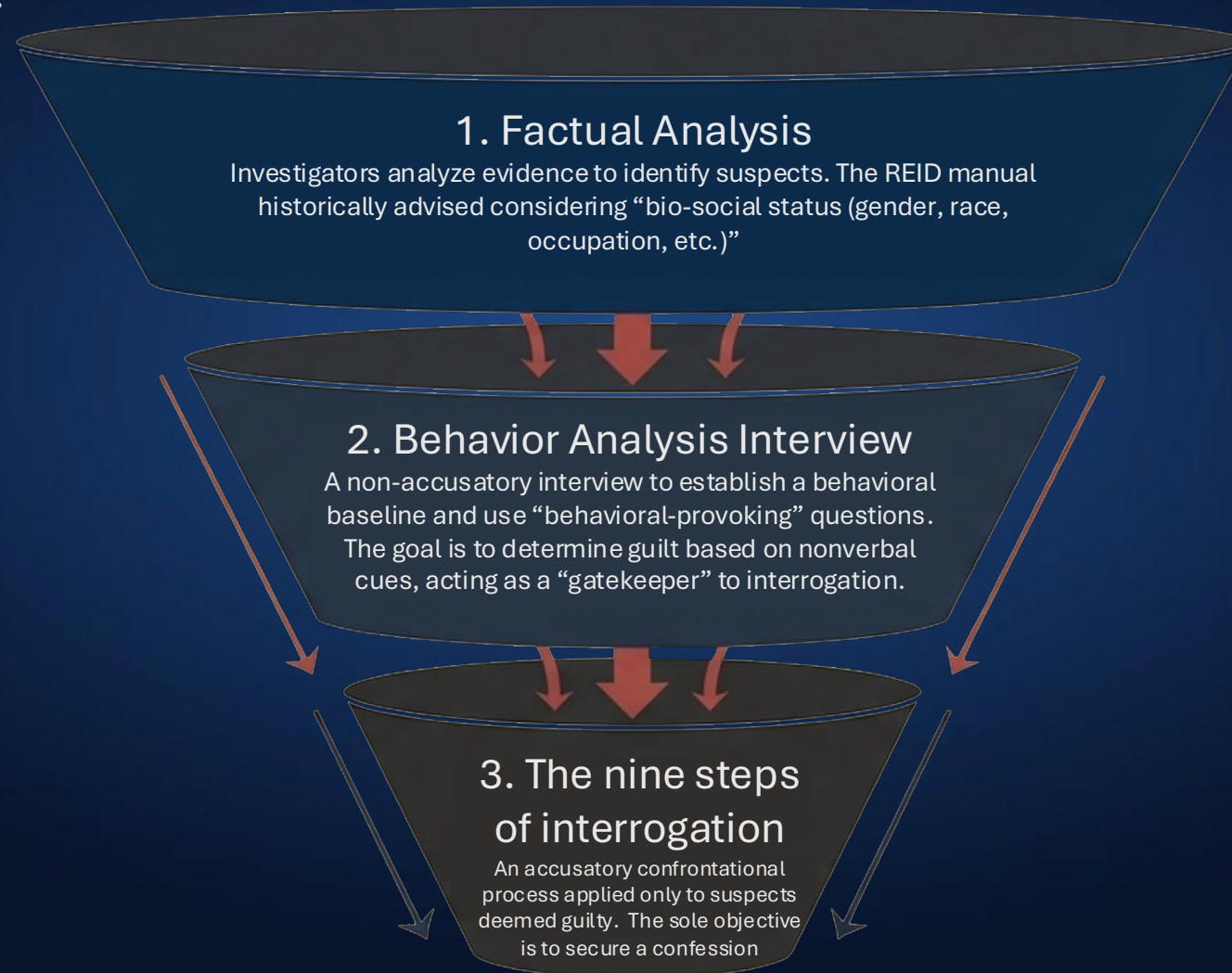
About one-third of all exonerations proven by DNA evidence involve a false confession from the wrongly convicted person.

Among 311 people exonerated through post-conviction DNA testing, **33%** involve cases where a false confession was obtained.

The Method Behind the Paradox: Understanding the Reid Technique



Developed in the 1940's – 1950's by John Reid as a “psychological” alternative to the physically abusive “third degree.” It quickly became the dominant interrogation training in North American law enforcement.

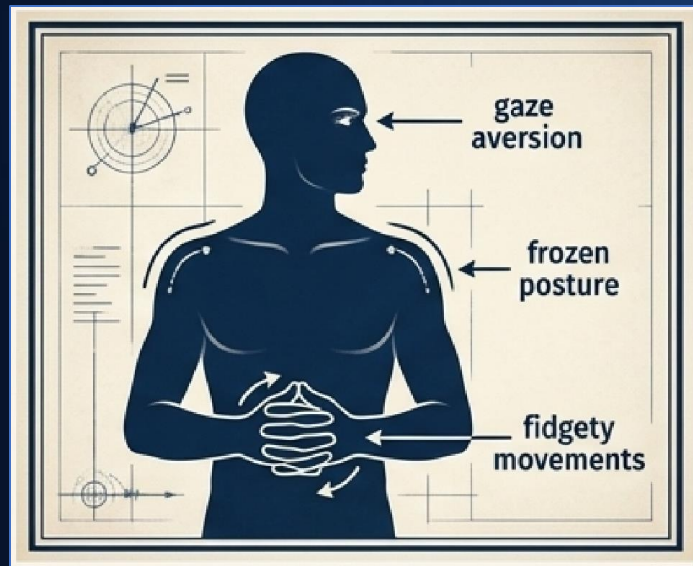




Under Scrutiny: The Myth of “Behavioral Symptom Analysis”

The Reid Premise

The Behavioral Analysis Interview rests on the assumption that investigators can reliably detect deception by observing nonverbal cues like gaze aversion, posture, and fidgeting. Reid and associates claims its method achieved high accuracy .



The Scientific Reality

This premise has been overwhelmingly debunked.

“There is no single behavior indicative of deception, not one. We need to stop associating behaviors indicative of psychological discomfort with deception and acknowledge them purely for what they are: signs of stress, anxiety, apprehension... but not deception.”

— Joe Navarro, M.A., former FBI Counterintelligence Agent

Decades of research show that humans, including trained professionals, are “no better than chance at detecting deception” - a coin toss.



Conclusion: This flawed “gatekeeper” process (termed ‘misclassification error’ by critics) leads to innocent individuals being subjected to intense, guilt-presumptive interrogation.

Under Scrutiny: The Architecture of Psychological Coercion



Maximization

Confronting the suspect with the strength of evidence (real or fabricated), exaggerating the severity of the situation, and refusing to accept denials.



Designed to increase despair and a sense of hopelessness

Minimization

Offering moral justifications or face-saving excuses for the crime (blaming the victim, an accomplice, or outside pressures).



Designed to imply leniency and make confession seem like a more palatable choice.

Perhaps most significantly, the "theme" pushed by the interviewer need not be true. **In fact, most training is that it should not be true.**

Studies show that in high-stress interrogations, suspects become short-sighted, admitting wrongdoing simply to alleviate the immediate pressure.

This process is proven to produce coerced-compliant (confessing to escape) and coerced-internalized (coming to believe one's own guilt) false confessions.



2020

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“EVIL WAS ABOUT TO WALK IN THAT DOOR”





Men wrongly accused of
yogurt shop murders reach
\$35 million settlement with
city

abcnews.com

PLANNING & ANALYSIS



FACTS (verified)

INFORMATION (unverified)

INFERENCES (What we think about it)

What we definitely know.

Examples:

Physical Evidence

DNA

Video

Biographical information

**What do we have that isn't
verified yet?**

Examples:

Witness Statements

Informants

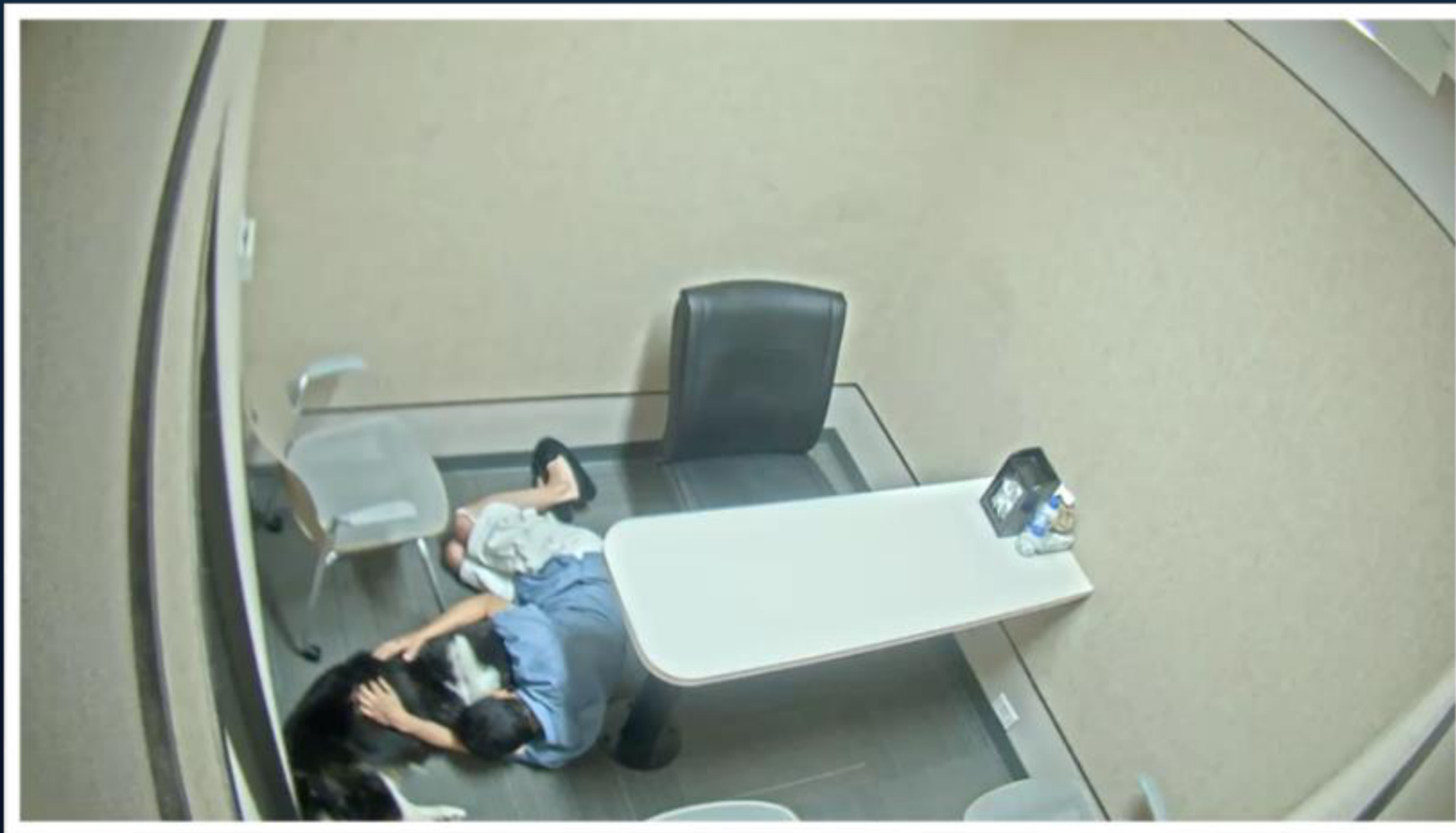
**Assumptions about case
AND subject?**

- ALL reasonable conclusions based off facts and information
- Bias Check
- Alternate/Competing inferences

OBJECTIVES:

(What gaps do we have? What do we need to know?)

Fontana Police



Fontana Police







#DATELINE