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### Interrogation Techniques

Interrogation denotes the act of interviewing individuals suspected of committing a particular crime through questioning, and it involves applying various techniques to elicit the truth. Investigators aim to create a rapport with the suspect to create a favorable environment that will allow them to share useful information by confessing or incriminating their statements. Interrogation involves using diverse techniques that range from the suspects getting treated harmoniously to outright torture in line with the circumstances (Jones 266). The interrogation scope aims to obtain truth concerning the committed crime from the suspects subjected to interviewing. Investigators are required to employ various techniques to elicit truth where there is a lack of evidence. The investigators' quality of information will be determined by the approaches such as using provoking questions during interrogation. However, investigators get faced with challenges during solving crimes, and this deters their progress. Federal governments should ensure that they create and provide sufficient resources used by the investigators when collecting evidence at the crime scene. The investigators' challenges may limit the quality of evidence that that will get obtained from the crime scene. This study explores the various interrogation techniques in line with the various problems that investigators should overcome to solve crimes.

*Interrogation Techniques;* Good cop/bad cop is an interrogation approach that police officers commonly use in the event of interviewing a suspect aligned to a particular crime (Harries 154). Two law enforcement officers will take sides with the suspect by opposing their stand concerning the allegations befalling the suspect. One cop will side with the suspect and even act as a defendant of the subject by showcasing sympathy, while the bad cop will be against the latter. The suspect will confide their trust with the good cop and progressively open up on critical information to help solve the impending case. The good cop will act as bait because they will defend the suspect, and the suspect will develop the notion that they have a person of goodwill siding with them, prompting the accused to provide vital evidence to the officer. Besides, the investigator can apply deception as a form of trickery to expose statements from the interviewee as evidence later on during the court proceedings. Deception involves allowing the interviewee's psychopathic aspect to manifest in their confessions, which will eventually implicate them. The suspect will be allowed to tell lies progressively, after which they will get presented before the court as evidence. The technique is effective because the interrogator and the suspect get involved in the deception ordeal, and the information collected is used as evidence. Investigators can lie, subject the suspect to defend themselves, and the information they utter will be stored for future reference within the courtroom.

Consequently, pride and ego are a technique applied by investigators to get the information from the subject through the use of praise or insults. Pride and ego up depict the move in which investigators use compliments on the subject with the hope of the latter opening up to imperative information concerning crime (Duke 446). The interrogator will have hopes that the suspect will offer critical information concerning the particular crime after a series of compliments towards the subject. In contrast, pride and ego down connotes to the event in which

investigators insult the suspect to have the latter salvaging themselves from the series of demerits. Pride and ego down criteria entail applying verbal and emotional insults to have the subject provide information because they will seek to maintain their pride (Vrij 934). Also, torture is another approach that the investigators can apply to have the victim open up and give relevant information related to the crime. Suspects will get subjected to pain, which will oversee them provide information instead of getting exposed to the suffering. However, torture is proving to be a simple technique of obtaining evidence concerning a crime because the suspect at some point will admit to things never done by them to evade any form of suffering.

Applying verbal and non-verbal cues during the interrogation procedure will help distinguish the suspect's behavioral change if they tell lies. The investigator can observe the suspect's body's psychophysiological developments, and this will showcase if the latter is confessing to the truth or just lying (Frosina 54). Deception will get noted through the suspect's conscious and unconscious behavior, which will be inconsistent because they will be uncomfortable when confessing lies to cover themselves. Psychology points out that liars get uncomfortable with smiling, have frequent gaze aversion, and make pauses during their speech more often. Three non-verbal features depict lying, and they include emotional, cognitive, and control approaches. The dynamic approach explains how liars will contradict their normal behavior with emotional feelings. In essence, suspects will begin feeling guilty because they are lying on a particular subject matter, and this will compel them to shift their stare. In line with the cognitive method, it implies that lying requires more thoughts than telling the truth, and in the process, it will expose the liar to making frequent errors in their speech. Lastly, the control approach suggests that the suspect will try making themselves believable by attempting to adjust their behaviors. The technique requires investigators to get well equipped with existing



knowledge pertaining the human behaviors to unveil the extent to which the subject is telling lies.

*Pitfalls an Investigator Needs to Overcome in Solving Crime.* Lack of evidence is a major challenge to investigators during solving crimes because it determines evidence availability. Physical evidence is more reliable than the suspect's confessions because it can vindicate the subject or corroborate the latter's information (Sin 369). Evidence collected from crime scenes tends to get misplaced due to a lack of efficient storage structures. Bad physical evidence storage will result in misplacement or tampering of materials collected by external parties who will access the information. Individuals working on the case related to the crime scene should have guaranteed access to the physical evidence and place limits on the materials' centers. Information should not get misinterpreted whatsoever the circumstance because this can alter the evidence's reliability in determining the actual crime suspect. Moreover, unsystematic collection of evidence is a major challenge, and investigators are encouraged to stop any alteration of items within the crime scene before they get recorded (Varol 42). Investigators should be careful not to misread the crime scene with their fingerprints or wipe off any object to provide clues during the investigations. The offender's identity will be easy to trace if the investigators master the concepts applied when carrying out investigations. Some evidence needs to be preserved in special kits to eliminate any possible contamination or eradicate vital clues that will destabilize any analysis.

Undeveloped transport networks affect how investigators will convey the evidence to the laboratories for analysis and the storage facilities. Investigators should get provided with effective transport equipment that will allow them to convey the collected evidence more reliably to the storage sites. Poor transport mechanisms will damage the materials' packaging to get used

as evidence during the event they are in transit. The evidence getting transported needs to get well labeled as this will eliminate any confusion during its presentation during the court proceedings. Furthermore, the investigators' insufficient crime skills will limit their service delivery in the event of obtaining confessions to be used as evidence. Investigators should get trained not only on how to detect lies but on the entire procedure of how to handle events within a crime scene. For example, investigators need to know how to handle evidence collected from a crime scene until it gets presented to the court against the suspect. Also, investigators lack technological gadgets such as polygraphs to help differentiate when the subject is confessing the truth or telling lies.

To sum up, interrogation involves the engaging of individuals to elicit the truth. Investigators have to apply diverse interrogation techniques while interviewing suspects to obtain vital information for the crime committed. The various interrogation techniques have a different chronology applied to have the accused provide information to be used as evidence. For instance, good cop/bad cop, pride and ego (up and down), deception, and torture are among the many techniques applied by the investigators to gather information from the accused. Nevertheless, investigators get subjected to a series of pitfalls when solving a crime; for example, poor storage facilities will result in the dilapidation of the evidence collected. Also, collecting vital information less systematically will negatively influence the investigator's ability to interrogate the suspects.

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