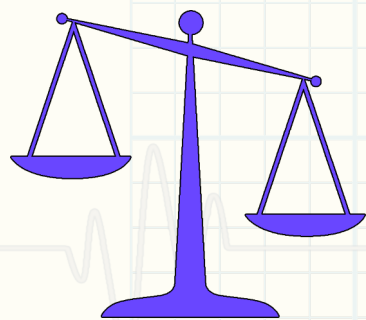


The Problems with LIE DETECTION

Guilty Knowledge Test (GKT)
Control Question Test (CQT)
The Polygraph
The GSR Machine

This infographic aims to give an overview of some of the problems relating to use of four methods of lie detection, all of which measure physiological responses to stress.

Biases in questioning:



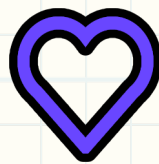
Studies suggest that examiners having knowledge of target information before administering a Guilty Knowledge Test may cause biases in the manner of questioning, affecting the answers of the examinee (Elaad 1997:108).

Inconclusive Results:

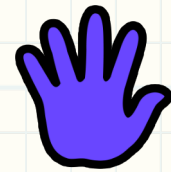
A polygraph measures:



Perspiration



Heart Rate



Skin Conductivity



Blood Pressure

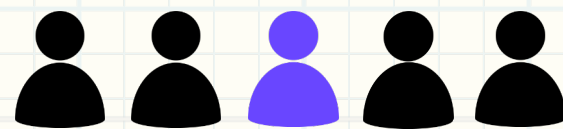
A GSR Machine measures only skin conductivity.

They do not measure deception, only physiological signs of stress.

Due to this there are significant inaccuracies in results from lie detection methods (APA 2004).

As many as

1 in 5



Polygraph results could be false

BEAT THE TEST: It is possible to "beat" physiological lie detection tests by training the body to inhibit physiological responses, or creating a fake physiological response to non-target information.

"In 2003, the US National Research Council... found [polygraph research] to be severely lacking in validity and scientific rigour. In spite of these criticisms, polygraph research has continued unabated."
(Synott et al 2015:60)

Widespread Use:

Despite issues with physiological lie detection methods, polygraphs are used in some capacity in law enforcement in over

80

countries worldwide, the USA being one of the biggest users.

In the UK, while polygraphs are a legal investigation method in law enforcement proceedings, the results are not admissible as evidence in court. Participants must consent to engaging with the test.