

Professional Intelligence Judgement Artistry

Invitation to Participate

This research project is being undertaken as part of the requirements of a PhD by Mr Jeff Corkill at Edith Cowan University.

Introduction

The purpose of this research is to understand how intelligence analysts in the law enforcement domain make decisions and judgements of and about the information they receive and analyse and what they understand about professional judgement as an element of professional artistry in intelligence analysis. Analysts are constantly making judgements about information on a daily basis which has an impact on the intelligence products produced. Little is known about what may be termed the “artistic” aspect of that process particularly from the perspective of experienced or expert analysts. We want to learn more about the nature of professional judgment artistry and how it is manifest in the law enforcement intelligence domain. In addition we are seeking to understand how this is influenced within an ethical construct. All of which may help to understand what makes a great analyst better than a good analyst.

If you agree to participate in this research project on Professional Intelligence Judgement Artistry you will be interviewed. You will be asked for your permission to record any discussions to assist in analysis of data collected and your participation will require between 60 and 90 minutes of your time. In order to be considered for participation you must be employed as an intelligence analyst in the wider law enforcement community or alternately an intelligence manager in that environment. Should you choose to participate you will be required to complete the informed consent document and return it to the researcher.

There will be minimal risk to you if you choose to participate in this research. The research will focus on individual knowledge and perception of how analysis is undertaken and practiced and as such no classified data or operational tradecraft information need be divulged. However, you need to be aware of the possibility of inadvertent compromise of classified material. If such inadvertent compromise was to occur the researcher in collaboration with you will excise the data appropriately.

Voluntary participation

Participation in this research project is voluntary and at any stage in the process a you may choose to withdraw from the project.

Confidentiality

All information collected will be de-identified to ensure no links to either individuals or organisations can be made. All information collected will remain confidential and will be stored in a secure location at Edith Cowan University for a period of five years. Unless otherwise specifically requested the de-identified data will be archived at the completion of that time. Access to the data at all times will limited to the researcher the supervisor only.

The outcomes of this research will be written up as a PhD thesis. Outcomes will also be communicated back to participants in a number of ways including presentations at conferences, presentations to participating agencies, publication in appropriate professional and academic journals. Summary analysis will be available to participants individually on request.

For any additional information please contact the principal investigator:

Mr Jeff Corkill
Edith Cowan University
Joondalup WA
Phone: 08 6304 5544
Mobile: 0409 100 854
Email: j.corkill@ecu.edu.au

Or alternately:

Professor Nara Srinivasan
Edith Cowan University
Joondalup WA
Email: n.srinivasan@ecu.edu.au

Approval by the Human Research Ethics Committee

Participants should be informed that the project has been approved by the ECU Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any concerns or complaints about the research project and wish to talk to an independent person, you may contact:

Research Ethics Officer
Edith Cowan University
100 Joondalup Drive
JOONDALUP WA 6027
Phone: (08) 6304 2170
Email: research.ethics@ecu.edu.au