EXPERT EVIDENCE EDINBURGH 2024

SEMINAR 3
WHERE IT CAN ALL GO WRONG...

ANDREW SMITH KC

Fundamentals

- Is the expert suitably qualified?
- Is the evidence truly "expert", in the sense that it cannot be determined without the expert?
- Has the expert the correct information upon which to base the opinion?
- Is the methodology used sound and tested?
- Is the conclusion a correct application of the method to the information provided?
- Is the expert biased? Either by failing to consider all information or no sufficient basis for conclusion

Qualifications and the area of expertise

- Does merely having an interest and lecturing, give you that expertise?
- Is it truly something described as an expert area of evidence?





Charlotte Watson 1 year ago

What makes this suburban dude a hip hop.expert

Reply · 2





View reply **✓**

TOP COMMISSION



Meyer Lanski 11 months ago



Yo the fact that this fucking guy job exist is fucking crazy this shit mind blowing and even more this mother fucker is an expert! Of what? Yo shit crazy!

Reply



The Damaged Expert?

What might cause you concern about your expert?





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High on cocaine and date rape drug 'G': Shock film of NHS children's brain doctor indulging in 'love' for illegal drugs while ON CALL... and he's back at work early the next morning

- Film shows Dr Colin Ferrie asking for syringe to measure out powerful sedative a 'date rape drug' known as GHB
- Video then shows consultant paediatric neurologist leaning over a kitchen worktop to consume line of cocaine

The Poorly Prepared Expert....

Apparent lack of expertise in his area..

ROAD ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION



Jodi Arias Trial

The Jodi Arias Trail

Capital Murder

Defence is she was stalked

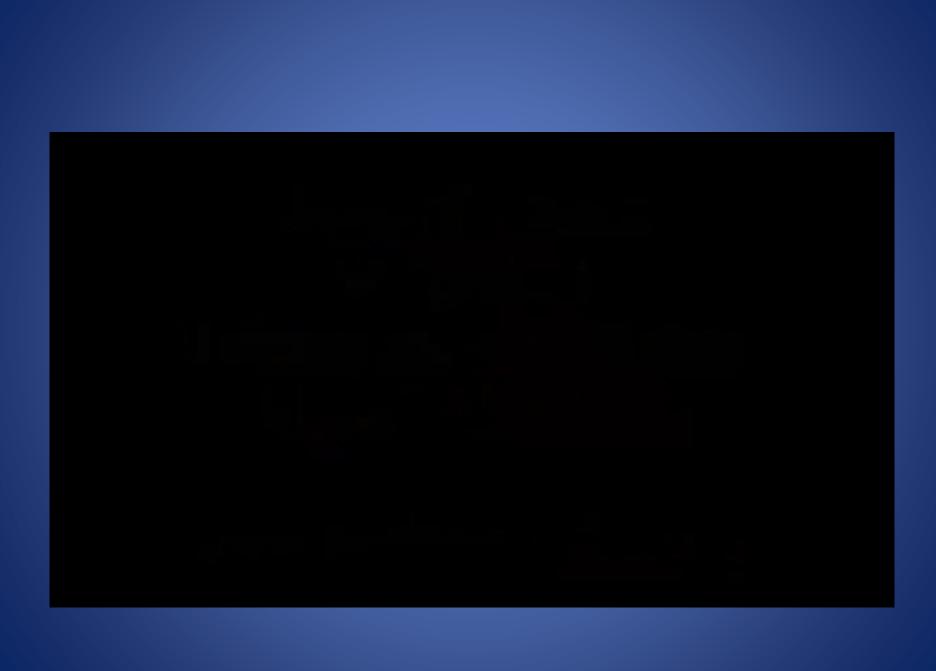
Stabbed her ex boyfriend multiple times and shot him in the head

Apparently he slashed her car tyres and said he did not want to be with her any more

Attacking the Professional Opinion

Badgering the witness...

- Defence was that she was a "battered woman"
- Expert speaking to her suffering from a syndrome
- But: syndrome not medically recognised in DSM IV or ICD 10



Is the Expert qualified in the field?

Pistorius Trial

What type of expert to speak to gunshots through door and whether they were the sound of a cricket bat being hit against it?

Ballistics?

Sound engineer?

Hip hop expert?

Geologist?



Expert Bias?

Making of a Murderer

- Cross examination of DNA expert
- Failure by expert to disclose important matters
- Suggestion that expert influenced by prosecution request

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No proper basis for opinion

(Juan Martinez goes for another witness...)



Depp v Herd





Is there any end to the type of experts we might have?

Welcome to the USA....



If all else fails.....



END.....