

Why and how suspect resistance manifests itself within interrogation setting

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Suspect's confession is an important component of successful police investigations and researchers have contributed to the expansion of knowledge on the subject. Nevertheless, even if investigators have the best techniques, the suspect's resistance to confess is a central element to consider. Resistance will be discussed based on the results of two studies conducted on this topic. In the first research, we identified five different profiles of motivations to denial during police interrogation according to a survey of 111 individuals who have been convicted - despite the fact that they had not confessed their crime - and incarcerated in a Canadian penitentiary. The result of the second study is based on 19 suspects who confessed their crime after a polygraph examination. The effectiveness of investigators' techniques for overcoming suspects' resistance was compared to the types of resistance that suspects used to counter the investigators' techniques. Findings are discussed in light of the literature on crime confession and resistance.

Key words: Police interrogation, Confession, Denial, Resistance, interrogation techniques.