

**Society for Police and Criminal Psychology (SPCP)
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**Factors Explaining Wrongful Convictions: List and contextualize judicial errors in Canada
in order to better prevent them**

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Trust in the criminal justice system is based primarily on the conviction that the guilty are convicted, while the non-guilty are innocent and eventually released. Wrongful convictions and miscarriages of justice are therefore serious threats to this belief and human dignity, and constitute a serious challenge to the criminal justice system. Despite its importance, very few empirical evidence-based studies have so far been conducted on the subject of miscarriages of justice (particularly in Canada), and the prevalence of this phenomenon is still poorly understood and misidentified. The proposed research project will provide a better understanding of Canadian cases of miscarriages of justice and contributing factors to such events. In doing so, the project will provide an objective way of thinking about the current practices of the Canadian Criminal Justice System and how judicial errors could be prevented, while allowing greater humanization of the judicial process and better respect for the rights of individuals facing discrimination.