

The Panoply of Challenges Facing Modern Identification Evidence and the Evidentiary Reliability of Coincidental Forensics

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Crimes such as terrorism pose some of the biggest postmodern challenges faced by criminal justice systems worldwide. How systems react and prevent such crime raises numerous legal, political and strategic issues i.e. cross-jurisdictional collaboration, policing and the erosion of civil liberties such as privacy. In this research, Dr. Singh explore whether cultural criminological theory can be used to solve two specific criminal justice challenges that are posed by terrorism: identification of the perpetrators and the evidentiary reliability of the identification as evidence for prosecution. Dr. Singh use Foucault's concept of panopticism to develop the idea of 'coincidental forensics' – bringing together the discreet fragments of evidence that often lay hidden within criminality. This is followed by a Benjaminite informed analysis of practitioner responses on its evidentiary reliability. The overarching aim of this research is to highlight the part of the criminal justice process that is often lost or seldom covered in the world-at-large and to make it accessible namely; what happens next.



Dr. Charanjit Singh is a Barrister and a Scholar of Evidence Law. He has extensively published on the subject and is the Editor-in-Chief of two internationally published and notable peer-reviewed research journals with De Gruyter; the International Commentary on Evidence Law and Theory, and Issues in Legal Scholarship. His latest textbook which seeks to deconstruct evidence law was published in 2015. In addition to academia Dr Singh is an experienced Civil and Commercial Mediator.

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