

SUBJECTIVITY AND BIAS IN FORENSIC DNA MIXTURE INTERPRETATION

Greg Hampikian, Ph.D., Boise State University, The Idaho Innocence Project

We have shown that the same DNA mixture data presented to different DNA analysts can lead to contradictory interpretations, even within the same accredited crime laboratory (Dror and Hampikian). As profiling sensitivity approaches single cell detection, and more complex mixtures are commonly encountered by analysts, the potential for bias and subjectivity in mixture analysis is of increasing concern.