Jury Selection

Rachel Mitchell

Outline

- Scenario
- Jury Selection Method
- Techniques
- Jury Questionnaires
- Child Physical Abuse
- Child Sexual Abuse

E.A.R. Method

E.A.R.

- Experience
- Attitude
- Result (what was learned from experience)

It's as scary as we think it is.

Have you or anyone close to you been charged with a crime?

- Experience
 - My brother was charged with DUI
- Attitude
 - How do you feel about your brother getting a DUI?
- Result
 - •Were you satisfied with how he was treated by the criminal justice system?

Have you or anyone close to you been the victim of a sexual offense?

- Experience
 - My cousin reported that her father molested her.
- Attitude (how do you feel about that?)
 - No one believed her/nothing was done.
- Result (were you satisfied?)
 - The system failed my cousin.

Have you/anyone close to you been accused of a sexual offense (even if authorities never called)?

- Experience
 - My cousin reported that our grandfather molested her.
- Attitude (how do you feel about that?)
 - My grandfather went to prison for the rest of his life. My grandmother lost everything.
- Result (were you satisfied?)
 - The sentence was too harsh for an old man.
 - OR: He is at fault for destroying our family.

Techniques

Preparing for Jury Selection

- Who does the jury HAVE to believe?
- ANALYZE your case as a civilian would
 - Counter-intuitive behavior
 - Poor judgment
 - Morality issues (of V and witnesses)
- Which jurors might over-identify with the defendant?
- Formulate questions ahead of time

Mistakes Attorneys Make

- Not asking the tough questions
 - •Your questions are not going to give the jurors ideas they don't already have.
- Cross-examining jurors
 - ODon't make them sympathize with the defendant!
- Showing disapproval vs. fairness
- Not asking for jury questionnaires

Do Not Paint Your Target

- Ask the other jurors the OPPOSITE of what you want
- © Example:
 - Juror: I automatically believe police officers
 - Ask: Does anyone <u>disagree</u> with that?
 - OJuror: Children are not as believable as adults.
 - Ask: Does anyone <u>agree</u> with that?

Other Suggestions

- Avoid "yes or no" questions
- Do not try to get them to agree: "Wouldn't you agree...?"
- Give the jurors facts so they are not answering in a vacuum
 - Do not make your statement of facts your opening statement
- Have someone sit with you ideally your case agent

Other Suggestions

- Ask your questions in the following order (starting with factors that tend to exert the most bias)
 - © Experiences/relationships
 - Feelings
 - Thoughts/opinions
- Rating system:
 - ©+++, ++, +
 - **©**0
 - OX, XX, XXX

Jurors to look out for

- Jurors that really, really want to be on the jury
- Victims of same type of crime who "can be fair and impartial"
- Jurors whose answers have a disturbing subtext
 - Our daughter was staying with us and had a miscarriage. But I can handle that stuff. I have a biology degree".

Who Is Your Most Dangerous Juror?

Juror Questionnaires

Jury Questionnaires

- Better for asking the personal, hard questions
- Ensures responses from everyone
- Jurors more likely to admit socially-disapproved biases

Jury Questionnaires

- Well-written questions will be wanted by both sides
- Identify the challenges for cause first
- Get someone else to rate separately compare and discuss

Physical Abuse

Prosecute if caretaker slaps across face with open hand?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree		Undecided - would need to consider the circumstances		Agree	Strongly agree	Rating Average	Response Count
A child under the age of 1	3.9% (12)	1.6% (5)	0.3% (1)	4.5% (14)	3.2% (10)	7.1% (22)	79.4% (247)	6.41	311
A child aged 1-3 yrs.	3.5% (11)	1.9% (6)	0.6% (2)	5.5% (17)	3.9% (12)	9.0% (28)	75.5% (234)	6.33	310
A child aged 4-6 yrs.	3.5% (11)	2.3% (7)	1.6% (5)	10.9% (34)	4.8% (15)	9.6% (30)	67.2% (209)	6.09	311
A child aged 6-10 yrs.	4.2% (13)	3.5% (11)	3.2% (10)	12.9% (40)	6.1% (19)	21.9% (68)	48.2% (150)	5.72	311
A child aged 10-14 yrs.	3.9% (12)	6.8% (21)	5.5% (17)	15.1% (47)	7.7% (24)	28.0% (87)	33.1% (103)	5.32	311
A child aged 15 or older	4.9% (15)	6.8% (21)	6.5% (20)	19.7% (61)	10.4% (32)	21.0% (65)	30.7% (95)	5.10	309

Prosecute for shaking a child with a moderate amount of force?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree		Undecided- would need to consider the circumstances		Agree	Strongly Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
A child under the age of 1	2.9% (9)	1.6% (5)	1.0% (3)	3.9% (12)	1.9% (6)	5.2% (16)	83.4% (257)	6.50	308
A child aged 1-3 yrs.	2.6% (8)	1.6% (5)	1.3% (4)	5.5% (17)	1.3% (4)	7.8% (24)	79.9% (246)	6.44	308
A child aged 4-6 yrs.	2.9% (9)	3.6% (11)	1.6% (5)	6.5% (20)	2.9% (9)	7.2% (22)	75.2% (231)	6.25	307
A child aged 6-10 yrs.	4.2% (13)	7.2% (22)	4.6% (14)	10.1% (31)	2.3% (7)	7.5% (23)	64.2% (197)	5.78	307
A child aged 10-14 yrs.	5.5% (17)	9.1% (28)	5.5% (17)	12.7% (39)	1.9% (6)	6.8% (21)	58.4% (180)	5.51	308
A child aged 15 or older	6.2% (19)	9.5% (29)	5.6% (17)	14.7% (45)	2.3% (7)	7.5% (23)	54.2% (166)	5.37	306

Prosecute for striking or hitting across butt w/belt, cord, stick or any type of object

	Strongly disgree	Disagree		Undecided- would need to consider the circumstances		Agree	Strongly Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
A child under the age of 1	2.9% (9)	1.3% (4)	1.0% (3)	4.2% (13)	2.3% (7)	6.5% (20)	81.8% (252)	6.48	308
A child aged 1-3 yrs.	2.9% (9)	1.3% (4)	1.0% (3)	5.5% (17)	2.6% (8)	8.4% (26)	78.2% (241)	6.42	308
A child aged 4-6 yrs.	1.9% (6)	1.9% (6)	2.9% (9)	8.1% (25)	4.2% (13)	8.8% (27)	72.1% (222)	6.25	308
A child aged 6-10 yrs.	2.6% (8)	2.3% (7)	4.9% (15)	13.3% (41)	4.5% (14)	14.6% (45)	57.8% (178)	5.90	308
A child aged 10-14 yrs.	3.6% (11)	2.9% (9)	6.8% (21)	16.6% (51)	6.5% (20)	17.9% (55)	45.8% (141)	5.56	308
A child aged 15 or older	4.2% (13)	4.5% (14)	6.8% (21)	18.8% (58)	5.8% (18)	16.2% (50)	43.5% (134)	5.40	308

Agree or disagree?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Response Count
I have strong feelings against any person other than a biological parent physically disciplining a child.	38.0% (117)	34.1% (105)	21.4% (66)	6.5% (20)	308
When comparing the physical discipline used by my parents, I use(d) the same type of physical discipline with my own children	35.7% (110)	39.9% (123)	17.9% (55)	6.5% (20)	308
Generally speaking, I believe the State should prosecute parents when their child drowns from lack of proper supervision	41.9% (129)	29.5% (91)	21.1% (65)	7.5% (23)	308

Agree or disagree?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Response Count
I have strong feelings about the government having any involvement in the way I parent my child.	37.5% (115)	36.2% (111)	20.8% (64)	5.5% (17)	307
I believe the problem with today's children is a lack of strong discipline because parents are too lenient	34.7% (107)	36.7% (113)	20.1% (62)	8.4% (26)	308
I believe that certain cultures, which are different than mine, should be permitted to follow their own traditional methods of discipline.	26.9% (83)	26.9% (83)	27.9% (86)	18.2% (56)	308

Child Abuse Questions

- Do you believe that spankings are a form of child abuse?
- Do you believe some form of discipline is necessary to teach a child right from wrong
- When is spanking a child an appropriate method of punishment?
- What is the maximum type of punishment a parent should use with a misbehaving child under the age of 10?

Agree/Disagree

- The government needs to stay out of our homes.
- Treat more or less seriously if child is older?
- Child abuse is black and white. Why or why not?
- Spare the rod, spoil the child. What does this mean to you?

Safety Concerned

- Which of the following do/did you have in your home?
 - Baby monitors
 - •Nanny cam
 - Outlet plugs

Safety Concerned

- How did you choose the daycare your children go/went to?
- Do you live in a gated community?
- Do you carry
 - OC spray
 - Taser
- Have you ever received training in
 - Car seat installation
 - CPR (adults/children/pets)

Sexual Abuse

- Do you believe that as a society we have taught our children to over-react when it comes to:
 - Stranger Danger
 - @Good Touch/Bad Touch
 - Child Physical Abuse
- If yes, please explain
- When a child testifies in court, do you think the child should be treated differently than an adult?
 - Please explain

- Do you generally agree with the statement, "there's truth in numbers".
 - •Why/why not?
- Do you believe that in cases of child sexual abuse, most children tell right away?
 - Could you understand that there may be reasons why a child's disclosure may be delayed for some time? Even years?
 - •Would you be willing to listen and defer to an expert witness in the characteristics of sexual abuse about this?

Please indicate whether yo			
"If no medical evidence e	xists in a crime, the c	rime must not have o	occurred."
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

- Do you believe that a person deserves to be victimized as a result of making bad choices?
- Have you or anyone close to you struggled with any type of addiction? If yes, please explain.
- O Do you watch the television show "Intervention" and/or "Addicted"? If yes, please explain your general feelings about the show and subject matter.