

Kassin, S. M., Goldstein, C. C., & Savitsky, K. (2003). Behavioral confirmation in the interrogation room: On the dangers of presuming guilt. *Law and Human Behavior, 27*, 187-203.

**I. Interrogation Questions Checklist – Ratings of the Guilt-Presumptiveness of Each Question**

Interrogation Questions	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>
1. Where were you and what were you doing during the past hour?	2.97	2.18
2. Were you in Room 100 of Miller House earlier today?	4.18	2.59
3. Why were you in Room 100 of Miller House earlier today?	6.58	2.50
4. Do you know anything about the locked cabinet in Room 100?	5.18	2.58
5. Tell me about the basket that's in the locked cabinet in Room 100.	7.67	2.29
6. Do you know anything about the key that was hidden behind the VCR?	5.64	2.46
7. How did you find the key that was hidden behind the VCR?	8.72	1.28
8. Do you know anything about the \$100 that was taken from Room 100?	5.02	2.53
9. You stole the \$100 from Room 100, didn't you?	9.15	1.67
10. Was there anyone else in Room 100 when you were there earlier?	7.02	1.80
11. You were seen before by a fellow student who was in Room 100; did you know that?	7.69	1.92
12. It's not a big deal if someone took the money; do you know who did it?	5.52	2.36
13. It's not a big deal if you took the money, so why don't you just admit it?	9.21	1.62

*Note.* Each question was rated on a scale from 1 to 10 (1 = not at all presuming guilt, 10 = very much presuming guilt).

## II. Interrogation Techniques Checklist - Ratings of the Coerciveness of Each Technique

Interrogation Techniques	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>
1. Appeal to the suspect's moral character and conscience.	4.48	2.51
2. Appeal to God and religion--and the need to confess one's sins.	4.62	2.42
3. Tell the suspect that there is independent evidence of his or her guilt (e.g. surveillance tapes, witnesses, or fingerprints)--so that he or she may as well confess.	8.39	1.75
4. Underplay the seriousness of the crime by convincing the suspect that it is no big deal, something that others do all the time.	6.31	1.93
5. Offer sympathy and understanding, and lead the suspect to believe that he or she can trust you.	6.34	2.06
6. Pick apart the suspect's story by pointing out the inconsistencies and contradictions.	6.51	2.18
7. Make repeated accusations and let the suspect know that you will not accept any denials.	7.57	2.10
8. Threaten to bring the police into the investigation if the suspect does not confess.	7.74	1.81
9. Convince the suspect that "cooperating" would be in his or her best interest.	6.75	1.87
10. Minimize the seriousness of the offense by suggesting to the suspect that it was not planned, just something that he or she did on the spur of the moment.	6.11	1.81
11. Intimidate the suspect by overplaying the seriousness of the offense.	6.68	2.28
12. Offer the suspect leniency in exchange for a confession.	7.54	1.95
13. Tell the suspect that the questioning will stop once he or she confesses.	7.10	2.20

*Note.* Each technique was rated on a scale from 1 to 10 (1 = not at all coercive, 10 = very coercive).