

**INTERVIEW  
AND  
INTERROGATION**

Sr. Inv. David F. Madden, Jr.  
New York State Police

---

# DEFINITIONS

## INTERVIEW:

1. A meeting of people face to face to confer
2. A meeting in which a person is asked about his or her views

## INTERROGATE:

To question, esp.  
formally

## ***A SUCCESSFUL INTERVIEWER - INTERROGATOR:***

- Constantly studies and experiments with new techniques.*
  - Interviews/Interrogates everyone they can, even those who apparently will not admit anything.*
  - Concentrates on the Interview/Interrogation, not going home, smoking, eating, etc..*
  - Is a quick thinker with enough flexibility to fit the changing scene.*
  - Is a person who is liked and respected by the great majority of witnesses/suspects.*
  - Is a person who has the personality traits which convince witnesses/suspects they can confide in him or her.*
  - Is a person who has the confidence in their ability to consistently succeed.*
-

## **FOUR RULES OF GOOD LISTENING**

- 1. Think ahead of the talker.**
  - 2. Weigh the evidence used to support his or her points.**
  - 3. Mentally review and summarize each point.**
  - 4. Interpret nonverbal communication.**
-

# **INTERVIEWING - TYPES OF QUESTIONS**

**Open Questions**

**Closed Ended Questions**

**Clarification Questions**

**Alternative Questions**

**Compound or Complex Questions**

**Time and Space Questions**

---

## GENERAL INTERVIEW

**Opening** - Draw a baseline for Truth & Lies.  
Try to build a rapport to build trust. Need good body language. Stay away from adversarial relationship.

**Narrative** - Listen, observe - Little or no interruptions.  
No notes at this time. Not a just the facts moment.

**First Paraphrase** - reiterate back to subject what was relayed to you to confirm understanding.  
Allows them to fill in the blanks. Still no notes.

**Ask** who, what, where, when & how. Time to take notes. Pick up and write so not to distract.  
Time to fill in holes or contradictions. Time to ask prepared questions... Make sure you have the questions answers to the questions that must be answered.

**Second Paraphrase** - getting in to the final story.  
Time for written statements / Depositions.

**Professional Close** - Anything else I should know.  
If you were in my place, who would you talk to next.  
Give Respect, even to suspects - may be remembered if info is subsequently needed.

## CONFESSION STOPPERS

Arson -

Burglary -

Confess/Confession -

Guilt or Innocence -

Mug -

Rape -

Sell -

Sex Assault -

Statement -

Steal -

14" Paper -

---

# VERBAL CLUES

T

**Explosive**

USES explosive WORDS - Phoe

**Understands  
basic issue**

**Steady  
frequency**

} ANSWERS  
←

Note  
Base line →

**To help self**

**Direct answers**

L

**Soft - verb**

**Why me?**

**Delays:  
physical  
& verbal**

**Civic duty**

**Returns -  
Qualifiers**

Why would I  
Do That  
Honestly  
To be perfectly  
Honest.

**RETURN**

**QUESTIONS**

**ARE**

**STALLS**

**Do you think I would do that?**

**Why would anyone do that?**

**What would make ME do that?**

---

**QUALIFIERS**

**ARE**

**STALLS**

**You're not going to believe this.**

**Honestly.**

**You can believe me.**

**Would I lie to you.**

**To be perfectly frank.**

**To my best recall.**

**I swear on my mother's grave.**

---

## BEHAVIORAL CLUES

**T**

**Concerned and  
Interested**

**Cooperative**

**Open Gestures  
and Points**

**L**

**Unconcerned about  
Reputation**

**Less Than and  
Overly Polite**

**Closed Gestures**

---

## PHYSICAL GESTURES AS BEHAVIORAL CLUES

I = generally truthful

L = generally lying

a = aggressive - angry

? = ambiguous - look for additional clues

### HEAD

POSITION TILTED (I) JUTTING FORWARD (a) DOWN (L)

EYEBROWS BOTH RAISED & MOUTH OPEN (I), ONE RAISED (?), SQU. TOGETHER & LOW (a)

EYES BREAKS CONTACT (?), PUPIL ENLARGES (L - ?), CLOSES EYES (L), RAPID BLINKING (L), NARROWED EYES (a - ?), WINK-SMILE-NOD (I), SQUINTS (?) ? - ?

MOUTH SMILING (?), TIGHT-HORIZONTAL LIPS (a), MOUTH SQUARED (a), BARES TEETH (a), MOUTH-UPSIDE-DOWN "U" (upset), TONGUE TIP EXPOSED-BITTEN (deep thought), BITS/CHEWS TONGUE (L), "SWALLOWS" LIPS (L), DRY LIP LICK (L), DROOLING (L), CLICKS (L), WHITE FOAM IN CORNERS (L)

FACE BECOMES RED (embarrassed), BECOMES WHITE (L-?), BECOMES BLUE/BLACK (a)

MOVEMENT NODDING UP-DOWN (agreement), SHAKING SIDEWAYS (disagreement), JERKS HEAD DOWN & RAISES SLOWLY (excited), RAISES HEAD TILTS LOOKS DOWN NOSE (arrogant)

NECK ADAMS APPLE BOBS (L), CAROTID ARTERY ENLARGES & HEARTBEAT IS VISIBLE (a - L)

### SHOULDERS

POSITION SLUMPED (? - L), FORWARD (tense), STRAIGHT (I)

### ELBOWS

POSITION AWAY FROM BODY (rel. - I), CLOSE TO BODY (tense - L)

### HANDS

MOVES TO HEAD COVER EYES (L), HAND OVER/ALONGSIDE MOUTH (L), ON CHIN (I), HOLDING/RUBBING CHIN (I), "L" CHIN (a), FINGERS RUB/SCRATCH CHIN (?), HOLDS NOSE (L), TOUCHES/RUBS NOSE (L), INDIAN SCOUT GESTURE (? - L), HAND TO BACK OF NECK (imitated), CLOSED FINGER HAIR STROKE (imitated), PREENING/PATting HAIR (interest), COMBS HAIR WITH FINGERS (L), SCRATCHES TOP/BACK OF HEAD (?), HITS FOREHEAD WITH PALM (I), HANDS CLASPED BEHIND HEAD (arrogant), WOMEN CURL HAIR (L)

## MOVES TO

BODY HAND TO THROAT (L), WOMEN PLAY WITH NECKLACE (L), POINTS/TAPS FINGER TO CHEST (I), OPEN HAND TO CHEST (I), ARMS TIGHTLY CLOSED (a - L), ARMS LOOSELY CROSSED-STOMACH (I), POINTS/MOVES HANDS AWAY FROM BODY (L), LINT-PICKER (L), HAND WIPER (L), HANDS ON HIPS (arrogant)

## INDEPENDENT

OF BODY FINGER TAPPER (L), FINGER JABBER (a), FIST FORMER (a), HANDS CLASPED IN FRONT (L), STEEPLING (arrogant), FINGERNAILS/PALMS (L), HANDS APART/PALMS UP (I), CROSSED FINGERS (L), SNAPS FINGERS (I)

## LEGS

MOVEMENT CROSS LEGS (? - L), UNCROSS LEGS (? - L), DOUBLE CROSS (L - ?)

KNEES WOBBLE (L), STUCK OUT TO SIDES (I)

FEET MOVES BENEATH CHAIR (L), MOVES FROM BENEATH CHAIR (I), ONE FOOT UNDER LEG (timid), FEET FLAT ON FLOOR (I), ANKLES CROSSED BENEATH CHAIR (scared), FOOT TAPPER (L), FOOT STOMPER (a)

## LEGS

(CROSSED) FOOT BOUNCER (L), FIELD GOAL KICKER (a), FOOT SWINGER (L), ANKLE ON KNEE (arrogant), WOMAN-RAISED SHOE PARTIALLY OFF (agitated), FOOT RAISER (L), FOOT DROPPER (L), FEET OUT ANKLES CROSSED (confident), FEET ON MY CHAIR (a)

## POSTURE/SITTING - POSITION

SHOULDERS SLUMPED/LOOKING STRAIGHT AHEAD (I), SHOULDERS SLUMPED/LOOKING DOWNWARD (L), SHOULDERS SLUMPED/LOOKING DOWNWARD, HANDS HANGING (L), HANDS ON KNEES/LEANING FORWARD (anxious), ELBOWS ON KNEES/HANDS HOLDING CHIN (L - ?), CHAIR TILTED BACKWARDS (a), CHAIR TILTED BACKWARDS/HANDS CLASPED BEHIND HEAD OR STEEPLING (arrogant), LEANS/FACES EXIT (L), RED-ANT-HILL SITTER (L), SITTING STRAIGHT (I), RIGID BODY (L)

## MISCELLANEOUS PHYSICAL GESTURES

POSITIONS CHAIR-BEFORE SITTING (L), RAPID BREATHING (L - ?), FAST INHALATION (?), CHEST/STOMACH HEAVES (L), GOOSE BUMPS (L - ?), YAWNS/BODY RELAXED (bored), YAWNS/BODY TENSE (scared), YAWNS CONTINUOUSLY (L), NOTICEABLE ODOR (L), SWEAT RINGS/UNDER ARMS (L), BEADS OF SWEAT/FOREHEAD (L), MIRROR GESTURES (I)