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The CSI Effect and How it Has Affected the Administration of Justice:
Jury Expectations

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ABSTRACT

An unbiased jury is imperative to every court case; civil, criminal, or otherwise. Due to the mass influence of police dramas and hospital soap operas, the public perception of how forensic science works is different than reality. These police procedurals distort what actually happens within a criminal investigation and case disposition. This leads to jurors having unrealistic expectations within the courtroom. These expectations lead to outcomes that can be difficult to overcome within the criminal justice system. One of the mechanisms that has been disrupted by the CSI Effect is the proper administration of justice. The perception of the jury can affect how well the prosecution and the defense deliver their arguments. It also affects how well the judge can do their job and administer justice appropriately. By gathering literary evidence, one can understand how prominent the bias is within the courtroom, and how it can affect the courtroom process. This is also not a problem that is strictly U.S. based, international studies show their difficulty with the CSI Effect on their jurors. The CSI effect has caused immense damage to the administration of justice, as it is now impossible to have an unbiased jury.