

The Influence of Cognitive Bias and Social Judgment Theory on Decision-Making in Forensic Investigations

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ABSTRACT

In the current digital era, video evidence plays a critical role in forensic investigations and legal proceedings. However, the assessment of such visual evidence is not necessarily objective and is often shaped by various forms of cognitive bias. This study aims to explore how cognitive biases, such as confirmation bias, hindsight bias, and the anchoring effect, influence the acceptance or rejection of video evidence within the context of forensic investigations, through the lens of Social Judgment Theory (SJT). By elaborating on a theoretical model that connects SJT with the evaluation of video evidence, this paper posits that prior beliefs and social attitudes shape the latitude of acceptance, non-commitment, and rejection toward visual evidence. Methodologically, this study adopts Social Judgment Theory as its guiding framework, integrating qualitative inquiry to examine individual thought processes, subjective interpretations, and contextual influences in the evaluation of forensic video evidence. This paper highlights the critical need to recognize cognitive biases within the criminal justice system and outlines strategies to minimize their influence. The study's findings may support the development of a fairer justice system, reinforce professional training for legal and forensic practitioners, and improve the precision and trustworthiness of video evidence interpretation.

Keywords: *Cognitive Bias, Decision making, Forensic, Judgment, Social Judgment*

INTRODUCTION

In the rapidly evolving digital era, video evidence has become a crucial component of forensic

investigations and court trials. The use of closed-circuit television (CCTV), smartphones, and social media footage has increased significantly in an effort to establish guilt or exonerate the accused (Wall, 2019). Despite advancements in video processing and analysis technology, there is still much worry about how reliably jurors, judges, and other stakeholders in the legal system perceive video evidence (Lassiter & Diamond, 2017). However, the evaluation of video evidence is also influenced by psychological and social factors. For example, cognitive biases that influence how people interpret visual information, which reduces its dependence on technological authenticity (Kassin, 2001)

Additionally, a video's presentation, including its editing techniques, camera viewpoint, and visual quality, can have a big impact on how viewers view it. Studies have shown that a person's appearance of guilt or innocence may be influenced by the angle at which they are photographed. Because of the impact of these technological aspects, their account might not accurately depict the event. This raises questions about the veracity of video evidence. Despite the fact that video is frequently seen as a reflection of reality, subjectivity and cognitive bias can nevertheless affect how people understand video material. This emphasizes how important it is to consider the psychological and social context of the video in addition to the actual content (Lassiter, 2007).

Accordingly, this study aims to explore the extent to which cognitive biases influence the acceptance and evaluation of video evidence among individuals involved in the justice system, and to identify measures that can be taken to minimize the effects of such biases in making fair, fact-based decisions.

Previous studies have examined how scientific evidence and eyewitness testimony are influenced by cognitive biases (Dror & Charlton, 2006); studies that specifically investigate how such biases affect the interpretation and evaluation of video evidence remain limited. It is often perceived as an objective and unbiased record of events. However, recent findings suggest that human video interpretation is far from neutral and may be significantly shaped by expectations, contextual information, and prior beliefs (Levin, 2000).

In the context of forensics, an analyst may be more prone to view unclear motions in CCTV video as hostile or damning if they are informed that a suspect is probably guilty. This is in line with confirmation bias, which is the propensity for people to place greater value on information that confirms their already-held opinions (Nickerson, 1998). Similar to this, contextual bias may happen when how video evidence is viewed is influenced by unrelated information, including a suspect's criminal past or a police officer's expectations. The difference in how body-worn camera video is understood is a prominent example of this bias. Research has indicated that the perception of use-of-force situations on camera can be influenced by the political connections or racial views of onlookers (Kahan, 2017). There is a dearth of tested research examining the processes and scope of cognitive biases in forensic video analysis, despite the increasing use of video evidence in court and law enforcement. This disparity makes it more difficult for us to set up trustworthy procedures and training to reduce bias, which might risk the accuracy and fairness of court decisions. Accordingly, there is a pressing need to construct a theoretical framework that synthesizes cognitive bias and Social Judgment Theory to better understand how pre-existing beliefs and social attitudes shape the interpretation of visual evidence within forensic contexts.

Research Objectives

- To identify the influence of cognitive biases on the evaluation and acceptance of video evidence.
- To develop a visualisation of the theoretical model using Social Judgment Theory in the context of video evidence acceptance.

Significance of the Study.

By understanding the psychological elements that affect the assessment of video evidence, the legal system may put more effective mechanisms in place to lessen the effects of prejudice and promote a more impartial and equitable legal system. This is because the evaluation of evidence is impacted by personal perceptions that are molded by emotions, prior expectations, and past experiences, in addition to visual correctness and clarity. Kassin (2013) asserts that cognitive biases might influence how information is processed and applied when making decisions, particularly in legal situations when precision is critical. Therefore, bias-awareness training for judges, jurors, and investigators may be presented by identifying the most prevalent forms of prejudice, such as confirmation bias or the anchoring effect. These actions can ensure that judgments are founded on facts rather than conjecture or subjective interpretations and encourage more critical thought on video evidence (Kassin, 2013).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Cognitive Biases in the Forensic Visual Context

In forensic investigations, the evaluation of visual evidence, including photographs and video recordings, is often regarded as a straightforward and objective process. However, an increasing number of studies have shown that such evaluations are susceptible to cognitive biases, which can subtly distort perception, influence judgment, and ultimately affect legal decisions (Kassin, 2013). According to Cooper and Meterko (2019), these biases may emerge at various stages of the forensic process, ranging from the initial observation of visual materials to their interpretation and presentation in court, and are influenced by prior experiences, expectations, and contextual cues. In the forensic visual context, such influences can undermine the reliability and credibility of evidence, thereby underscoring the importance of understanding how cognitive biases operate. The following sections will discuss three key biases relevant to the evaluation of forensic video evidence: confirmation bias, hindsight bias, and the anchoring effect.

Confirmation Bias

According to Nickerson (1998), confirmation bias is the propensity for people to look for, evaluate, and secure information that confirms their preconceived notions or expectations while disregarding contradicting evidence. This propensity may compromise the neutrality of evaluations of visual recordings in the context of forensic video evidence review. An investigator who thinks a suspect is guilty, for instance, would focus more on the video's evidence to support that conclusion and disregard any evidence to the contrary.

Tversky and Kahneman (1974) highlighted in forensic research that these biases and methods have a major impact on decision-making in the face of uncertainty. Viewers of video may draw biased conclusions due to confirmation bias, particularly if a video includes visual features that are unclear, incomplete, or perhaps ambiguous.

Even more serious is the fact that this prejudice affects jurors and judges in addition to investigators. A recording's acceptance or rejection in the judicial system is influenced by the values, experiences, and societal attitudes of individuals assessing video evidence (Findley & Scott, 2006). According to the paradigm of Social Judgment Theory (Sherif & Hovland, 1961), confirmation bias works to reinforce a person's original cognitive belief, which narrows the latitude for non-commitment and speeds up potentially biased decisions. So, an understanding of the mechanisms of confirmation bias is crucial in

ensuring the integrity and accuracy of the video evidence evaluation process in the forensic context.

Hindsight Bias

The propensity for people to see previous events as more predictable than they actually were is known as hindsight bias (Fischhoff, 1975). When viewers interpret recordings based on information or results that are already known, such as a suspect's confession or a court conviction, bias arises in the context of forensic video evidence processing.

According to Calvillo (2010), when viewers know the outcome of an incident, they tend to believe that the clues in the video clearly pointed in that direction, even if the recording was open to multiple interpretations. This may result in skewed assessments, particularly when video is utilized to bolster a specific viewpoint. Because the impression of what is "clear" or "should have happened" has been altered by retrospective knowledge, this bias upsets the equilibrium between the latitude of rejection and the latitude of non-commitment, according to Social Judgment Theory. As a result, assessors could overestimate their interpretations without acknowledging that they were shaped after the facts were revealed (Roese, 2012).

Hindsight bias is particularly relevant in trials where video recordings are shown to the jury after the prosecution's narrative has been presented. Viewers may be inclined to adjust what they see with what they know, rather than evaluating the video neutrally.

Anchoring Effect

On the other hand, the anchoring effect describes people's propensity to base their judgments unduly on initial information, or the anchor, even when such information is unreliable or insufficient (Tversky, 1974). The "anchor" in forensic video evidence might be anything from the accused's facial expressions to witness testimony, police accusations, or early media pronouncements.

For example, even if the visual evidence does not explicitly demonstrate illegal activity, a viewer's assessment of the video will likely reinforce a negative image if they are informed that the suspect in the video has a history of criminal participation. When paired with visual evidence, this anchoring effect can be especially harmful because video recordings are seen as "neutral evidence." However, a viewer's perspective may be "primed" with early information, causing them to ignore alternate interpretations and only notice aspects that support the anchor (Englich, 2006).

Confirmation bias, hindsight bias, and the anchoring effect are three examples of cognitive biases that show the complex ways in which subjective elements can affect how forensic video evidence is interpreted. According to Social Judgment Theory, the latitude of acceptance, non-commitment, and rejection is shaped by the interaction of each of these biases with the evaluator's preexisting views and expectations.

The synthesis of current literature reveals a persistent and troubling trend: cognitive biases systematically distort decision-making in forensic visual analysis, despite increasing awareness of their effects (Kassin, 2013; Cooper & Meterko, 2019). Studies consistently demonstrate that forensic examiners, jurors, and legal professionals disproportionately seek or interpret visual evidence (CCTV/video footage, photographs) to align with preexisting hypotheses, often neglecting contradictory data. This trend is exacerbated by the 'objective illusion' of visual evidence, where its perceived neutrality masks subjective interpretation (Dror, 2020). However, a critical debate persists while some

researchers advocate for technological solutions, others argue that biases are entrenched in human cognition and require systemic mitigations, such as blind testing and structured protocols (Kassin, 2013; Cooper & Meterko, 2019).

A glaring knowledge gap remains in understanding how contextual factors (time pressure, emotional valence of visual stimuli) intensify confirmation bias, as most lab-based studies lack ecological validity. Furthermore, few studies explore cross-cultural differences in bias susceptibility, despite evidence that societal attitudes shape forensic judgments (Findley & Scott, 2006). This study contributes to the field by empirically testing debiasing strategies tailored to visual evidence contexts and integrating Social Judgment Theory to map how biases alter the 'latitudes of acceptance' in forensic decision-making. By addressing these gaps, our work underscores the urgent need for interdisciplinary collaboration combining psychology, forensic science, and law to safeguard the integrity of criminal investigations.

We may better appreciate the significance of using Social Judgment Theory to lessen these biases and guarantee more accurate, objective evaluations in forensic situations by comprehending these biases and how they affect the evaluation process.

METHODOLOGY

This study employs Social Judgment Theory as a methodological framework to explore the influence of cognitive biases in the evaluation of forensic video evidence. While this allows an in-depth investigation of individual mental processes, subjective interpretations, and contextual influences, this research is especially well-suited for analyzing complex psychological and perceptual phenomena.

A suitable theoretical framework for understanding how information related to preexisting attitudes and beliefs is evaluated is Social Judgment Theory (SJT). This theory offers a strong basis for understanding how people interpret and assess visual recordings in light of their cognitive expectations, which is relevant to the analysis of forensic video evidence. Even though video is frequently regarded as objective and unbiased evidence, the viewer's psychological and social background greatly influences how they understand its visual information (Sherif, 1961). Confirmation bias, hindsight bias, and the anchoring effect are examples of cognitive biases that might influence people's belief in or lack of belief in video evidence, thereby altering their decision-making process. The aim of this study is to develop a conceptual model that illustrates the ways in which social judgment theory and cognitive biases combine to influence the analysis of video evidence in forensic contexts.

The George Floyd case in 2020 is an important point of reference for understanding the subjective processing of video evidence in a complex social context. Even though the videotape clearly showed a police officer pushing on the victim's neck, several interpretations emerged depending on people's prior beliefs about authority, racism, and criminal justice (Rini, 2020). The latitude of acceptance and rejection, where people accept or reject different interpretations based on their prior assumptions, is one example of how Social Judgment Theory (SJT) is used in the real world (Sherif & Hovland, 1961). Additionally, it was demonstrated that confirmation bias and framing bias compromised the video review's objectivity in this case (Dror & Kukucka, 2021).

Social Judgment Theory explains how people receive persuasive communications depending on their preexisting views through a number of basic elements. Sherif and Hovland (1961) created the Social Judgment Theory, which describes how a person's preexisting attitude determines whether they accept or reject a message. The idea presents the latitude of acceptance, latitude of rejection, and latitude of

non-commitment as three significant regions in the evaluation process. If the information is within their accepted range of attitudes (latitude of acceptance), people will accept it; if it is distant from their views, they will reject it; or they will stay neutral about unclear information (latitude of non-commitment). The adaptation effect and the contrast effect, two significant impacts in the judgment process, are also explained by the theory. According to Sherif (1961), assimilation happens when people see information as being closer to their own position than it truly is, and contrast happens when they perceive information as being further from their position than it actually is.

Video evidence is frequently employed in contemporary forensic investigations to support claims made in court, especially when it comes to violent crimes, surveillance, and alibi confirmation. Evaluations' effects on video, however, are not always immune to the influence of preconceived notions or views. For instance, even if the visual evidence is unclear and subject to many interpretations, an investigator who already believes a suspect is guilty can use a video clip to support that conclusion (Lassiter, 2004). The SJT framework explains this impact when an anchor person's initial attitude or expectation determines the range of information that is deemed acceptable or unacceptable. Even if the recording might be objectively understood in a neutral manner, it is more likely to be placed in the latitude of acceptance if it is in line with an individual's anchor; if it is in opposition, it will be placed in the latitude of rejection (Eagly, 1993).

Many cognitive biases, including confirmation bias, hindsight bias, and the anchoring effect, interact directly with the SJT framework and can amplify the propensity for biased appraisal, demonstrating how cognitive biases contribute to the development of Social Judgment Theory. These biases make the judgment more inflexible and less susceptible to other interpretations since they not only strengthen a person's anchor but also reduce their latitude of non-commitment (Nickerson, 1998). For example, when biased initial information is obtained before a video is shown, such as media reports or the prosecution's narrative, viewers tend to evaluate the video based on the established anchor. This not only undermines the objectivity of the evaluation but also influences the decisions made at the judicial level, including juries and judges (Englich, 2006).

Therefore, the use of psychological elements like SJT and cognitive biases in the assessment of video evidence calls into doubt the widely held notion of "visual objectivity." Video evidence is frequently regarded as the most trustworthy type of proof in the legal system. However, the reliability of forensic judgments is called into doubt if preconceived notions and cognitive biases affect how these recordings are interpreted. More importantly, understanding the application of SJT in video evaluation can help researchers, lawyers, and judges identify at-risk areas in judgment, such as the limitations of the latitude of non-commitment, and subsequently design more objective and fair interventions in evaluating visual evidence.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

In order to clarify how different types of cognitive biases interact with Social Judgment Theory (SJT) while assessing forensic video evidence, this study presents a proposed framework. Previous research has demonstrated that psychological elements like initial attitudes, cognitive expectations, and the surrounding social context and narrative can affect how visual content is perceived, even though video recordings are frequently regarded as neutral and authentic evidence (Lassiter, 1986). The SJT model and cognitive biases are combined to highlight the fact that evaluating visual evidence is a collaborative activity. Rather, it is the outcome of a complicated interplay between information processing, emotional and social stances on the subject under evaluation, and personal past.

The term "pre-existing attitude" (Anchor) describes a person's original mental position about a certain problem or topic. When assessing new information, this mindset serves as the main point of reference (Sherif & Hovland, 1961). The Latitude of Evaluation, which includes the latitude of acceptance, rejection, and non-commitment, is important in this situation. Depending on how well the information matches the pre-existing anchor, it is either accepted or refused. Even fact-based information is more likely to be rejected when the latitude of acceptance is limited (Eagly, 1993).

In the forensic setting, visual information like video evidence is regarded as the primary input. However, a person's cognitive constructions have a significant impact on how they receive this visual information (Lassiter, 1986). This indicates that because visual evidence is subjective and impacted by a variety of psychological and social variables, it may not always be assessed objectively.

Furthermore, a video's perception may become biased or overly supportive of a specific narrative due to cognitive biases such as hindsight bias, confirmation bias, and the anchoring effect. This happens when biases support the anchor or obstruct the impartial processing of data (Nickerson, 1998). In the end, all of the aforementioned considerations, not only the video's content, influence the Final Evaluation (Judgment Outcome), which determines whether the video is regarded as reliable evidence, disregarded, or contested.

Core Component of The Todel

Pre-existing Attitudes (Anchor).

This refers to the individual's initial cognitive stance or belief regarding a particular issue or subject. It serves as the primary reference point in evaluating new information (Sherif & Hovland, 1961).

Because they act as the cognitive baseline against which incoming information is evaluated, preexisting attitudes, often known as the "anchor," are crucial to information processing. The anchor, according to Sherif and Hovland (1961), is a preexisting belief system that has been influenced by social influences, cultural background, ideology, and personal experience. In the context of forensic video analysis, these might include implicit prejudices toward particular social groupings, opinions about law enforcement, or a person's faith in the legal system. These attitudes are not neutral; rather, they act as interpretative filters that affect the way the brain processes incoming visual information, including video evidence. In essence, the anchor serves as the conceptual framework that is used to assess the validity, significance, and reliability of the evidence.

Judgment Latitude (Latitude of Acceptance, Rejection, and Non-commitment)

New information is evaluated based on its congruence with the existing anchor. A narrow latitude of acceptance increases the likelihood of rejecting information even if factually accurate (Eagly, 1993).

The degree to which an individual is prepared to accept or reject new information based on how well it aligns with their anchor is known as judgment latitude. This latitude is divided into three zones by Sherif and Hovland (1961): the latitude of acceptance, which includes information that supports preexisting opinions; the latitude of rejection, which includes information that challenges preexisting opinions and is likely to be disregarded; and the latitude of non-commitment, where people are indifferent or unsure. According to Eagly (1993), people with strong ideas are more likely to reject information, even if it is factually correct, if it contradicts their preexisting opinions, because they have smaller latitudes of acceptance. This implies that in forensic contexts, viewers can reject video evidence because it contradicts

their preexisting cognitive beliefs rather than because it is untrustworthy.

Visual Information (Video Evidence)

Even though video is a major empirical source in forensic settings, how it is interpreted greatly depends on the cognitive constructions and schemas of the individual (Lassiter, 1986). Even though video footage is frequently thought of as one of the most convincing types of empirical evidence in forensic investigations, subjectivity can still affect how it is interpreted. According to Lassiter (1986), social expectations, preconceptions, and schemas are some of the cognitive categories that influence the meaning that is obtained from videos. A viewer's interpretation of what they see depends on a number of factors, including presentation order, camera angles, and narrative context. As a result, depending on their preconceived notions and mental models, two people may see the same video and come to very different conclusions. In this concept, video evidence is actively evaluated through a cognitive lens influenced by one's anchor and judgment latitude rather than being received in a vacuum.

Interrelationship of the Components

These three components interact within a dynamic system of cognitive evaluation. The pre-existing attitude (anchor) serves as the foundational standpoint from which new information is assessed. The judgment latitude acts as a filtering mechanism, determining whether new input is accepted, rejected, or considered neutrally based on its proximity to the anchor. The visual information, although presented as factual evidence, is interpreted through this cognitive framework. As such, the assessment of video evidence is not purely objective but is mediated by individual mental schemas and biases. This interrelation underscores that even seemingly neutral visual data can be cognitively distorted or selectively interpreted depending on how it aligns with the viewer's internal belief system. Therefore, the credibility and impact of forensic video evidence are not only a function of its content but also of the psychological filters through which it is perceived.

Visualisation of the Theoretical Model

A conceptual diagram of this model can be illustrated as follows (suggested diagram structure):

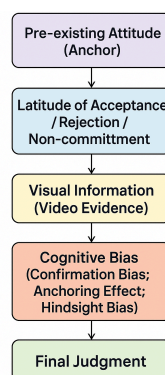


Figure 1. Theoretical Model of the Interaction between Social Judgment Theory and Cognitive Biases in Video Evidence Evaluation.

This model underscores the assertion that while video evidence serves as an empirical artifact, its

interpretation is never entirely free from subjective influence. Hence, forensic and legal research must recognize the role of social and cognitive processes in evaluating visual evidence.

Pre-existing Attitudes (Anchor)

The first phase of this concept, known as an anchor in Social Judgment Theory, refers to a person's preexisting attitudes or views about a certain topic (Sherif & Hovland, 1961). When assessing new information, these anchors, which are created by prior knowledge, social beliefs, or experiences, act as the main point of reference. Such anchors in forensic video analysis could include political inclinations, preconceived notions about the persons portrayed in the video, or opinions regarding the fairness of the legal system.

Latitude of Acceptance, Rejection, and Non-commitment

New information, such as video evidence, is assessed according to how well it appears to match the person's anchor, which assigns it to one of three evaluative latitudes. The knowledge is easily absorbed and falls within the latitude of acceptance if it is consistent with the anchor. On the other hand, the information falls within the latitude of rejection and is probably going to be disregarded if it conflicts with the anchor. The information falls into the latitude of non-commitment if it is vague or has no clear connection to the anchor (Eagly, 1993). At this point, people start contrasting the video's content with their own beliefs, and the context in which the material is presented affects whether they are receptive to the evidence or not.

Visual Information (Video Evidence)

The main visual source used in investigation procedures is forensic video. Video content is not always interpreted objectively, even though it is frequently considered solid empirical data. Instead, the viewer's cognitive schema—that is, the belief systems and mental models that govern how information is processed—influences the interpretation process (Lassiter, 1986). Viewers are more inclined to perceive video content in a way that aligns with their preconceived notions or strong anchors.

Cognitive Biases (Confirmation Bias, Anchoring Effect, Hindsight Bias)

In the context of forensic video, various cognitive biases can unconsciously influence how visual information is analysed and interpreted. These biases may compromise the accuracy and reliability of visual evidence assessment. The most relevant biases include:

Confirmation Bias

Confirmation bias is the propensity to ignore or minimize information that contradicts one's preexisting ideas, expectations, or hypotheses while seeking out, interpreting, and remembering information that supports them (Nickerson, 1998). This can happen in forensic video analysis if investigators or analysts have preconceived notions about the incident's nature or a suspect's guilt. As a result, they could often unintentionally pay attention to visual cues that support that story (such as body language, gaze direction, or physical encounters) while ignoring other cues that might lend credence to different interpretations.

Anchoring Effect

Even when more objective evidence is later presented, the anchoring effect happens when initial information, regardless of its completeness or accuracy, disproportionately affects subsequent judgments. An observer's view of the person in red may become too concentrated or prejudiced in a forensic video situation if they are told in advance that "the suspect is wearing a red shirt," even if the evidence does not support any suspicious behavior by that person. Such early information serves as a cognitive "anchor" that is challenging to remove, even in the face of contradicting evidence, as explained by Nickerson (1998).

Hindsight Bias

The propensity to believe that past events were more predictable or inevitable than they actually were is known as hindsight bias. In forensic settings, there is a propensity to assess the video evidence from the perspective of previously acquired knowledge after a court decision has been rendered or new information has surfaced. This gives the impression that the interpretation is stronger or more convincing than it was when the data was initially examined. According to Nickerson (1998), this bias might provide the impression that one has a better comprehension of the past by fostering unjustified confidence in the accuracy of one's judgments.

Implications for Forensic Video Analysis

The interplay of these three cognitive biases renders the evaluation of video evidence far from neutral. Instead, such assessments are subtly shaped by the cognitive predispositions of the observer. Within the criminal justice system, this can result in misjudgments regarding culpability, intent, or identity, particularly when the evaluation is conducted without awareness of these underlying biases.

Final Judgment

The final stage involves the ultimate decision or judgment made after all preceding components have interacted. This judgment is not solely based on the factual content of the video, but is also shaped by the initial anchor, evaluative latitude, visual interpretation, and the influence of cognitive biases. Thus, conclusions regarding the validity or admissibility of video evidence are not merely products of visual analysis, but rather the outcome of a complex psychological and social filtering process.

CONCLUSION

According to Social Judgment Theory (SJT), this study emphasizes that cognitive biases and preconceived notions can still have an impact on how forensic video evidence is evaluated. It was discovered that the anchoring effect, hindsight bias, and confirmation bias are three major types of cognitive bias that reduce the objectivity of evaluative judgments by limiting the latitude of acceptance for neutral information.

The proposed theoretical model provides a fresh conceptual contribution to comprehending how vision is produced and how it impacts judicial decision-making by integrating SJT with cognitive biases in the context of forensic visual analysis. Practically speaking, the model offers a framework for professional development that aims to raise awareness of unconscious cognitive biases in the assessment

of evidence.

In conclusion, in order to implement justice in a more thorough and impartial way, visual evidence needs to be evaluated not only from a technical analytical standpoint but also from a social psychology one. In addition to helping to increase awareness of how attitudes and cognitive biases can affect how evidence is evaluated, this model has the potential to serve as the basis for more comprehensive training programs in the legal and law enforcement fields. However, in order to assess this model's practical impact on decision-making processes in complicated forensic contexts, more empirical testing and evaluation are needed in real-world training environments of judicial and law enforcement institutions.

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