



# Voir Dire Juror Archetype

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## Abstract

This theoretical archetype utilizes the Five Factor Model as a framework to assist attorneys in deselection during voir dire (Clark, Boccaccini, Caillouet, & Chaplin 2007; Digman, 1990). More specifically, the areas of focus are the behaviors and attitudes exhibited by potential jurors, which might affect their perspective. By applying this theoretical archetype model, attorneys can uncover juror bias by determining various personality types. Attorneys can ascertain whether potential jurors are not suitable for their case due to juror bias which can influence deliberations. This model is more simplistic in nature as to assist lawyers during Voir Dire the flexibility to quickly assign archetypes to potential jurors. It is important to note that this model is for use in criminal cases rather than in civil court cases.

## Procedure

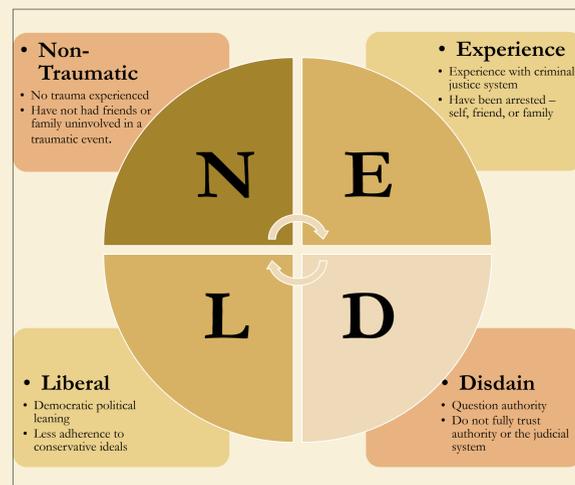
This poster is theoretical in nature. I created a juror archetype of personality traits that may aid lawyers during the voir dire process. This archetype came about as a result of an extensive literary review of current theories and practices as to what characteristics lawyers look for jury deselection. Studies have shown that certain characteristics possessed by potential jurors could help or hinder their case (Atkin, & Cramer, 2012; Clark, Boccaccini, Caillouet, & Chaplin 2007; Ferrera, 2010; Seltzer, 2006).

There are eight different categories in this archetype model, each having a dichotomous relationship with another trait. These categories are as follows: T - Trauma, those who have been involved in a crime or have had a family member or close family friend involved in a traumatic crime. N - Non-Traumatic Event -meaning those who have not experienced any traumatic event themselves or from a family member or family friend. E - Experience with law enforcement, those who have negative experiences with law enforcement, or those who have been arrested or incarcerated either on a personally or a family member or close friend. R- Rescued, those whom either themselves, a family member has had positive relationships with law enforcement, never arrested or incarcerated. C - Conservative – those who have conservative leanings. L - those who are more liberal in their political beliefs. A - for Authoritarian, those who respect authority, respect the government and the judicial system. D - Disdain for authority, those who questions authority and those who show distrust and disdain for it.

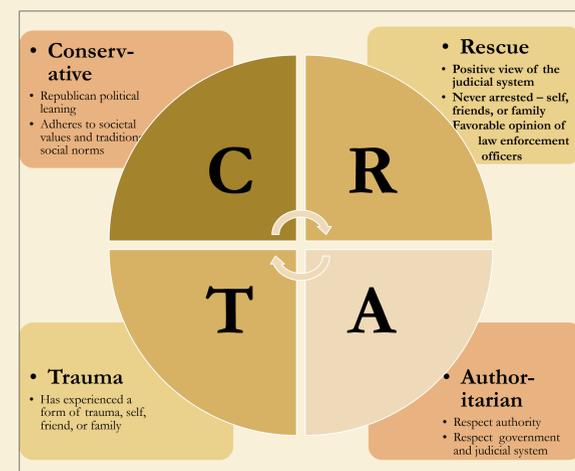
## Researcher Contact Information

We are currently looking to form a collaborative partnership in order to sufficiently test this new model. If interested, please contact:  
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## Desired for Defense



## Desired for the Prosecution



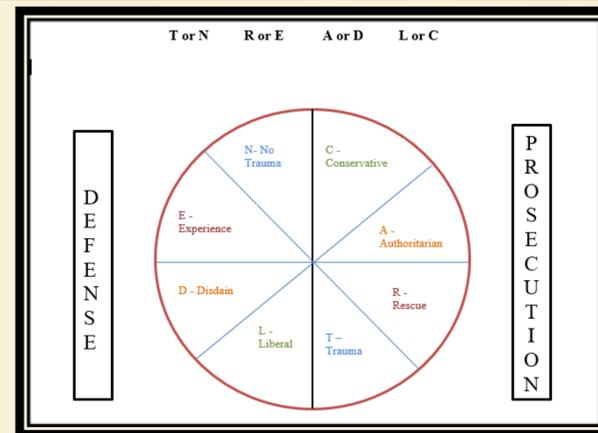
## Rationale

### Defense:

Traits beneficial to the defense are N - Non-Traumatic, as studies have shown that those who have not experienced traumatic crimes in their lives, or those who have not served as a support person for a friend or family member are more likely to be lenient towards the accused (Atkin, & Cramer, 2012). Another trait that is beneficial for the defense are potential jurors who have had E - Experience being arrested or who have served time, as they tend to be more sympathetic to the accused. Individuals who have attitudes that relate towards D - Disdain for authority or rebellion are also beneficial for the defense as they tend to look at all the facts of the case and not rely solely on law enforcement as being completely competent (Clark, Boccaccini, Caillouet, & Chaplin 2007). Another aspect is the potential juror's political inclination. The more L - Liberal the individual is, the more likely they are to overlook shortcomings of the defendant and take into account past causalities, such as childhood abuse or neglect, for the crime potentially committed (Cramer, Adams, & Brodsky, 2009). Traits exhibited by potential jurors that are most beneficial to the defense are N - Non-Traumatic, E - Experience, D - Disdain, L - Liberal.

### Prosecution:

Traits beneficial to the prosecution are those who have experienced T - Trauma or have been a support person for an individual who has been through a traumatic event is less likely to be supportive of an individual that is accused of a traumatic crime (Atkin, & Cramer, 2012). Furthermore, individuals who have not been arrested, and who have had positive interactions with law enforcement are more accepting of the system R- Rescued. Those potential jurors who have respect for authority- Authoritarian and also do not question the government and who show respect for it more likely side with the prosecution during jury deliberations (Clark, Boccaccini, Caillouet, & Chaplin 2007). It was also found that individuals who were more C - Conservative in their inclinations were also more likely to convict (Cramer, Adams, & Brodsky, 2009). Traits exhibited by potential jurors that are most beneficial to the prosecution are T-Trauma, R- Rescued, A- Authoritarian, and C- Conservative.



## Results

Essentially, findings from this theoretical model provide a rationale as to why certain characteristics in potential jurors can help or harm a case. Lawyers may want to seek out certain attributes in potential juries to help their case, and potentially deselection others who may harm their case. Traits exhibited by potential jurors that are most beneficial to the defense are N-Non-Traumatic, E- Experience, D- Disdain, L- Liberal. Traits exhibited by potential jurors that are most beneficial to the prosecution are T- Trauma, R- Rescued, A- Authoritarian, and C- Conservative.

## Conclusions and Implications

This model is theoretical as it has yet to be tested in an actual court of law. However, this theoretical model is significant in that it has the potential to aid lawyers during voir dire. It can help attorneys ascertain the various personality factors that can influence jurors and affect deliberation.

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