

Behavior Dynamics Journal

A bi-monthly publication focusing on the Operational Application of Behavior

INVOLUNTARY CUES TO ANOMALOUS BEHAVIOR AND DECEPTION

Any deviation from an expected norm from the environmental baseline by a traveler or an individual will draw some level of scrutiny from a trained observer or technology designed to pick up on certain behaviors. Certain cues like appearance factors such as clothing, military wear, watches, jewelry, tattoos etc. will attract attention. Activities and interactions with other travelers or individuals travelling in a group could trigger scrutiny as well as emotional and nonverbal cues. The deviations in appearance, activities and behaviors are what matter most. Deviation of nonverbal behaviors are a window to a person's internal process (thoughts, emotions). Those

thoughts and emotions can signal nervousness about hiding something, fear of being discovered, deception and intent. People who do not want to be caught or have their true identity or intentions to become known, can commonly go into what I coined years ago as a "Fear of Discovery" mode. For an operative, fear of discovery can be triggered as they contemplate their fear of being exposed, detained, questioned or failing to complete a mission. Operatives may try to hard to control their nonverbal behavior to the point where they over compensate and it becomes more obvious and unnatural, thereby drawing attention and scrutiny. In the research field this

is called the Ironic Process Theory and we will talk about that in the next issue. These nonverbal cues that may signal deception or suspicion can occur quickly and are caused by the sympathetic nervous system engaging in a response to the fear of being discovered, caught, or being outed as a perceived threat. The mind and body quickly decide and prepare for whatever the perceived encounter or "threat" may be. The body activates stress hormones, including adrenalin, which prepare your body for fight or flight. There are detectable inward and outward signs when a person enters the "Fear of Discovery" that when triggered, present observable signs to a behavior detection specialist or technology designed to detect certain behavior and associated activities. One way to trigger any signs is to engage and question. Most of the time it is random and used to see if there is any spike in nervous or behavior indicators. Below we discuss certain indicators that one may display when trying to deceive.

Special points of interest:

- An individual attempting to deceive, can experience strong emotions
- Deceivers will feel the need to control their behavior to appear more believable.

NEXT Issue:

Involuntary cues to deception

MORE NONVERBAL CUES TO POSSIBLE DECEPTION AND ANOMALOUS BEHAVIOR

Complexion: The body's decision to take blood from the skin can result in a pallid complexion

Face: May get tense, eyes may open wider signaling fear, head may droop down along with eyes

Brows: Brow clinches and draws downward, may signal anger and concern...question is what are you so concerned or potentially angered about??

Eyes: Blink rate may increase signaling a higher state of emotion... question becomes why??

Sweat: Increased need for cooling causes the body to sweat, in this sweat are massive amounts of by-products, the fight-or-flight body odor is noticeable

Shoulders: Shoulders draw higher in preparation for defense or escape, often accompanied by labored breathing