

less, the Court did continue to cite at times age and intelligence as demonstrating the susceptibility of the particular suspects to even mild coercion.<sup>312</sup>

The “totality of the circumstances” was looked to in determining admissibility. In some of the cases a single factor could be thought to stand out as indicating the involuntariness of the confession,<sup>313</sup> but in other cases the Court recited a number of contributing factors, including age, intelligence, incommunicado detention, denial of requested counsel, denial of access to friends, trickery, and other things, without seeming to rank any factor above the others.<sup>314</sup> Confessions induced through the exploitation of some illegal action, such as an illegal arrest<sup>315</sup> or an unlawful search and seizure,<sup>316</sup> were found inadmissible. Where police obtain a subsequent confession after obtaining one that is inadmissible as involuntary, the Court did not assume that the subsequent confession was similarly involuntary, but independently evaluated whether the coercive actions which produced the first continued to produce the later confession.<sup>317</sup>

***From the Voluntariness Standard to Miranda.***—Invocation by the Court of a self-incrimination standard for judging the fruits

falsely stating that his job as a policeman and the welfare of his family was at stake); *Rogers v. Richmond*, 365 U.S. 534 (1961) (suspect resisted questioning for six hours but yielded when officers threatened to bring his invalid wife to headquarters). More recent cases include *Davis v. North Carolina*, 384 U.S. 737 (1966) (escaped convict held incommunicado 16 days but periods of interrogation each day were about an hour each); *Greenwald v. Wisconsin*, 390 U.S. 519 (1968); *Darwin v. Connecticut*, 391 U.S. 346 (1968).

<sup>312</sup> *Gallegos v. Colorado*, 370 U.S. 49 (1962); *Blackburn v. Alabama*, 361 U.S. 199 (1960); *Fikes v. Alabama*, 352 U.S. 191 (1957); *Payne v. Arkansas*, 356 U.S. 560 (1958); *Reck v. Pate*, 367 U.S. 433 (1961); *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568 (1961). The suspect in *Spano v. New York*, 360 U.S. 315 (1959), was a 25-year-old foreigner with a history of emotional instability. The fact that the suspect was a woman was apparently significant in *Lynnum v. Illinois*, 372 U.S. 528 (1963), in which officers threatened to have her children taken from her and to have her taken off the welfare relief rolls.

But a suspect’s mental state alone—even insanity—is insufficient to establish involuntariness absent some coercive police activity. *Colorado v. Connelly*, 479 U.S. 157 (1986).

<sup>313</sup> *E.g.*, *Leyra v. Denno*, 347 U.S. 556 (1954) (confession obtained by psychiatrist trained in hypnosis from a physically and emotionally exhausted suspect who had already been subjected to three days of interrogation); *Townsend v. Sain*, 372 U.S. 293 (1963) (suspect was administered drug with properties of “truth serum” to relieve withdrawal pains of narcotics addiction, although police probably were not aware of drug’s side effects).

<sup>314</sup> *E.g.*, *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719 (1966); *Davis v. North Carolina*, 384 U.S. 737 (1966); *Ashdown v. Utah*, 357 U.S. 426 (1958); *Thomas v. Arizona*, 356 U.S. 390 (1958).

<sup>315</sup> *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963).

<sup>316</sup> *Fahy v. Connecticut*, 375 U.S. 85 (1963).

<sup>317</sup> *United States v. Bayer*, 331 U.S. 532 (1947); *Lyons v. Oklahoma*, 322 U.S. 596 (1944); *Leyra v. Denno*, 347 U.S. 556 (1954); *Darwin v. Connecticut*, 391 U.S. 346 (1968).