

## Deception Detection

The **BLUF** highlights what we at **The Threat Lab** are watching, listening to, reading, and thinking about. This issue, we feature three articles that explain our inability to detect deception, and discuss emerging research about how we might improve.



### ARTICLE

**From Irina Tache's article, [Connecting Culture To Deception Detection](#)**, "Several decades of research on deception has found that people are scarcely better than chance at telling whether or not someone is lying to them. And it gets worse! When we try to tell if someone from another culture is lying, our rate of accuracy goes down, to below chance. We'd potentially catch out more liars if we flip a coin rather than use our intuition."

#### Read the article

<https://crestresearch.ac.uk/comment/culture-deception-detection/>



### ARTICLE

**From Laura Zimmerman's article, [Deception detection](#)**, "Research has consistently shown that people's ability to detect lies is no more accurate than chance, or flipping a coin...While the concept of unconscious deception detection is a relatively new direction in research, it highlights one more of the diverse areas psychologists are exploring. These expanding directions in research have resulted in novel investigations that might finally lead to accuracy rates above chance levels."

#### Read the article

<https://www.apa.org/monitor/2016/03/deception>



### ARTICLE

**From Christiane Gelitz's article, [Humans Are Pretty Lousy Lie Detectors](#)**, "Whenever we hear someone speak, we form an opinion about their believability. But our eyes and ears can lead us astray...We can pay a heavy price for not knowing what is going on in others' mind. It would seem that evolution should have given us a good feel for the truth, and yet we are easily led astray. Perhaps that is the downside to coexistence in society. The harmless lies of everyday life have taught us credulity."

#### Read the article

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/humans-are-pretty-lousy-lie-detectors/>

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) founded **The Threat Lab** in 2018 to realize the DoD Counter-Insider Threat Program Director's vision to incorporate the social and behavioral sciences into the mission space. Our team is headquartered in Seaside, California, and includes psychologists, sociologists, policy analysts, computer scientists, and other subject matter experts committed to workforce protection.

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