



Liars have nowhere to hide on the new 'honest chair' 「老實椅」讓說謊者無所遁形

The polygraph center of the Taichung District Prosecutors' Office has purchased the latest "polygraph chair," the like of which has never been seen before in Taiwan. With sophisticated hidden **sensors**, the chair can sense body movements in order to prevent polygraph test-takers manipulating the results by **covertly** exerting strength, twisting their bottoms, or stretching their legs. Any slight moves made to affect test results on purpose cannot escape from its sensors.

According to Lee Chin-ming, a lie-detector examiner at the center, the extremely sensitive chair isn't designed for honest test-takers. Since it specifically targets dishonest test-takers who attempt to cheat, it has become known as the "honest chair."

Lee said that lie detection is conducted through thoracic and abdominal respiration, sweating, and heart rate in order to examine a test-taker's psychological reactions.

In the past, a sensor pad was placed under a test-taker's seat, but it could merely detect whether he twisted his bottom or not, and the sensor area was relatively small. If he moved his arms, legs, or other body parts, he might have

been able to avoid the examiner's monitoring and affect the test results.

Lee said that his center has imported a complete working model of the latest polygraph chair to Taiwan, and that examiners are notified immediately if the test-taker makes any improper movements to manipulate the results.

There are many tricks available online that **purportedly** teach test-takers how to cheat a polygraph test. The sites claim that sticking out a buttock, changing seats, exerting force on the arms, thighs and calves, or consciously controlling heartbeat and pulse rate, can make it difficult for examiners to interpret test results, **rendering** the test useless for investigators.

(LIBERTY TIMES, TRANSLATED BY EDDY CHANG)

台中地檢署測謊中心添購一張國內首見的「測謊椅」，它暗藏精密的感應器，能接觸人體的部位，預防受測者暗中使力、扭屁股、蹬腳等，任何企圖影響測謊結果的小動作，都逃不過這張椅子。

台中地檢署測謊鑑定人李錦明說，這張極為敏感的座椅，對乖乖受測的被告沒有作用，專門對付不老實、企圖影響受測結果的人，堪稱是「老實椅」。

李錦明表示，測謊是透過兩條呼吸線（胸線及腹線）、一條汗線及一條心臟脈搏線來判斷受測者的心理反應。

以往是在受測者的屁股下放塊感應墊，但只能測得受測者的屁股有無扭動，且活動式感應墊的感應範圍小，一旦受測者的手部、腳部及其他部位亂動，就可能逃避測謊者的監控，影響測謊結果。

李錦明說，台中地檢署將整套測謊設備完整引進國內，受測者一坐上該測謊椅，四肢及屁股接觸到椅子的地方，一出現不當的扭動，測謊者在感應器上就可一目了然。

據悉，網路上有許多教導受測者逃避測謊的方法，例如屁股翹一下、換個位子、手臂使力、大腿及小腿使力，直接影響心跳及脈搏，讓測謊者無法判斷，一旦無法判斷，就失去偵查的參考價值。

(自由時報記者楊政郡攝)

A man sits in the new polygraph chair at the Taichung District Prosecutors' Office.

PHOTO: YANG CHENG-CHUN, LIBERTY TIMES

一名男子坐在台中地檢署測謊中心新添購的「老實椅」上。

照片：自由時報記者楊政郡攝

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. sensor /'sensə/ n.

感應器 (gan3 ying4 qi4)

例：The room is filled with movement sensors to detect intruders.
(房內到處都是用來偵測入侵的動作感應器。)

2. covertly /'kɒvətli/ adv.

偷偷摸摸地 (tou1 tou1 mo1 mo1 de5)

例：From our vantage point, we were able to covertly observe the demonstrators.
(我們的位置有利於暗中監視示威者。)

3. purportedly /pɜː'pɔːrtɪdli/ adv.

據稱 (ju4 cheng1)

例：Marcus is purportedly the smartest person in his class.
(據說馬克斯是他們班最聰明的。)

4. render /'rendə/ v.

使得 (shi3 de2)

例：The painting was rendered worthless after the fire.
(大火讓那幅畫變得一文不值。)