Thanks for downloading the observable cues, these are the cues that form the four pillars of behavior used in the Tactical Analysis program and at The CP Journal to classify and communicate the behavior of the people around us.

The Intent:
- These cues are designed to build the file folders for each specific cluster and pillar of behavior
- Use them while watching our weekly practice videos to build strong observational habits and skills
- Take them out in town and spend a few minutes each day assigning people to the cluster they fit into using the indicators on the back of the card
- Over time, you will build comfort with the indicators and no longer need them, but these are designed to get you to that point
- Use the cluster terminology to communicate what you are seeing, if someone is in the “Dominant Cluster,” don’t say that they are acting aggressively, are posturing, or acting authoritatively. By using the assigned cluster, it simplifies communication and makes sure that everyone is on the same page.

These indicators can also be downloaded as 5x4 inch double sided cards that are designed to fit into a cargo pocket or pants back pocket, or on your phone by bookmarking: www.cp-journal.com/observations

Keep coming back to the site and reading more about the cues, accurately analyzing and assessing the intentions and capabilities of others is the foundation of any behavioral approach to threat recognition and predictive profiling.

Thanks again and good luck.

The CP Journal Staff
Baselining An Individual

A series of focused observations about a single person to establish a starting point for further analysis during a conversation. By identifying a person’s current body language, an observer will be able to confidently assess any changes in behavior in response to specific questions or topics. Not all areas of the body will be observable in every conversation, apply what is available.

Initial Observations:

Feet:
- Where are they pointing?
- Are they flat on the ground? Are they up on their toes? Are they bouncing?

Legs:
- Are they spread apart a normal distance? Are they spread further than shoulder width apart? Are they withdrawn in towards the body and tucked underneath?
- Are they crossed? Which leg is crossed?

Torso:
- Are they leaning towards or away from the person they are talking to?
- Is their torso exposed or being covered?

Hands/Arms:
- Are the person’s hands calm? Shaking nervously? Balled into fists?
- Are their shoulders raised or lowered?

Face:
- What are the shape and depth of their normal wrinkle lines across their forehead?
- What is the shape and depth of the crease that forms on each sides of their nose and runs to the corners of their mouth?
- Is their mouth naturally curved upwards, downwards, or straight?

Additional Observations When Time Permits:
- Once discovered, what are the person’s preferred pacifying behaviors?
- Is there any personal iconography displayed that conveys personal beliefs or affiliations?
- How do they respond to confrontation, being disciplined, or challenged?
- What topics do they enjoy talking about that can help establish rapport?

Baselining An Area

An initial set of observations to quickly establish “what’s going on” when entering a new area. Making sense of the patterns and dynamics present is the first step required before identifying changes and criminals is possible. Clearly define what specific observations lead to each conclusion formed in order to confidently notice any changes to the supporting cues.

1. Assess if the area has positive or negative Atmospherics.
2. Identify if the area as a whole is an anchor point or habitual area.
3. Identify the habitual areas and anchor points within the area you are observing.
4. Identify the primary pathways and routes that people would use to move from one area to another.
5. Establish the patterns, processes and routines that exist and list these out in a step-by-step process.
6. Establish the anticipated clusters of individual behavior at each step of the process.
7. The next set of observations will depend on your purpose for being in the area in the first place. Assessments might include:
   a. The clothing, behavior and objects for people allowed into anchor points
   b. Who are the leaders of the groups being observed?
   c. What is the relationships among the group members?
Positive Atmospherics
Positive Atmospherics is the sense that a person has about a situation or place that makes them feel that the area is secure. The feeling that an area is safe and non-threatening will often be assessed intuitively from the collective mood, emotions and behavior of everyone present. This will likely be the first thing determined upon entering a new place, only after this initial assessment is completed should a person analyze the sub-components (below) that led to that decision.

Using The Profiling Domains

Individual Behavior (Kinesics and Biometrics)
- Expect to see the Comfortable cluster as people should be open and unthreatened
- Expect to see the Interested cluster as people should be engaged in whatever they are interacting with
- There will likely be mild Dominant, Uncomfortable, or Submissive cues. If it is in a moderate intensity, there isn’t an anomaly as people are responding to unknown people, situations and objects.

Groups Of People (Proxemics)
- Groups should be open and welcoming. As groups close off, they no longer present an unthreatening appearance, they become less welcoming and can be perceived as intimidating.
- The relationships between people should be valid, meaning “intimate” relationships are confirmed by the closeness the people are together as well as comfortable cues (not expecting to see dominant cues or “anomaly” relationships)

Environment (Geographics and Iconography)
- Could be either a habitual area or an anchor point
- Positive messages in Iconography

Using Other Indicators

Noise Level
- If area is loud, it is in a happy or energetic manner. This could include a lot of laughter
- If area is quiet, it is a calm quiet and isn’t out of fear or uncertainty

Activity Level
- Either high or low activity level, but comparison to baseline is required

Order/Disorder
- No “broken windows” showing that the people take care of and take pride in their area
- Rule of law obeyed
- Groups act orderly, not in a hostile or chaotic manner
- Overall sense of security
**Negative Atmospherics**

Negative Atmospherics is the sense that a person has about a situation or place that makes them feel threatened. The feeling that an area is threatening and unsafe will often be assessed intuitively from the collective mood, emotions and behavior of everyone present. This will likely be the first thing determined upon entering a new place, only after this initial assessment is completed should a person analyze the sub-components (below) that led to that decision.

**Using The Profiling Domains**

**Individual Behavior (Kinesics and Biometrics)**
- Higher intensity of Dominant, Uncomfortable, or Submissive behavior.
- Threat response behaviors (those clusters above) are the baseline, not comfortable

**Groups Of People (Proxemics)**
- Groups closed off, not generally open to outsiders
- Could be “anomaly” relationships

**Environment (Geographics and Iconography)**
- Likely an Anchor Point. If the area feels negative and some groups of people do not feel welcome and choose to avoid that area or situation and are Proxemically Pushed away.
- Negative Iconography (belief messages)
- Gang Iconography (affiliation messages) showing who is welcome and who is not

**Using Other Indicators**

**Noise Level**
- If area is loud, it has an argumentative, confrontational, and hostile tone
- If area is quiet, it is a forced quiet out of fear, submissiveness, or discomfort

**Activity Level**
- Either high or low activity level, but comparison to baseline is required
- Effects of crowding can easily transition a group into a negative, disorderly, hostile manner

**Order/Disorder**
- Area not taken care of, streets and buildings are dirty, unkempt
- Bars over windows showing people require a greater degree of security
- Many “broken windows” showing that the people don’t take care of their area
- Rule of law disobeyed, both minor and major crimes.
- Groups don’t act orderly, likely in a hostile, uncontrolled or chaotic manner
- Overall lack of security
Anchor Points

Anchor points are places where access is restricted to people who meet established criteria. Anchor points are bases of operation for good guys and bad guys that are used for planning, staging, and exploitation of attacks. Anchor points are defended areas and unapproved access or entrance from an outsider will result in a forcible removal or challenging.

Behavioral Observations – People Focused On Entry Point
- Person controlling access (bouncer or security)
- Person providing surveillance or over-watch (a look out)
- A person who is welcome into the AP and familiar would show Comfortable Cues or Dominant Cues
- A person is isn’t welcome or is unfamiliar with the AP would show Uncomfortable Cues or Submissive Cues
- Person may have to show credentials to gain access (ID card, badge, ticket, access code)
- Greeting Behavior – handshakes or hand signals of recognition and belonging
- Protective Behavior – People checking their six, showing situational awareness
- Proxemic Pull For people who have access
- Proxemic Push for someone who does not have access
- Their behavior should help to show there is a clear distinction between public and private space
- If a person was observed entering an area and immediately shifting into the Uncomfortable cluster upon recognition of the anchor point

Physical Barriers
- Fences
- Walls
- Hard/Soft Barriers
- Barbed Wire
- Locks
- Observation Post – either a position with a view or cameras/technology
- Defined routes of ingress and egress
- Security lighting

Iconography
- Flags/Signs/graffiti showing affiliation (gang membership)
- Signs/banners/graffiti, etc. showing beliefs (who is welcome, negative ideology, etc.)
Habitual Area

Habitual areas are the opposite of anchor points, meaning there are no barriers to entry and access is open to all people. Habitual areas typically fulfill a need for those visiting, whether it is a tangible benefit such as a product or an intangible benefit such as relaxation or interacting with friends.

Behavior
- No one focused on controlling the access/entry points
- People from all walks of life have comfortable access to the area
- Comfortable/relaxed behavior
- People Proxemically Pulled to the Habitual Area to have a need fulfilled.

Physical
- Physical security is focused on keeping people inside safe, not on controlling who has access
- Natural Lines of Drift show the route that people use to move into and out of the area

Familiarity

A person’s familiarity with their surroundings reveals their relationship and exposure to their environment. The degree of familiarity that people in an area have is a key component to establishing the baseline for areas being observed.

Familiar
- A developed understanding of the baseline, patterns, and routines in the area.
- They know how “things are supposed to work” in that setting
- They know the location for the people and objects that are of interest to them
- Any situational awareness is focused on the people around them, not on the objects needed to orient them
- Upon recognition that the area is “how it normally is,” a person should demonstrate a degree of comfort.
- Any deviation from the expected and anticipated patterns would trigger a stress response and cause the person to shift out of the comfortable cluster

Unfamiliar
- A lacking understanding of the baseline, routines and patterns for the area
- A need to find the location for the objects and people that are of interest to them
- Situational awareness could be focused on either people or the control measures (such as signs) needed to get their bearings and orient themselves to this area
- When unsure of the patterns or how things are supposed to happen, a person might exhibit a higher degree of discomfort or might stop moving (a form of the freeze response) to take in more information to make sense of the area.
**Intimate Relationship**

Intimate relationships are classified as once with a high degree of trust between both parties. Identified by:
- Close physical proximity (distance) between both parties
- **Closer than one arm separation is a rule of thumb and reference in many American cultures**
- Sustained touching or touching in areas that would be considered off limits for a less trusting relationship, such as the small of the back, or the neck
- Relationship can be confirmed by observing that both people are in comfortable cluster
- If one person is within “intimate distance” and demonstrating dominant behavior and the other is in the submissive or uncomfortable cluster, not a true intimate/high trust relationship

**Personal Relationship**

Personal relationships are ones we would look at between friends. A moderate level of trust between both parties. Identified by:
- Physical separation between both parties greater than “Intimate Relationship” but less than “Acquaintance Relationship”
- **Approx. one arm distance is a rule of thumb and reference for many American cultures**
- Only minimal touching involved or touching in neutral areas such as the upper arm or a pat on the upper back.
- Both parties should be displaying behavior from the comfortable cluster if this distance reflects their actual relationship (neither party perceived as a threat).

**Acquaintance Relationship**

Acquaintance relationships are those a person has with people they have only recently met and despite being able to recognize the person, only has a minimal level of trust with.
- Physical separation greater than that of a friendly/personal relationship, but close enough where conversation is still possible
- **Greater than one arm distance is a rule of thumb and reference for many American cultures**
- Touching only during at the greeting or ending of a conversation, such as a handshake

**No Relationship**

Whenever possible, the greatest amount of physical separation available is kept from strangers who you have no relationship and no degree of trust established.

**While the relationships are applicable around the world, the physical distance between the parties is going to be determined by the cultural and social norms of the area you are in. These distances always need to be confirmed as the distances provided are just simple “rules of thumb” or references**
Indicators of Influencers and Leaders
Observing indicators from at least three out of these four categories can lead you to identify the member of a group who has influence and the respect of the others.

Mimicry
Mimicry is a subtle form of acknowledging being influenced by another person. Can be either conscious or unconscious copying of:
- Gestures
- Postures
- Patterns of speech
- Mannerisms
- Clothing choice
- Emotions/Attitudes

Adoration
True influencers have earned the respect and adoration of their followers. Indicators might include:
- A submissive posture/cluster in the presence of the leader
- Unquestioningly carrying out the order given by the leader
- Attempts to please, facilitate, simplify, or ease the leader’s current situation

Direction
Will be either obvious or subtle indicators from the dominance cluster that a leader uses to give commands and direct the actions of their followers
- Overt/unconcealed gestures and other non-verbal indicators that explain to another person what is expected of them. Many emblematic gestures fall into this category (very obvious pointing in a specific direction for example).
- Concealed/subtle forms of direction used to control or influence the actions of others without attracting any extra attention (a subtle head nod in a direction instead of the obvious point).
- Both concealed and unconcealed direction can also be communicated verbally

Entourage
For a leader to lead, they must have at least one follower or person they influence. Can be a one-man guard or a large gang.

The relationship that the leader has with their followers. Leaders provide something to their tribe (partnerships, protection, guidance, vision, money, etc.) and the followers provide something to the leader (labor, lookouts, muscle, etc). Any indicator that betrays what the details of this relationship are should be noted.
The Dominant Cluster

The dominant cluster includes the behavioral cues of someone who is preparing a “fight” response. Even though we are rarely in situations that require an actual fight, the Dominant Cluster is how we use our body to show authority, intimidate, posture before a fight or to ensure that we are perceived as being in control of the situation.

The cluster can be identified by any behavioral cue that allows them to take up a greater amount of space around them, or minimize other people in their vicinity. This is a form of territoriality.

Lower Body:
- Seated – Feet planted on floor, feet and legs splayed out (taking up more space)
- Seated – Legs crossed (if uninterested to block himself from the person, and taking up space)
- Seated – Legs crossed with hands on ankle or lower calf – secure and confident in their position
- Standing – legs shoulder width apart (taking up more space)

Torso:
- Seated – Leaning back with hands clasped behind head (hooding) (taking up more space)
- Standing – Hands on hips – authoritative (taking up more space)
- Standing – leaning forwards – aggressive, making themselves look bigger
- Standing – Stretching torso and making oneself look taller by standing upright and erect, this can be complemented with their chin up and the chest thrust out

Hands and Arms:
- Arms Spread out on an object (table, counter, etc.) – (taking up more space)
- Hands clasped behind back – (judging or evaluating)
- “Wrist Down” when shaking hands/greeting
- While talking – lecturing (pointing with hands)
- Steeple gesture with hands (perceived as intellectual and confident), if also touching the lips it may be evaluating

Other Indicators:
- Facial expressions of anger, contempt, disgust, and happiness
- Maintain gaze for longer period of time, doesn’t avert their gaze
- Dominant people may breach other’s “intimate” Proxemic zone, showing they feel they can go wherever they want
- They may initiate touching with others to show they are in charge
- They may try to break society’s accepted rules to show that they make the rules such as swearing in public
- It isn’t the ownership of status symbols that show wealth or power, but the flaunting of them or attempts to draw your attention to them makes it dominant
- They might walk down the direct middle of a path, forcing and expecting people to move out of their way by demonstrating that they are not going to move
- Ignoring a “no” response from someone
- Belittling and criticizing a person
- Interrupting the conversation
- Ignoring someone else’s presence or their part of the conversation
- Face may be flushed if preparing to fight and nostrils may flare
- If evaluating, may be looking over the top of their glasses, pursing their lips or holding their chin in their hands
The Submissive Cluster

The submissive cluster is the exact opposite of the Dominant cluster and can be characterized as the absence of a “fight” response. This might indicate that a person has decided their best chance for survival is to not put up a fight or further anger the person who is being aggressive or dominating them. This could also be a sign of respect and adoration for a higher-ranking person or someone who has earned the ability to influence the group.

The key factor that determines body language being assigned to this cluster are the minimization of the space being taken up by a person.

Lower Body:
- Seated – feet and legs crossed and tucked underneath chair (making themselves look smaller)
- Seated – feet wrapped around legs of chair (seeking stability and security)
- Legs will often not be used as barrier as it could offend the dominant person, unless person is in a self-protect mode

Upper Body:
- Leaning forward, making their body smaller and less threatening
- Torso could be open and exposed if the submissiveness is in a non-threatening (physical threat) situation such as interacting with a boss
- Arms pulled in (non-threatening, pulling arms in)
- Wrists exposed in greeting (vulnerable) open palms show that there is no threat
- Shoulders lowered (failure to protect carotid artery)
- May show closed off indicators and protection indicators from uncomfortable cluster if trying to protect themselves

Other Indicators
- Facial expressions of fear, sadness, and “fake” happiness
- Forced smiles, movement only with the mouth and not the eyes
- People will remain fairly motionless, to not attract any unnecessary attention and reduce the chances of being seen (elements of freeze response)
- Gaze will be away from the person as to not offend them, staring is a sign of dominance
- Eyes may be wide, signaling vulnerability while also showing cues of fear
- Person may be pale
The Uncomfortable Cluster
The uncomfortable cluster is identified by any behavior caused by the “flight” response. Any behavior that indicates a person’s desire to create separation between themselves and a perceived threat would fall under this category. Even in modern society, where we are unlikely to physically leave the area when presented with minor threats, the concepts of blocking and distancing are still displayed.

Lower Body:
- Feet bouncing (limbic system preparing the body for flight)
- If flight isn’t an option, the knees may come together to protect vital areas
- Feet oriented towards a door or exit (limbic system response, preparing for flight)
- Leg’s crossed while seated, forming a barrier (protecting vital areas)
- Leg’s shoulder width apart while standing (body capable of either flight or fight)

Upper Body:
- Torso leaning away (distancing from a threat)
- Torso rotated away from person or object (either facing exit to prepare for flight, or turning to protect vitals area)
- Arms crossed across chest (establishing barriers to protect vital areas) this could also include gripping the opposite arm
- Arms may be extended or up around face as a means to block a blow to the face or body
- Arms/hands covering crotch/groin (establishing barriers to protect vital areas)
- Shoulders raised (response to a threat to protect neck/carotid artery, and head)
- Increase use of Pacifying Behavior (resulting from the energy manifested by the autonomic nervous system)

Other Indicators
- Facial expressions of surprise or fear
- The body may maintain a tight tension, showing a lack of comfort
- Chin tucked in to protect the throat
- Avoiding eye contact
- Increased blink rate
- Eyes flicking back and forth looking for an escape or a way out
- Putting any object between themselves and the threat

Note:
If the person feels that their flight response was not sufficient to protect them or ensure their survival, or if the Dominant person’s aggression rises, the Uncomfortable person may shift from the Uncomfortable Cluster into the Dominant Cluster if they feel the need to fight their way out of the situation.
The Comfortable Cluster

The Comfortable Cluster is comprised of the cues that show a person does not perceive a threat. It is the absence of any “flight” response and the polar opposite of the Uncomfortable cluster. The relaxed and open posture is what people will likely display for most of the day and will only shift out of it to the Uncomfortable, Dominant or Submissive Clusters as the area around them changes and they no longer have that inherent sense of security.

Lower Body:
- Feet motionless (no limbic system response causing them to distance themselves from the threat)
- Feet oriented towards the person (no limbic system preparation to distance themselves from the threat)
- Legs not crossed or legs crossed exposing inside of thigh towards person (no limbic system response to protect vital areas and the femoral artery on the inside of the thigh)
- Standing with legs crossed (no threat perceived, body vulnerable while it is standing with all the weight on one foot, body not prepared to fight/flight)

Upper Body:
- Torso upright or leaning in (no threat perceived, not concerned about distancing)
- Torso leaning away or splayed out (in a reclined or lounging type manner, body not prepared to defend itself)
- Arms open – at the sides of the body, gesturing openly, or behind back (no immediate threat recognized and need to use hands/arms to protect the body)
- Shoulders lowered and relaxed – no turtle effect (no threat recognized, no need to protect vital areas of neck)
- No pacifying behaviors.
- Illustrators likely used in speech, but are open and gentle, not sudden or tense

Other Indicators
- Facial Expressions: neutral or happy
- If arms or legs are crossed, they are done so in a relaxed manner, different than being closed
- Generally will not have any body tension as muscles should be relaxed and loose
- Person should seem happy or unconcerned overall
- Gaze will be relaxed with minimal blinking
- Eyebrows stable, only moving with speech, showing a relaxed forehead
- Breathing slow and steady
- Skin is a normal color, not reddened or pale
**The Interested Cluster**

The interested cluster is to assess where a person’s attention is focused and if it is still on the person or object that should have their attention.

**Lower Body:**
- Feet pointing at people in conversation (both feet)
- Feet remaining still, not bouncing (no limbic system preparation to leave)
- No leg barriers (openness)

**Upper Body:**
- Torso leaning forward (seated or standing)
- Open body language (no arm barriers)

**Other Indicators:**
- Head nods
- Overall body stillness, this shows that even their internal dialogue is not distracting them
- Gaze will be oriented in the direction of the person speaking
- Decreased blink rate
- Furrowed brow, eyebrows are drawn together as the listener seeks to hear and understand the other person
- Head may be tilted forward showing attention, or tilted sideways may show curiosity, but this may also show uncertainty
- Mirroring or mimicking of any emotion communicated through the conversation by the other people in the group
- Distractions will be ignored, interruptions from others, cell phone calls, etc.
- Not interrupting the person talking, showing patience to wait to chime in
- Uh huh and mm’mm noises to show you want them to keep talking without having it interrupt
The Uninterested Cluster

Indicators that will lead you to believe that the person you are observing no longer has their attention and interest on the person or object they are interacting with.

Lower Body:
- Feet bouncing (body preparing to distance themselves from the person or object)
- Feet oriented away from the person or object in the direction they would like to move
- Legs crossed – use of leg barriers
- “Shifty” behavior, person moving or rocking back and forth

Upper Body:
- Arm barriers up (closing off front of torso)
- Torso leaning away from person or object
- May see “stopping” gestures with hands
- Rubbing of their wrist, whether they have a watch on or not
- Increase use of pacifying behavior if they want to leave, but physically can not
- May have closed off body language similar to the uncomfortable cluster.

Other Indicators:
- Acknowledging their cell phone or other distractions
- Their gaze being all over the place, not looking at the person talking but anywhere else
- Repeatedly looking at the clock on the wall
- Doodling or finding other things that captivate their interest instead of listening
- Showing signs of tiredness, such as yawning, slouching in their chair, leaning up against the wall
- Blank or neutral facial expressions
- Preparing to leave, such as legs uncrossing, picking up bags, straightening clothing