

# **Bodies of knowledge and robes of expertise: expert evidence about drugs, gangs and human trafficking**

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Journal Article

Criminal Law Review

Crim. L.R. 2021, 6, 442-460

## **Subject**

Criminal **evidence**

## **Keywords**

Criminal **evidence**; Drug offences; **Expert evidence**; **Gangs**; **Human trafficking**; Reliability

## **Abstract**

Discusses the possibility of **evidence** used to explain certain criminal activity such as conduct involving **gangs**, **drugs** or **human trafficking** coming from witnesses whose **knowledge** derives not from professional training or academic study but from practical experience, and the need for courts to take seriously the more rigorous approach to **expert evidence** under Practice Direction Crim PD 19A (**Expert Evidence**). Details the criteria of reliability.

## **Legislation cited**

Crim PD 19A (**Expert Evidence**)