Balancing Law and Psychology: Insights from a Psycholegal Academic

Professor Adam Benforado, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law
My Path

• Invertebrate zoology in high school
• History major at Yale
• Harvard Law School
• Law and Mind Sciences
My Path (cont.)

- Frank Knox Fellowship at Cambridge University
- Law Clerk for the Honorable Judith Rogers (D.C. Circuit)
- Jenner and Block LLP
- Drexel University
Scholarship: Writing for Law Reviews

- Applying insights from psychology to legal problems/theory
- Empirical work
- Submission process
Building Bridges: Collaborations between Law Professors and Psychologists
Building Bridges (cont.)

• Making connections
  – Conferences
  – University resources
  – Mentors
Building Bridges (cont.)

- Managing relationships
- Keeping projects on track
- Securing funding
- Surviving the submission/revision process
Book Battle: Academic or Trade Press?

2. *Outliers: The Story of Success*, by Malcolm Gladwell
My Trade Book Experience

UNfair
THE NEW SCIENCE OF CRIMINAL INJUSTICE

Adam Benforado
Reaching a Popular Audience: Alternatives to Trade Books
Teaching at the Intersection of Law and Psychology

- Seminars
  - Law and Mind Sciences

- Core courses
  - Criminal Law
  - Contracts
  - Business Organizations
Getting the Job: Law School Hiring

- What credentials matter?
- What is involved?
- What’s the market like?
Keeping the Job: Tenure at Law Schools

"He's been pretty much insisting on this ever since he got tenure."