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SPEAKER

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Paper Proposal

TITLE: Delineating Differences between Lay and Professional Judges in Communication in Japanese Mixed Jury

ABSTRACT

Year 2009 saw introduction of a new mixed-jury system in criminal courts in Japan. This report aims to identify some characteristic patterns in communication between laypersons (lay judges, hereinafter) and professional judges from a linguistic and psychological point of view through examination of the corpora compiled from the linguistic interactions recorded in mock trials jointly organized by local prosecutors offices, courts, and bar associations. We will show quantitatively differences in communication between lay and professional judges in deliberation in terms of the amount of speech, source information for decision making, etc. This interdisciplinary study will bridge linguistics, psychology, and law and contribute to the development of these fields.