



To reduce error and the likelihood of contamination, labs prefer a lot of crime scene samples with the suspect's DNA. Soon technology will likely enable labs to sequence DNA off a single cell. But this may not mean that the evidence will be easier to interpret, especially because there's already a lot of variation in how the labs process DNA samples, changing the conclusions that investigators can draw from the evidence.

Overall, the ambiguity of DNA testing methods means it is hard to know precisely in which and how cases DNA may have led juries and judges astray. But looking forward, if more people know that DNA evidence is not nearly as reliably black and white as it may seem, then maybe fewer suspects will end up wrongfully incarcerated.

Check out the full *Frontline* piece [here](#).

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