

# 'Juror Contempt'

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## THE STUDY

'Are Juries Fair' raised a number of questions that could not be answered by that study but are key to determining how best to ensure jurors do not fall foul of the contempt rules and that an effective system of collective responsibility operates on juries across the country.

The UCL Jury Project is currently conducting follow up research to address these issues. The focus of this research is in understanding what jurors were aware of, what they did during the time they served on a jury and what their understanding and views are of the jury process

A post-trial survey was used to gain a deeper understanding of juror conduct by addressing the following questions:

- Exactly how are jurors using the internet in relation to their case during trial?
- What do jurors currently understand improper jury conduct to be?
- What do jurors think they should and would do about improper conduct if it occurred?
- What is the most effective form of information that can be provided to jurors about improper use of the internet and improper jury conduct in general?
- What is the most effective method of providing information to jurors about improper use of the internet and improper jury conduct?

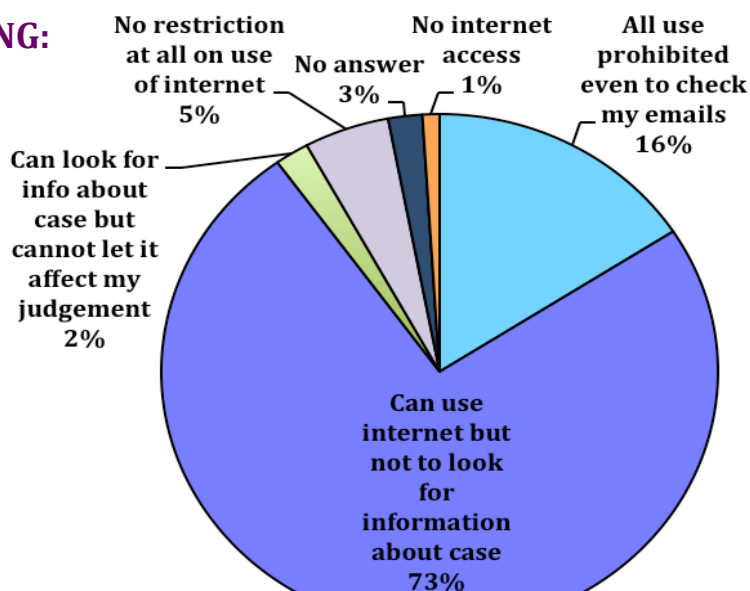
In addition it addressed the following questions about jury deliberations:

- Exactly what type of information about conducting jury deliberations do jurors feel they need or would be most useful?
- What is the most effective form of deliberation guidance that can be given to jurors?
- What is the most effective method of providing this guidance to jurors?

## CURRENT FINDINGS

**QUESTION:** Do jurors understand the rule on internet use?

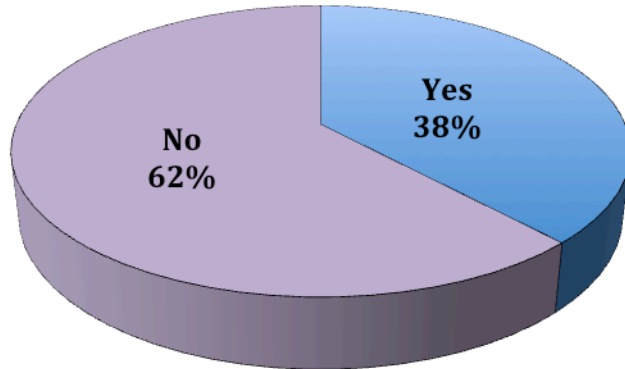
**FINDING:**



**Juror understanding of the rule on internet use (n=239)**

**QUESTION:** Are jurors aware of recent prosecutions of jurors?

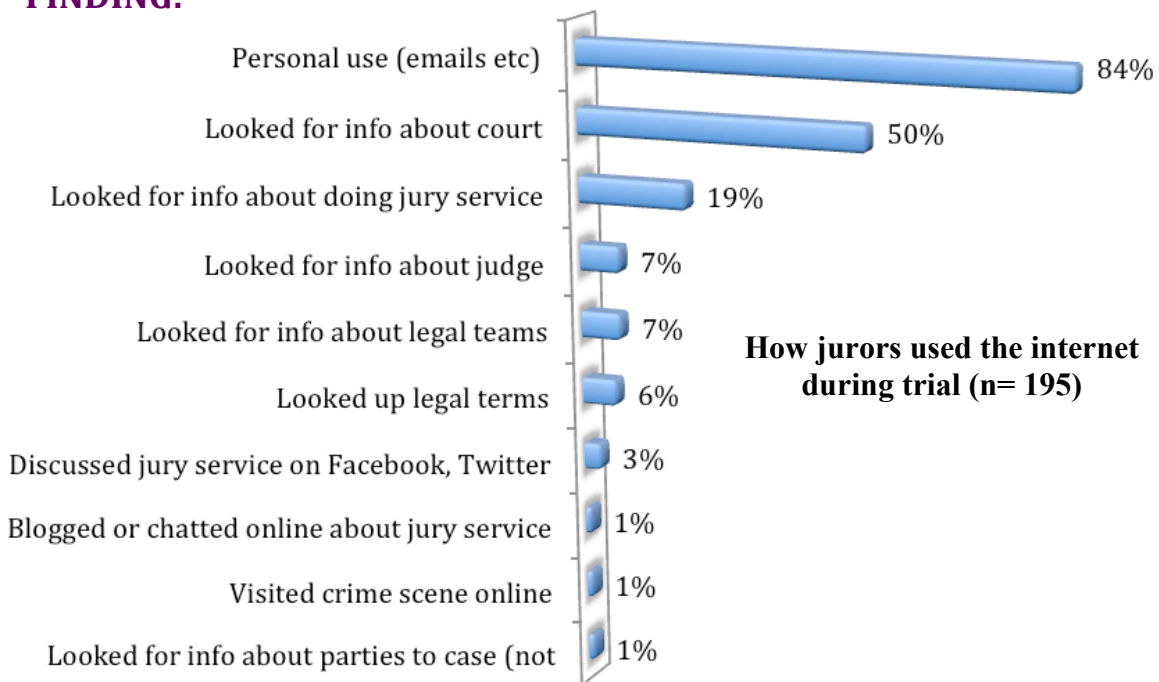
**FINDING:** Do you recall any recent news stories about jurors acting improperly?



**Juror awareness of recent prosecutions of jurors (n=239)**

**QUESTION:** How do jurors use internet during a trial?

**FINDING:**



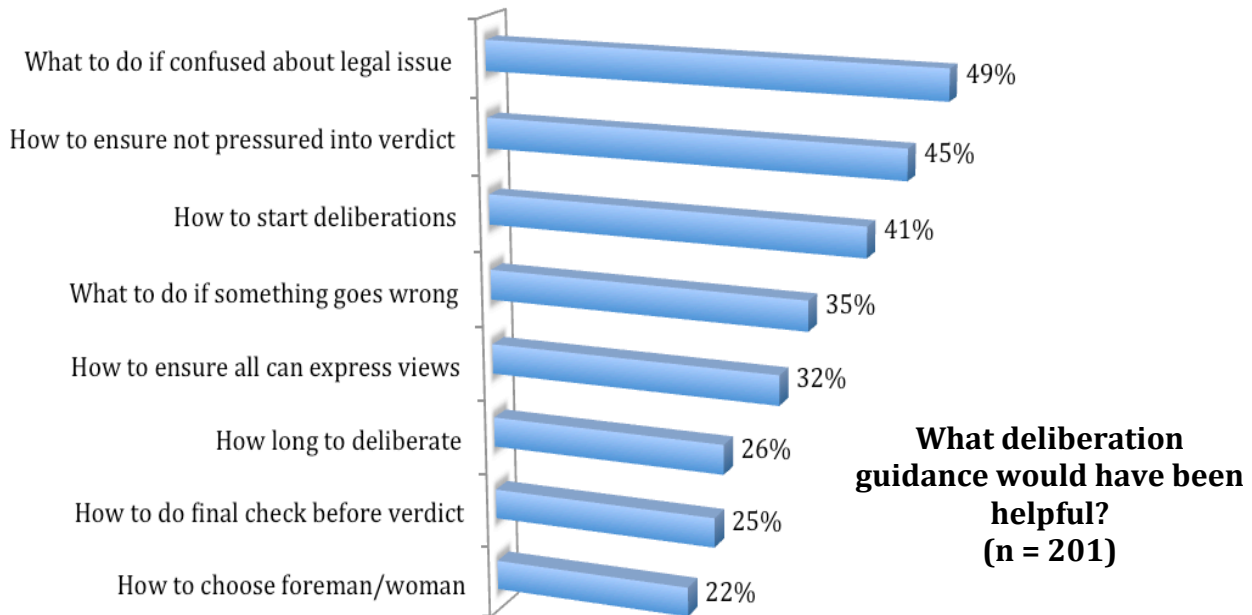
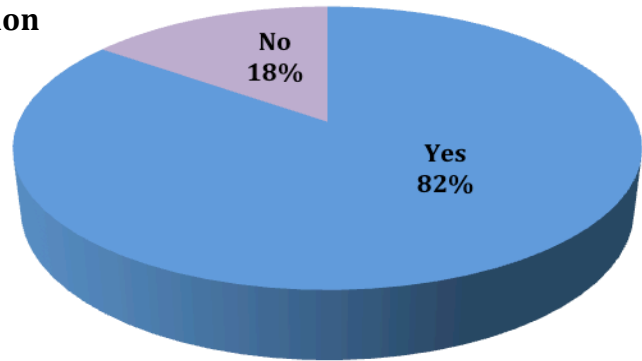
**How jurors used the internet during trial (n= 195)**

**QUESTION:** What are jurors' views on guidance about conducting deliberations?

**FINDING:**

**Would you have liked more guidance on conducting deliberations?**

**Juror desire for deliberation guidance (n=239)**



**QUESTION:** What are juror's views on written judicial directions?

**FINDING:**

**If no written directions would you have liked them?**

**If written directions provided were they helpful?**

