

# Statutory Understanding on DNA Evidence: An Appraisal

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## I. Introduction

In contemporary times, the field of criminal justice administration relies heavily on scientific approaches and innovation to effectively identify and apprehend perpetrators. As a result, the legal system of most developed nations places significant reliance on scientific evidence. DNA profiling is a very reliable scientific method utilized for the purpose of gathering credible evidence in order to identify the true offender.

The significance of Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) is progressively growing in its role to uphold precision and fairness within the Criminal Justice System. The utilization of DNA in crime-solving involves many methods. The DNA profiles obtained from the samples collected at a crime scene can be compared with the DNA profiles of potential suspects in order to either eliminate those who are innocent or establish the potential involvement of the culprit. The identification of suspects can be achieved through the process of comparing the DNA profiles obtained from the crime exhibits with the profiles stored inside the database containing genetic information of known offenders. DNA testing is utilized in the resolution of diverse civil disputes, involving matters such as parentage, immigration, and the identification of unidentified corpses resulting from catastrophic events.

The technique of DNA profiling was first introduced in 1984 by Alec Jeffrey, a renowned British biologist.<sup>1</sup> The technique was first utilized in the apprehension and prosecution of Colin Pitchfork, who perpetrated acts of sexual assault and murder against two female victims, one in the year 1983 and another in 1987.<sup>2</sup> Subsequently, the field

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1 Yashpal Singh and Muhammad Zaidi, *DNA Test in Criminal Investigation: Trial and Paternity Disputes* 95 (Alia Law Agency, Allahabad, 2006).

2 Ankit Srivastava, Abhimanyu Harshey, et. al, "Impact of DNA evidence in criminal

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