

Was there another shooter on the Grassy Knoll?  
Did Lee Harvey Oswald work for the CIA?  
What was the Magic Bullet?  
**Who really killed JFK?**  
**COULD YOU PROVE IT?**

***Terrific!***

- retired Supreme Court judge

# Advanced Reasoning and Analysis

A three-day masterclass in advanced reasoning and argument skills, based on mapping techniques and using the JFK assassination as a case study.

The master class is designed for professionals and managers with strong analytical skills looking to take their own performance, or that of their teams or organisations, to the highest levels.

Participants report that the master class provides them with:

- **Greater insight** into the nature and challenges of good logical thinking
- **Practical skills** for building strong arguments, challenging the reasoning of others, drawing reasonable conclusions, and persuading others.
- **Handy tools** and techniques they can use on the job to improve their analysis and case-making.

The masterclass is hands-on, “learning through doing” in small teams. Participants use the latest software for visualising complex hypothesis sets and argumentation. The masterclass makes considerable use of multimedia, including close analysis of a digitally remastered version of the famous Zapruder film.

The 1963 assassination of US President John F. Kennedy is one of history's most controversial crimes. Even today a majority of Americans believe there was a conspiracy involving the US government, though the “smoking gun” has never been found. The JFK assassination provides rich material for a masterclass in reasoning and analysis. We focus intensively on the events in Dealey Plaza, and consider the core evidence and arguments that there must have been some kind of conspiracy. The masterclass does not advance a conspiracy theory. The conspiracy arguments have critical weaknesses, but this can only be properly demonstrated with unusually rigorous logical analysis.



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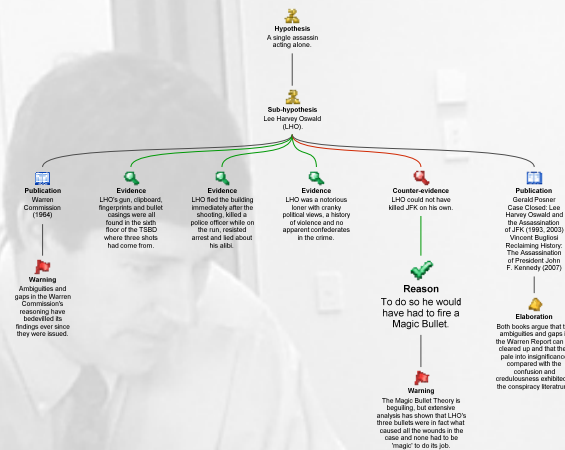
## About Austhink

Austhink Consulting is a critical thinking and communications consultancy based in Melbourne, Australia. Since 2000 we have been providing facilitation, training and consulting services to organisations in Australia and overseas. Our unique expertise lies in using distinctive mapping techniques to improve the clarity and rigour of thinking about complex issues.

## The Facilitators

The facilitators are experts in the use of mapping techniques to improve reasoning and argument skills and performance. They have extensive experience conducting the ARA workshop with high-level participants in many different organisations.

- **Dr. Tim van Gelder** is a cognitive scientist with an international reputation for his work in critical thinking and reasoning skill acquisition. He pioneered the development of argument mapping and developed the software tools Rationale and bCisive.
- **Dr Paul Monk** is a widely recognised author and public intellectual. After gaining a PhD in international relations he worked for the Defense Intelligence Organisation, becoming head of China analysis. He has written many books and articles on a diverse array of topics, but with a focus on our thinking capacities. While not a conspiracy theorist, he is highly knowledgeable about the JFK case.

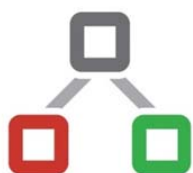


*The workshop in fact exceeded expectations. I was prepared for the latest 'fad' in management tools, but was pleasantly surprised to find it relevant and digging deep into core principles. As a lawyer, my job involves 'thinking' all the time. This course emphasised for me the importance of not taking short cuts in the reasoning process, but always to go back to the foundations of why I believe something. This will help in convincing others (clients and courts) as to the reasonableness of my position.*

**- Don Robertson, Senior Partner, Freehills**

*The workshop was well-organised, thought-provoking, and compelling. It was challenging and enjoyable to participate... I am a manager of a team of delegates who consider claims lodged under the Veterans' Entitlements Act. Delegates are required to consider a large amount of documentary evidence, often conflicting, in order to make a decision. They need to be able to argue their conclusions clearly and in a way that reflects the law. A huge part of my work involves guidance in the consideration of evidence, the weight that can be given to certain types of evidence, and the writing of reasons for decision. This course helped in the acquisition of new skills and the development of existing skills relevant to my work.*

**- Trevor Carles, Department of Veterans'**



**AUSTHINK**  
CONSULTING

**bCisive**<sup>®</sup>

"Where accountability is at a premium, bCisive is a potent tool". Peter Moon, Australian Financial Review