

Name: _____

The Stanley Milgram Experiment

Before you watch:

How far would you go to follow orders? Would you hurt someone if you were told to? Why or why not?

What if you were told this pain would help them, does this change your answer? Why or why not?

The Milgram experiment was created to explain some of the concentration camp horrors of World War 2, where Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, Slavs and other enemies of the state were slaughtered by Nazis. Many war-criminals claimed they were merely following orders and could not be held responsible for their actions. Do you think they should have been punished, why or why not?

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As/after you watch:

Why do you think the second teacher and others laughed?

Were you shocked to hear that 50% of the teachers ended up continuing to the highest shock? Why?

What factors do you think influenced 50% of people to continue shocking the students? Explain your thinking

What did or would this experiment do psychologically to the teachers:

a) That stopped

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b) That continued

Should the concept of blame or responsibility matter?

Today, this experiment would not be permitted. Why do you think this is?

What do you think this experiment tells us and what are the implications?
