

Kayla Wroblewski

Psych ep 2 script

[MILGRAM EXPERIMENT IN 0:20-0:54]

“IT IS MAY 1962, AN EXPERIMENT IS BEING CONDUCTED IN THE ELEGANT INTERACTION LABORATORY AT YALE UNIVERSITY. THE SUBJECTS ARE 40 MALES BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20 AND 50, RESIDING IN THE GREATER NEW HAVEN AREA. THEY WERE OBTAINED BY A NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT AND DIRECT MAIL SOLICITATION. THE SUBJECTS RANGE IN OCCUPATION FROM CORPORATION PRESIDENT TO GOOD HUMOR MEN AND PLUMBERS. AND AN EDUCATIONAL LEVEL FROM ONE WHO HAD NOT FINISHED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO SUBJECTS WHO HAVE DOCTORATE AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL DEGREES.”

[MILGRAM EXPERIMENT OUT]

[RADIO TUNING SFX IN]

[BED 1 IN]

[KAYLA IN]

FREE WILL. SOMETHING PEOPLE VALUE, AS TODAY’S SOCIETY SURROUNDS US WITH CHOICE IN EVERYTHING. FROM OUR STYLE OF CLOTHING TO THE LAWS WE PUT IN PLACE, CHOICE SEEMINGLY SURROUNDS US.

IF THIS IS TRUE HOWEVER, HOW COULD HORRIBLE ATROCITIES, LIKE THE HOLOCAUST OCCUR?

SEEMS LIKE A LARGE JUMP THERE I KNOW, BUT STAY WITH ME.

IN 1962, ADOLF EICHMANN WAS EXECUTED FOR HIS PORTION OF ORGANIZING THE HOLOCAUST, WHEN 6 MILLION JEWISH PEOPLE AND OTHER MINORITIES WERE MASS MURDERED IN NAZI EUROPE.

STRANGELY ENOUGH, DURING HIS TRIAL IN 1961, HE EXPRESSED SURPRISE TO BEING HATED BY JEWISH PEOPLE

HIS REASONING FOR HIS ACTIONS? FOLLOWING ORDERS.

THE COURT DID NOT FIND HIS REASONING SANE HOWEVER, AND SENTENCED HIM TO DEATH.

[ADOLF EICHMANN GUILTY AUDIO IN]

AFTER A TRIAL THAT HAD LASTED SOME FOUR MONTHS, ADOLF EICHMANN HAS HAD HIS DEFENSE REJECTED. HE'S BEEN JUDGED GUILTY OF THE MAJOR CRIMES IN THIS ENDICHMENT.

[AUDIO OUT]

IN HIS JAIL DIARY, HE WROTE, 'THE ORDERS WERE, FOR ME, THE HIGHEST THING IN MY LIFE AND I HAD TO OBEY THEM WITHOUT QUESTION.'

EICHMANN WAS EXAMINED BY MULTIPLE PSYCHOLOGISTS, WHO ALL DECLARED HIM SANE.

HE WAS, IN FACT, AN AVERAGE MAN, HE HAD A NORMAL FAMILY LIFE, AND SEEMED AVERAGE THROUGHOUT THE TRIAL.

IF EICHMANN WAS NORMAL HOWEVER, HOW COULD HE HAVE CARRIED OUT SUCH ACTS?

PSYCHOLOGIST STANLEY MILGRAM SET OUT TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION IN 1963, WITH HIS FAMOUS MILGRAM EXPERIMENT.

[BED 1 OUT]

[BED 2 IN]

STANLEY MILGRAM STUDIED 40 ADULT MEN, AND HOW THEY RESPONDED TO AUTHORITY.

HE RECRUITED VOLUNTEERS FOR AN EXPERIMENT ABOUT "LEARNING."

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE EXPERIMENT, AN ACTOR ACTING AS A SCIENTIST INTRODUCED EACH PARTICIPANT ONE BY ONE TO A CONFEDERATE OF THE EXPERIMENT, WHO THEY BELIEVED WAS A FELLOW PARTICIPANT.

THE ACTOR THEN ASKED THE TWO MEN IN EACH TRIAL TO DRAW STRAWS TO DETERMINE THEIR POSITION IN THE EXPERIMENT, EITHER THE LEARNER, WHO WOULD RECEIVE SHOCKS FOR WRONG ANSWERS, OR THE TEACHER, WHO WOULD ADMINISTER THESE SHOCKS.

IN EACH TRIAL, MILGRAM ALWAYS RIGGED THE RESULTS SO THE CONFEDERATE WAS THE LEARNER, AND THE PARTICIPANT THE TEACHER.

THE "LEARNER" WHO WAS ALWAYS THE CONFEDERATE, KNOWN AS MR. WALLACE, WAS STRAPPED TO A CHAIR WITH ELECTRODES.

[MILGRAM IN]

WOULD YOU ROLL UP YOUR RIGHT SLEEVE PLEASE? NOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO IS STRAP DOWN YOUR ARMS TO AVOID ANY EXCESSIVE MOVEMENT ON

YOUR PART DURING THE EXPERIMENT. IS THAT TOO TIGHT? THIS ELECTRODE IS CONNECTED TO THE SHOCK GENERATOR IN THE NEXT ROOM. AND THIS ELECTRODE PASTE IS TO PROVIDE GOOD CONTACT AND AVOID ANY BLISTER OR BURN

[MILGRAM OUT]

[KAYLA IN]

AFTER HE WAS GIVEN A LIST OF WORDS TO MEMORIZE BY THE "TEACHER," HE WAS TO BE TESTED.

THE TEACHER WAS TOLD BY THE ACTOR SCIENTIST TO ADMINISTER A SHOCK, INCREASING IN VALUE, AFTER EACH WRONG ANSWER.

[KAYLA OUT]

[MILGRAM EXPERIMENT IN]

INCORRECT. WELL NOW I GOTTA SHOCK OF 75 VOLTS. SOFT HAIR.

[MILGRAM EXPERIMENT OUT]

[KAYLA IN]

THE SHOCKS WENT UP TO 450 VOLTS, A SURELY LETHAL DOSE.

THANKFULLY, MR. WALLACE WAS NEVER ACTUALLY SHOCKED, HE WAS JUST TOLD TO REACT LIKE HE WAS FROM BEHIND A PARTITION.

[KAYLA OUT]

[MILGRAM IN]

AH! EXPERIMENTER, THAT'S ALL. GET ME OUT OF HERE!

[MILGRAM OUT]

SHOCKINGLY, 65% OF THE PARTICIPANTS SHOCKED MR. WALLACE AT 450 VOLTS.

EVERY SINGLE PARTICIPANT WENT UP TO 300 VOLTS.

[BED 2 OUT]

[BED 3 IN]

HOW COULD PEOPLE SO AVERAGE COME UP WITH SUCH AWFUL RESULTS?

AFTER MULTIPLE EXPERIMENTS LIKE THE ORIGINAL, MILGRAM CAME UP WITH A CONCLUSION.

PEOPLE OBEY AUTHORITY, EVEN IF IT MEANS HURTING OTHER PEOPLE.

NOT MANY PEOPLE ARE FACED WITH ORDERS LIKE ELECTRICALLY SHOCKING ANOTHER PERSON EVERYDAY, BUT WE ARE ALL EXPOSED TO AUTHORITY IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

[BED 3 OUT]

[NEWS STORIES IN]

NOT EVEN 24 HOURS AFTER THE FLORIDA SCHOOL SHOOTING, STUDENTS WITH CELL PHONE CAMERA CAUGHT CHAOS AT CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

[NEWS STORIES OUT]

[BED 4 IN]

[KAYLA IN]

FEBRUARY 15TH, 2018.

ONE DAY AFTER THE MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS SHOOTING IN FLORIDA, NUMEROUS CHS STUDENTS FLED THE SCHOOL DUE TO FEAR OF A POSSIBLE SHOOTING.

[STUDENTS FLEEING AUDIO]

IN REALITY, THERE WAS NO THREAT, JUST RUMORS CIRCULATING THAT ERUPTED IN CHAOS.

HOWEVER, THE SITUATION STILL REQUIRED AUTHORITY

THIS AUTHORITY POSITION WAS FILLED BY CHS ADMINISTRATION.

[NEWS 2 IN]

TODAY SCHOOL OFFICIALS IN CARMEL ARE RESPONDING TO A RUMOR OF A POSSIBLE THREAT. IT APPARENTLY HAD TO DO WITH A POSTING ON SOCIAL MEDIA THAT RAISED CONCERNS WITH SOME PARENTS AND STUDENTS.

[NEWS OUT]

[DR. HARMAS IN 0-0:12]

GOOD MORNING EVERYONE, I KNOW THE EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW WEEKS HAVE PUT SOME OF US ON EDGE. AND TO HELP ALL OF US, I WANTED TO TELL YOU THE FACTS INSTEAD OF READING RUMORS ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

[DR. HARMAS OUT]

[KAYLA IN]

TO FIND OUT HOW CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION DEALT WITH THE SITUATION AND ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY, I SAT DOWN WITH MRS. SKEENS-BENTON, CHS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

[KAYLA OUT]

[SKEENS-BENTON IN]

WE KNOW THAT WE NEED TO CONTINUOUSLY KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED OF WHAT'S GOING ON AND WHAT WE'RE DOING TO MAKE SURE THAT THOSE THAT CREATE LIES AND RUMORS AREN'T THE ONES GETTING THE MOST ATTENTION

[SKEENS-BENTON OUT]

[KAYLA IN]

ULTIMATELY STUDENTS WERE SCARED AND FEELING VULNERABLE, WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION FELT

[KAYLA OUT]

[SKEENS-BENTON IN]

IT WAS A RUMOR, NONE OF IT WAS BASED ON FACT, THERE WAS NOTHING FACTUAL ABOUT IT BUT PEOPLE USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO PERPETUATE THE RUMOR AND TO CREATE FEAR. AND THAT FEAR DROVE PEOPLE TO NOT GO TO SCHOOL

[KAYLA IN]

IN THE END, STUDENTS DID RECEIVE AN ADMINISTRATION RESPONSE FROM THE SCHOOL, SO I DECIDED TO ASK AROUND CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL TO FIND OUT HOW STUDENTS FELT TOWARD THE AUTHORITY THEY RECEIVED.

[CHS STUDENTS IN]

I PUT A LOT OF FAITH IN THE ADMINISTRATION

I FELT THAT IT WAS KIND OF A LACKLUSTER RESPONSE

I THINK ONCE DR. HARMAS WENT ON THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHOWED EVERYONE WHAT WAS REALLY GOING ON IN THE CONVERSATION I THINK EVERYONE REALIZED THAT IT WAS JUST A HUGE MISUNDERSTANDING BUT I THINK THEY COULD HAVE DONE THAT A BIT EARLIER

I THINK THEY DIDN'T TELL ENOUGH OF THE TRUTH BUT I THINK THEY DID THEIR BEST

SEEING HOW THE ADMINISTRATION HANDLED EVERYTHING IT CALMED ME DOWN AND I FELT BETTER

[CHS STUDENTS OUT]

THE RESPONSES WERE PRETTY SPLIT, SOME STUDENTS FELT THE AUTHORITY COMFORTED THEM, WHILE OTHERS FELT THE AUTHORITY THEY RECEIVED WASN'T A GOOD ENOUGH RESPONSE.

ALL IN ALL, THEY STILL FOLLOWED AUTHORITY.

[BED 3 OUT]

[BED 4 IN]

SO HOW DOES THIS AFFECT SOCIETY TODAY?

IN THIS CASE, FOLLOWING THE AUTHORITY WAS A GOOD DECISION IN CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL, AS THE RUMORS QUICKLY DIMINISHED AFTER ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN.

HOWEVER, IT ALSO MEANS STUDENTS NEED TO BE CAREFUL, BECAUSE
BLINDLY ACCEPTING AUTHORITY CAN HAVE DIRE CONSEQUENCES, AS
STANLEY MILGRAM AND THE NUREMBERG TRIALS SHOWED US.

ALL IN ALL, ACCEPTING AUTHORITY IS WHAT WE DO IN SOCIETY.

BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO STAY TRUE TO YOURSELF AND WHAT YOU BELIEVE
IN, TO AVOID A POSSIBLE MILGRAM SITUATION.

THANKS FOR LISTENING TO PSYCH EPISODE 2: AUTHORITY. THIS HAS BEEN
KAYLA WROBLESKI FOR 91.3 WHJE. MORE EPISODES AVAILABLE ON
WHJE.COM.

[BED 4 OUT]