

ICE

MILITARY

NAZIS

The

"I Was Just Following Orders"

In the 1960s, psychologist Stanley Milgram conducted an experiment to study obedience to authority. Volunteers were told they were helping with a memory test and instructed to give electric shocks to a "learner" whenever they gave a wrong answer. The shocks weren't real, but the participants didn't know that, the learner's screams were staged. Despite the apparent harm, many continued administering shocks when prompted by an authority figure. Inspired by Nazi war crimes and Adolf Eichmann's "just following orders" defense, the study revealed how ordinary people can commit harmful acts under pressure from authority, stressing the importance of moral responsibility.



"Tyrannies are perpetuated by diffident men who do not possess the courage to act out their beliefs."

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