

## Criminal Justice Ethics, PHIL330.001, Spring, 2008

Peter Amato, MacAlister room 5030; office hours: M, W 2-4; other times by appointment  
[peterama@drexel.edu](mailto:peterama@drexel.edu), ext. 1353; class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00-3:20 in Academic Building 111

1. What question or problem did Milgram want to explore in his landmark 1962 morality and obedience experiment?
2. How did this famous experiment work? How do the results help us think about the original question or problem that motivated it?
3. How do Milgram's findings and the other research mentioned in the film relate to Ladd's and Kleinig's ideas about problems associated with ethical codes?
4. Discuss how the type of crime that occurred in the McDonald's in Mount Washington, Kentucky is related to Milgram's findings. How does thinking about these actions this way affect your sense of their criminality?
5. Discuss how the type of crime that occurred in the death of Matt Carrington is related to Milgram's findings. How does thinking about these actions this way affect your sense of their criminality?
6. What overall lessons does Dr. Philip Zimbardo seem to have drawn from the Stanford Prison Experiment? Relate these lessons to the ideas of "rationalization" and "cognitive dissonance" that we discussed earlier this term.
7. What aspects of Zimbardo's experiment can be related to everyday aspects of life, or the standard operating procedures of police, military, and other figures of authority?
8. Relate both Milgram's and Zimbardo's findings to the abuses of prisoners at Abu Ghraib. How does thinking about these actions this way affect your sense of their criminality?
9. Relate the over-all lessons taken from the experiments discussed in the film to some aspect or aspects of Reiman's discussion of the social and psychological foundations of criminal justice policy and practice.
10. What do you think is the significance of the various research mentioned in the film for thinking about ethics in general and criminal justice ethics in particular?