

Psych 310
Assignment #3

Milgram used his shock experiment to answer the question: what are people capable of? He wanted to see how far others will go when put in a situation where they are told to harm another human being, do they have a stopping point. Milgram had many ethical problems with this experiment. He led his subjects to believe they were harming another person, when actually they were not at all. Although he did not force them to proceed, he told them to proceed and that it was part of the experiment. Which makes them feel like it was somehow acceptable to go on. After the experiment concluded he debriefed them and offered them an opportunity to talk to someone. Overall the experiment caused psychological harm and stress to subjects that will be with them forever. I don't think there is a way to redesign Milgram's experiment to make it ethically acceptable and be able to answer his question at the same time. No matter what you do there will be psychological damage. However, after the subjects have been debriefed they should have psychological help provided and have to participate, no exceptions.