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Psychology

Morath

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Lab 3

In the reading “Opinion and Social Pressure” by Solomon E. Ashe the author explains an experiment that was conducted were there was a group of about 7 to 9 young college students and all were shown a card with a line and then they were shown a different card with three different lines one matching the line in the first card. They were then asked to choose what line of the three was closest to the one in the first card. Out of the group the in the firth couple of tries all the subjects choose the same line. But around the third time when asked there is one person who does not agree. At first the person does not seem like it is a big deal but then the person answering after starts to become hesitant with their answer. The author explains that all in the group but one are asked to answer incorrectly to see the results of the person left out of the loop will be whether agree with the group or give the correct answer.

While doing his experiment he conducted on at least 123 subject the results varied. The majority of the people in experiment would lean on giving in to the incorrect answer simply to go with the crowed this was about 38% of people. In various parts he would have people answer both correctly and in correctly to not draw to much suspicion. When a person did become suspicious they would not count that result. At the end of the experiment the subjects were interview and many reported that they felt like they were wrong and the others were right therefore having to follow the others to not be seen as being wrong.

Being that this experiment was first conducted in 1955 when it was a different time compared to know I would say that the results would be different. I would say that more people today would agree with what others are saying simply for the need to fit into society and not stand out. Feel that now a days people let themselves be influenced by what others think and say about them. This experiment would have I believe more than 50% of people agreeing to others answers even if they knew that it was not correct for the sake of fitting in.

As far as it goes with me conforming in a situation like this I think it would all depend. I am a very stubborn person so when I know I am right I tend to voice my answer and not really back down. Say if I was in a group of people that I did not know I would probably not agree and answer differently but say I was in a room of friends and they all answered incorrectly I would stop and think long and hard before I give my answer I think I would second guess my self but in the end I am pretty sure I would be like what is wrong with you people but I would be a bit hesitant. Also I think the fact that I am an over thinker would have me sticking with my answer but if say I was in an experiment were they asked you to give your answer with in five seconds hearing what everyone else in the group answered I would probably go with the group.

All in all this reading was fun and I enjoyed it. It got me thinking of when we talked in class on how we all think we have control over our own choices it is true that we do but at the end when you think about it there is many factors that play a role in what we choose and decide on a daily basis. We sometimes let ourselves be influenced by others when we should not let it or another great example was that the choice of what one chooses to wear every day true we choose what we want to wear but really there are environmental factors that we take in consideration. Say in the winter you don’t really wear shorts ant tanks tops although you want to because it is freezing outside, just like in the summer you don’t wear big jackets with a sweater and boots. I think that doing something like this now in this time of day would be something worth reading about or watching it take place.

Reflective Writing

Taking this class in my opinion was a good choice. I really learned a lot more than I expected and realized that there is more to psychology than what people think. For me my favorite part was when we were learning about classical conditioning as well as operant conditioning. The labs I chose to write on were at ties at random and merely because they caught my attention. This lab in particular I chose because of a topic we had in class on how we tend to go with the flow or agree with others simply because we don’t want to be outsiders. All in all the labs were really fun to write and also educational.