

HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH REVIEW COMMITTEE
(NON-MEDICAL)

Application for Institutional Approval
of Research Involving Human Subjects

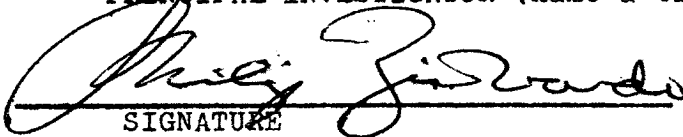
July 31, 1971
DATE

Philip G. Zimbardo, Professor

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (name & title)

Psychology

DEPARTMENT


SIGNATURE

New

Renewal

Student Research

Role-Playing in a Simulated Prison

PROJECT TITLE

IF SUPPORTED: Contract ONR #N00014-67-A-0112-0041
(grant, contract, training grant) TYPE AGENCY NUMBER
Individual and Group Variables Influencing Social Action.
TITLE PERIOD

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS USE ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY

I. PROCEDURE

Please describe those research procedures affecting the subject, as they are to be experienced by the subject. Please be concise, but clear and graphic.

A simulated prison will be set up in the basement of Jordan Hall for about one week this summer. Student volunteers will be randomly assigned to be either guards who work an 8-hour shift or prisoners who live in for the duration of the study. There will be no other experimental variations. The study is an observational one of the development of norms, rules and expectations as a consequence of assignment of a label to the individual. Prisoners will have work assignments (e.g., cleaning the area), chance to study, some recreation (movies). They will however be led to believe that they cannot leave, except for emergency reasons. Medical staff will be available to assess any request to terminate participation.

II. INFORMED CONSENT

It is of major importance that voluntary informed consent for the subject to participate in the research be obtained. If the subject may not legally give consent himself, informed consent must be obtained from the parents or guardian.

A. Please explain the methods of recruitment and obtaining of informed consent.

1) Paid volunteers recruited from AD in Stanford Daily.

2) See attached Information Form given to all volunteers.

B. Is a risk of physical, emotional or other harm to the subject involved?
yes x no If yes, written consent must be obtained and held on record. Please attach a copy of the consent form to be used.

There may be some potential emotional stress created by this temporary loss of freedom among the prisoners and by the need for surveillance and control among the guards. We will maintain careful observation of both groups, with professional staff living in adjacent to the experimental "prison cells." Subjects will be notified of the potential stressfulness of the experience and during a preliminary interview will be encouraged not to participate if they are at all anxious about

III. EFFECTS

A. Is deception to be used at any point? yes
If yes, please complete 1-3 x no

1. Please describe the deception.

2. Does deception affect the informed consent? yes
If yes, please explain. x no

3. Please describe the debriefing procedures. If none, please explain the lack.

B. Will physical activity be required of the subjects? x yes
If yes, please describe. no
Exercise, cleaning their rooms and the halls,
number counts.

C. Will the subject be submitted to humiliation, harassment, irritation, or public or private embarrassment x yes no If yes, please explain why this is necessary and describe debriefing or other procedures for offsetting any negative effects of such experience.

Prison subjects' privacy will be minimized. Prison subjects will have to wear prison uniform. Prison subjects will have to follow orders and rules. Prison subjects will be discouraged from quitting. These negative effects are among the major anticipated side effects of being in a prison, and form an essential possible outcome of this study.

D. Will personality inventories, tests or questionnaires which produce scores on so-called "personality variables" be used? yes no perhaps
If yes, please describe why these will be used, and the manner of testing. Please indicate whether such scores or their indications will be made known to the subject, and if so, what explanations or accompanying information will be given him.

We probably will use personality inventories in subject selection (to exclude extreme responders and deviants--since we want the guards and prisoners to be as homogeneous as possible initially).

We may want to retest at the end of the study to note any transient changes in self-reports.

(continued on supplemental page)

IV. CONFIDENTIALITY

Please explain how confidentiality and privacy of results will be preserved, especially with regard to III, D.

All information gathered on tests or interviews will be coded, with a master list available only to the principal investigators. Release forms for any film footage will be obtained from each subject before such films are shown.

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supplemental
sheet

II. INFORMED CONSENT

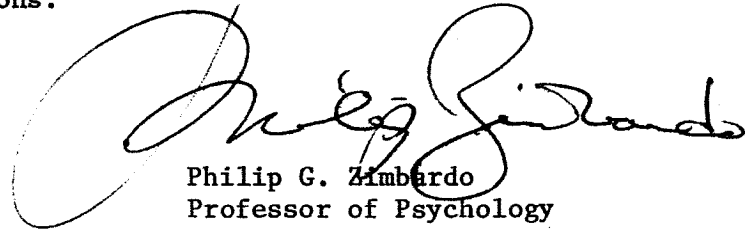
B. (continued)

any negative reactions which could emerge. A background questionnaire (enclosed) will help us screen out any volunteer with a history of emotional disturbance. In addition each volunteer will be interviewed by a psychologist and the taped interview will be available for analysis. A copy of the subject consent form is also enclosed.

III. EFFECTS

D. (continued)

Subjects will be given all the information we have available at the end of the study--personal information to be provided in confidential sessions; general information in group sessions.



Philip G. Zimbardo
Professor of Psychology
Stanford University
July 31, 1971