

Name _____

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Deconstructing Scientific Studies

Read the article and watch the documentary "The Stanford Prison Experiment," deconstructing the study into its components.

Problem: What were they testing? Why did they want to study it?

To investigate how readily people will conform to the roles of guards and prisoners in a role-playing exercise that simulated prison life. Zimbardo wanted to find out whether the brutality reported among guards in American prisons was due to the sadistic personalities of the guards.

Their hypothesis: Write an if/then statement.

If average people are put into a prison setting, then those assigned the roles of guards will _____?

Experiment design: (What did they do to test their hypothesis? What were the volunteers told? How did they select who would be guards and who would be prisoners?)

Data: What happened?
