**The сontinuing development of the Milgram-obedience to authority seminar at Bard College and**

**a partial array of topics**

**considered in the obedience domain**

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***Abstract***

The paper examines the beginning of and continuing development of the obedience to authority seminar at Bard College in New York State.

The seminar proudly took as its name the title of the Thomas Blass biography of Stanley Milgram – “The Man and the Experiment that Shocked the World.”

The Milgram Yale study and the subsequent fifty years of intensive interest and critique and even replication concerning obedience to authority has been the central focus of the author and his students since the 1970s.

The conduct of the seminar has led to a close consideration of an array of dimensions and this paper examines such. Among the topics covered are: what is believed to be substantive and valid critiques of the original and many successive studies; the continuing search for instances of and substantial presence of disobedience and the conditions, both personal and situational, which produce such behavior; and, a suggested methodology for the demonstration of disobedience in both the psychology laboratory and an array of natural settings.

The author also recalls and discusses the human trait and potential of “common decency”. This offered by Francois Rochat in his studies of the rescue of Jews by individuals in World War II. Speculation is attempted about how such can be assessed and when combined with advanced moral perspective may be found to provide for resistance and disobedience to authority.