

## GRAVE Analysis

(illustrated using examples from Milgram's classic study on obedience, check the YouTube video below to understand better- [https://youtu.be/fH-lq6OivPo?si=dxYIn0RINWrFr\\_1](https://youtu.be/fH-lq6OivPo?si=dxYIn0RINWrFr_1))

- 'Generalisability'
  - sample to population generalisability
    - "Do the **characteristics of the sample** of this study represent the characteristics of the population to which we want to apply findings?"
      - 40 men in Milgram's original study of obedience
      - variety of professions, variety of educational backgrounds
      - all from New Haven
      - difficult to generalise findings to women, to people outside of New Haven area in the USA and beyond USA (individualistic culture)
      - good generalisability to people from different professions and educational backgrounds in the population
  - sampling technique
    - "Is the **sampling technique** used helpful in obtaining a sample that truly represents the population?"
      - volunteer sampling
      - findings would not generalise to those not interested in learning and memory in the population = study was advertised as such
- applicability of the study to real world settings
  - mundane realism
    - "Do the **tasks in the study** represent real world tasks in the area?"
      - artificial task = administering shocks for failure to learn word-pairs on a list
      - real task would be = instead of electric shocks, scolding/reprimanding the learner/ learner pretending to be a national level culprit, etc.
  - ecological validity
    - "Do the **settings in which the study** was conducted represent real life settings where the phenomenon would be observed?"
      - artificial = shock generator machine, separation of learner and teacher, etc.
      - realistic = classroom, military setting, etc.

- Reliability
  - sameness/consistency in the procedure of the study
    - “What was kept the **same for every participant** in this study?”
      - e.g. shock levels - 1 to 30, 15 volts to 450 volts; every participant got a sample shock of 45 volts, etc.
  - special measures to ensure reliability
    - “Was there any **test-retest reliability/inter-observer/inter-rater** reliability established?”
      - e.g. none
  
- Application to Everyday Life
  - practical relevance of the findings
    - “Where can the findings of this study be **applied in practice**?”
      - to promote whistleblowing = incentivised programs are being prepared to discourage destructive obedience
      - to development of ethical guidelines to be maintained in psychological research
  
- Validity
  - preventing extraneous variables from confounding results
    - “Which **extraneous variables** in this study were prevented from influencing participants’ behaviour?”
      - e.g. locus of control
        - external locus of control = more obedient
        - internal locus of control = less obedient
  
- Ethical Issues
  - ethics followed and not followed in the study
    - “Which are the most **prominent ethical considerations** for this study?”
      - deception = teaching-learning, role of the confederates, drawing of the chits, etc.
        - justification = modifying obedience by participants
      - harm = seizures, nervous laughter, etc.
        - justification = inevitable, pilot study
        - larger benefits to society
      - = restore the well-being, follow-up, etc.

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