



Date: 2025-07-26
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Stanley Milgram's 1963 experiment was designed to see how far people would go in obeying an authority figure who instructed them to act in conflict with their conscience – a question that had arisen following the horrors of WWII. Participants were told they were studying the effects of punishment on learning. A man in a white coat – a fake authority figure - instructed them to administer increasingly strong electric shocks to a man in the next room every time he made a mistake recalling a list of words. Even as his screams grew louder the participants kept shocking him.

65% went to the maximum shock strength, and 100% continued past what they believed to be very painful. This committee has a lot in common with those experiment participants. An administration that proudly proclaims its disdain for the courts while sending masked militants to disappear brown and black residents when they follow the law by arriving for immigration hearings has directed Texas to violate the Constitution by breaking up majority brown and black voting districts to protect its tenuous hold on power.

This administration is led by a man whose regular speech is so riddled with non sequitur word salad that written transcripts of it are no longer made available to the press, and whose vice president brazenly touts the White Supremacist trope that Americans are defined by how many of their ancestors are buried in American soil – echoing the Blood and Soil chants of 1930's Germany. This administration has asked you to work towards returning Texas to Jim Crow.

And just like the Milgram participants, this committee is acquiescing - claiming it is just honoring the request of the boss. I wonder, is there anything this President or Governor could ask of you that would be too abhorrent, too blatantly bigoted, too inhumane for you to consider? If you are willing to disenfranchise black and brown voters today, will you move to disenfranchise women, next? How will you explain your participation in such a blatantly bigoted abuse of power to your children and

grandchildren? Will you say
you were just following orders from the governor, or the president and you had no choice? Is that what you will tell
your wives and
daughters when you vote to disenfranchise them?

The truth is that just like in the Milgrim experiment, the men posing as experts are frauds. They are not interested in
democracy,
they flout the rule of law, and they don't even try to hide their bigotry. Texas is already so gerrymandered it cannot
be considered a
free and fair democracy. Although 46.5% of Texas voters are registered as Democrats, the state congress is 59%
Republican and
41% Democrat, while the state senate is 65% Republican and 35% Democrat.

This is not what real democracy looks like. You can call it spaghetti, but it isn't democracy. And you can call racial
gerrymandering
something else, but that doesn't make it so. It is what it is: unconstitutional, bigoted, and shameful. It is shameful to
even consider
it. I strongly oppose this redistricting effort.

