Stanford Prison Experiment

1. What are the symbols used to create the reciprocal roles in the prison?
2. Describe the students that were selected to participate.
3. What is the psychological impact of arresting and processing the prisoners? What is the latent function of a pat down search and making them take their clothes off?
4. How do the guards assert their authority over the prisoners?
5. Explain the “privilege cell.”
6. At first, many prisoners try to rebel. Why does this eventually stop?
7. In 1928 the sociologist W.I. Thomas stated, “If men define situations as real, they are real in their consequences.” How does the Thomas Theorem relate to this experiment?
8. Do you think this experiment was ethical? Explain your reasoning.