

Psychological Analysis of Bias Behavior of Police

Operant conditioning deals with the observable and apparent causes of different forms of behaviors. In this respect the outcomes of a particular form of behavior is determined through the idea of stimulus that actually caused a particular behavior. For this fact, the bias behavior is one of the growing subjects of society and shows different behaviors of police towards different people, as they consider them different from one another on the basis of some stereotypical assumptions. Also, the bias base behavior of police towards people shows the different psychology of police while dealing with different people.

Over the idea of operant conditioning, it would not be wrong to say that the bias base behavior of police is a type of negative reinforcement as bias behavior incorporates the pleasant results as desire by police while dealing with different people. The bias behavior of police actually reduce the trust between police and the people, as the bias behavior of police tend to discriminate people because of their different stereotypes such as race, ethnicity etc.

According to a study, it is discovered that the major cause or we can say stimulus that actually cause the police to show bias behavior is race. Most of the time, the behavior of police towards people of different races vary, as they tend to behave differently with people of different races. In this regard, it would not be wrong to say that race is the major stimulus behind the bias behavior of police. Additionally, the bias behavior of police shows the different psychological understandings of police about different people and, for this fact, people started to disbelieve in police and suppressed by the illegal behavior of police. (Ward, 2002)

In reality, it would be interesting to note that the bias behavior is common in almost every department whether it is government or public. However, the most noticeable thing is that such

behaviors have also their stimulus-related causes depending upon the psychological assumptions of different officials. But, the department of police is closet to public sphere, as people have believed in police at first whenever they face issue.

In this regard, psychology of biasness claims that the bias behavior of police towards people is due to their different psychological assumptions that actually come in the minds of police officials when dealing with different people. The most effective assumption or stimulus that triggers the bias behavior of police officials is the economic status of an individual. Most of the time, it is found that it is the psychology of a number of police officials to deal with people of different status. Those individuals which have good status face less or no bias behavior of police towards them than the others. From this fact, it becomes clearer that the stimulus in such bias behaviors of police is status. Therefore, it would not be wrong to say that psychology of biasness holds the point of view that police officials show their bias behavior as a result of their psychological stimulus that force them to make their bias decisions when it comes about the status of different people around them.

In addition, most of the time, it is found that the bias behavior of police is also caused because of the different view of ethnicity. In this regard, a study has established an experiment with police officials, whereas offering them a video game to play. In the videogame, there are white and African American both armed and unarmed and the purpose of playing the game is to shoot the armed people no matter whether they are white or African American. However, after the experiment it is found that most of the police officials were keen to shoot armed African Americans. Also, the experiment shows that most of the police officials were also keen to shoot unarmed African Americans. From the experimental study, it is concluded that ethnicity is another psychological stimulus that cause the bias shooting of police officials towards their

targets. Also, the study concluded that those targets that were even unarmed were killed by the police officials. This shows that ethnicity is another psychological stimulus for the police officials that show their bias behavior towards people of different ethnicity. (Correll, 2002)

From these facts, it become clearer that the issue of bias behavior of police towards people is one of the most noticeable subject, especially in the field of criminal justice and studied through the use of social psychology and the behaviors allowed by the social psychology and its different domains as well. Overall, after observing the bias behavior of police is one of the significant behavioral issues that is considered by school of psychology, as it reveals about the causes and consequences of bias behavior of police with people and reveal about the psychological assumptions of police officials that triggered the intentions of police officials and function as stimulus behind their biased behavior as well.

References:

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