

# Discussion questions



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Conformity and obedience Conformity and obedience are two integral components of a human behavior in the society. These issues differ from one another. For example, conformity is a human's feature to match with the society, to follow generally accepted beliefs and norms of behavior of a certain social group. Obedience implies the quality to be obedient.

Obedience is not conformity, it is an ability to be actuated or carry out commands. For example, in case an individual follows generally accepted norm how to eat or watch TV, he shows conformity. At work conformity is shown when employees wear clothes which are approved by dress code.

Obedience is an ability to follow commands of others. This can be illustrated by teenagers' behavior of their leader who may tell them to jump off the bridge or try drugs. In case a teenager is obedient to his group leader, he would follow this path. Conformity is not always desirable as well. For example, at a workplace very often conformity may prevent an individual from a further career growth. On the one hand, once an individual rejects to conform, he may fall of the society. On the other hand, an individual's ability to stay out of the crowd is his desire to become a leader. Thus if a company suggests to wear black ties, once an employee comes in a yellow tie he can be strictly criticized. But the matter is to reach high performance at a workplace and no matter what the color of his tie is. This is an example when conformity may be preventive for further performance in a company. I think that dress code turns employees into a mindless crowd following others. In reality, if a dress code is uncomfortable for employees, it is better to talk to CEO and explain to him that for the better performance people in a company should feel themselves comfortable. The same principle works in case children have to obey their parents and to enter the University chosen for

them by their family. In this case a blind obedience can be damaging for a child's future. Thus it is necessary to talk about the issue with the parents and insist on the possibility of his choice of a place for higher education. Parent should try to understand their children and try not to impose their way of thinking to much on young people not to destroy their personality and their future life. Therefore in the modern culture conformity and obedience may be oppressive to an individual. On the other hand, conformity and obedience are two integral components of a social order and there is no need for every individual to fall from this order to keep the life of every society good and stable. Works cited 1. Conformity and Obedience. Available at: