Research evidence supports the idea that more authoritarian participants are more obedient, however the issue of whether the participants thought the shocks were real or fake caused concern. This issue was overcome by psychologists in 2010 who created an immersive virtual environment where the actor taking the role of the learner was filmed and displayed on a screen. Participants were informed that the experiment was a simulation and that the victims reactions were not real, however they still responded as if the situation was real. There was a clear correlation between voltage shocks and rwa scores.

Although Milgram believed that there was a dispositional impact on obedience, he believed situational factors such as proximity, uniform and location were far more important in increasing obedience, not variations in personality. He believed that the specific social situation itself caused them to obey or resist regardless of their personalities, thus the Authoritarian personality as an explanation of obedience lacks flexibility to account for these variations. – too reductionist

There are also differences between characteristics of the Authoritarian personality and obedient participants. For example, when Elms and Milgram asked participants about their upbringing, many of the fully obedient participants reported good relationships with their parents, rather than been brought up in a strict Authoritarian environment. It seems almost impossible for the majority of participants who obeyed to all have a harsh upbringing with the use of physical punishment and a punitive father. – too reductionist

It could also be said that education is an important factor in determining authoritarianism and obedience as those of a lower class with a lack of an education are more likely to be authoritarian and obey more than well-educated people. It could be said that it is not authoritarianism that causes obedience, but that a lack of education results in authoritarianism and obedience. This is a clear possibility regardless of the fact that authoritarianism caused more obedience when education was statistically controlled by Elms and Milgram. – Left wing views are more likely to be less obedient- give lower level shocks.