2017

Trapped: A Performance Exploration of the Illusion of Confinement

Paul R. Presbrey
Bard College

Recommended Citation
Step 1: Nick, Harrison, Satwik, and Miles will meet me in the horse shoe of the meditation garden next to the chapel. The signs and staple gun will be preset here.

Step 2: Nick, Harrison, Satwik and Miles will have the paper chain which I will bring. The performance will begin with the paper shackles being stapled around my neck, my wrists , and my ankles. Once this step is done. One people who were attaching the shackles will go ring the bell that is next to the meditation garden. This signals the beginning of step three.

Step 3: Nick, Harrison, Satwik and Miles will shove/drag me to the large tree behind the chapel. They will also bring the signs and staple gun with them. The route of this walk will start going out the back side of the meditation garden and then through the two trees that frame a path. Then we will get to the actual path, walk down the actual path for a little ways and finally turn off onto the grass and head directly for the tree. Once we arrive at the tree, Harrison will use the staple gun to attach the end of the paper chain shackles to the tree. The other three will work on putting on hammering the signs into the ground. The hammer will be preset with the punishment materials which will be hidden up behind one of the struts on the side of the church.

Step 4: The punishments are step three. Each of the punishments will have a leader but helping each other do the punishments is fine. First Miles will unzip the chest of the drivers suit I am wearing. He will then attempt to write something but realize that the chest hair is in the way. He will then go back to the punishment area and return with a wax strip. He will then use the wax strip to wax a section of my chest and then proceed to write or draw something in the bare space. Between this and the next punishment there will be about a 2 minute pause in which I will react to the punishment and try to get away and fail.

Punishment 2 will be lead by Nick with possible help for one of the others. This punishment is a 5 gallon bucket of water that will be poured over my head. I will have no towel and no way of drying off. At this point I will react again to this new punishment and try to get away again. I will fail to get away and start to struggle less.

Punishment 3 will be Harrison rubbing mud in my hair and on my face. This will be the final punishment.

Step 5: There will be a reaction time and then Nick, Harrison, Satwik, and Miles will come over as to do another punishment. They will then stare for a moment standing around me. One of them will then hand me the keys to my car and my car will be parked in the lot next to admissions. One of the group will undo the chain from the tree and then they will all walk away in different directions and take their sunglasses off. I will tentatively test out leaving the tree. Once it seems safe I will go to the car and driver off revving the engine and blaring the song All Star.
PLEASE BRING THIS SHEET OF PAPER WITH YOU TO THE HEARING

You have officially been chosen to be a Steward in the hearing of Paul R. Presbrey.

With stewardship comes responsibilities.

Stewardship is a very important position and it must be taken seriously.

As a Steward you will stand trial over an incident that happened just minutes ago between two race drivers.

It is your job as Steward to work with the other Stewards to unravel the events of this incident.

It is likely that Paul R. Presbrey is at fault to some extent but as our bylaws say fault is always 50-50 which begs the question, why are we even bothering?

Anyhow, you must use your best judgement to determine what happened and whether there is a need for further action.

Below you will see what you must read at the hearing. Each Steward will have a list of statements and questions. The numbers next to the statements and question represent when they should be said during the hearing. You **MUST READ** the **NUMBER** and the **STATEMENT** each time it is your turn to speak. Each statement is only to be said once during the hearing.

1. Are you OK?

7. (pause and listen for a response) Did you know that someone had hit you?


19. (pause and listen for a response) What events did you do prior to this one this year?

25. (In response to another Steward) I don’t think so either but I’m really not sure. How damaged is the car?

31. (pause don’t wait for a response) Paul, are you OK? We’re almost done. This is the last time you’ll have to come in.

37. (Immediately after previous Steward speaks) We highly recommend that you go to another driver’s school as well.
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2. (pause and listen for a response) Are you ok?

8. (pause and listen for a response) Do you know why you're here?

14. (pause and listen for a response) Really? Are you sure?

20. (pause and listen for a response) Ok, we still don't understand your story. What happened out there?

26. (pause and listen for a response) Do you think the damage to the right rear happened when you were hit or when you hit the wall?

32. (say this after Paul comes back in and sits down) We have come to a decision based on what we've heard. We believe that, given your inexperience, you didn't put both feet in when you went off.

38. (pause and listen for a response) Unless you have any questions. Yes we are done.

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3. (pause and listen for a response) That’s what we are trying to figure out. Just stay calm.

9. (pause and listen for a response) We’re trying to figure out what happened, like you.

15. (pause and listen for a response) Ok, Paul if you could please leave the room, we will call you back in when we are ready for you.

21. (pause and listen for a response) Yes we know, but what happened?

27. (pause and listen for a response) We apologize but we are going to have to ask you to leave again.

33. (pause and listen for a response) We’re not finished.

39. (pause and listen for a response) You know Paul, with some more experience this all could have been avoided.

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4. (pause and listen for a response) Just tell us what happened.

10. (pause and listen for a response) You were going backwards towards jersey barrier?

16. (Call Paul back when you and the other Stewards decide you are ready) We’re ready for you.

22. (pause and listen for a response) Did you put both feet in? (pause) You know “If you spin put both feet in.”? There first rule we teach about racing? Clutch and brake?

28. (Immediately after previous Steward speaks) We will call you in when we are ready.

34. (pause and listen for a response) You know coming across the track like that is extremely dangerous. Thank god there wasn’t another car coming.

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5. (pause and listen for a response) Just tell us what you remember.

11. (pause and listen for a response) What happened after you were going toward the jersey barrier?

17. (Say this as Paul reenters the room.) Please sit.

23. (pause and listen for a response. Say this to the other Stewards.) Do you think he did?

29. (Call Paul back when you and the other Stewards decide you are ready) Paul, we are ready for you.

35. (pause and listen for a response) How long have you been racing, Paul?

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6. (pause and listen for a response) Yes and then?

12. (pause and listen for a response) Are you racing tomorrow?

18. (Immediately after previous Steward speaks) What other events are you going to do this year?

24. (In response to another Steward) I don’t think so. What do you think?

30. (When Paul doesn’t respond to the previous Steward, yell this line.) We’re ready for you now, Paul! Paul! Paul!

36. (pause and listen for a response) We’ve decided that the fault in the incident is 50-50 in this case. For your part we are going to give you 6 months probation. All the clubs in New England will be made aware of this.
Paul got his racing license in 2013 and he has been racing every season since then. He is the newest member of RHR but he has been at the track as crew for most of his life. Due to an idiotic move by an instructor, Paul had an incident with another car in his first ever experience driving a race car. This by no means has defined his racing. He is very slow but he know when other faster cars are coming up on him.

For some reason Paul has not been present at the track that much in the years since he got his license. He has consistently don't one or two events a year. At this rate he will never be a good driver. He just isn’t getting the seat time we believe he needs.

He is mechanically very adept as we have seen on countless occasions at the track. He is amiable and kind to the other people at the events and for the most part he respects the rules.

His favorite foods are burgers and meatball subs. He is slightly addicted to soda and since he will be turning 21 soon he will probably enjoy the occasional beer or three.

He drives a Crossle Formula Ford pictured here. The set up of the car could be better and it is a bit of a mess. One day he will fix it up and make it a much more predictable beast.
Punishments
YOU have
Chosen