How can experimental psychology benefit urban sociology?
RAS Institute of Sociology
Harold Takooshian & Alexander Voronov

The extensive field of urban sociology goes back at least 125 years, to the work of Ferdinand Tonnies (1887) on Gemeinschaft and Gesselschaft. In contrast, the new field of urban psychology goes back less than 50 years, with the brilliant essay in Science by Stanley Milgram (1970). In this 45-minute message, social psychologist Alex Voronov joins Milgram's student Harold Takooshian to offer an overview of urban psychology today--its origins, aims, methods, contributions, and outlook. He notes its two distinct contributions to urban sociology: (1) Its focus: on the individual within the city; (2) Its method: using field experiments to deepen our understanding of urban behavior.

"The observer listens to nature, but the experimenter questions her, and forces her to reveal her secrets". --Georges Cuvier, 1769-1832