

How PEACE-full are Australian Police Forces? A search for the implementation of investigative interviewing.

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Abstract

Australian legal history demonstrates that false confessions can and do happen. It is the unfortunate truth that false confessions are a contributing factor to Australian wrongful convictions. While there are various many other aspects contributing to false confessions, a specific influential factor identified is police conduct; such as interviewing techniques used. For many years, the US developed 'REID interrogation technique' and variations on this, were commonly used method to interview suspects globally. Due to its interrogative and confession driven nature, many countries (including Australia) moved away from this model and moved on towards the UK developed PEACE-approach. The PEACE-model, which is acronym for the various stages/structure of the model, is an interview method known as conversation management, which focused on conducting an effective and ethical interview. As such, this method specifically encourages information gathering over securing a confession. Moreover, the use of this method decreases the risk on false confessions. Police interview techniques and investigative procedures are not unified in Australia; hence, the question remains if the shift from interrogation to interviewing has been endorsed and implemented nationwide. This presentation will discuss the different false confessions as classified in forensic psychology. Followed by an explanation how coercive techniques during police interviews with suspects increases the risk on false confessions. Subsequently, the presenters will discuss the implementation of investigative interviewing in Australia by presenting an analysis on police manuals of the different states which are publicly available.

"Someone to watch over me" – investigating the role of capable guardianship in preventing cyberstalking behaviour

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Dr Lennon Chang, Monash University, Melbourne, VIC

Abstract

The creation of new mediums of communication has given rise to a variety of opportunities for innovation, such as social media platforms, but it has also produced new forms of crime. The issue of cyberstalking has risen to prominence in recent years, and Victoria has introduced new legislation to combat it. This exploratory study aimed to assess the applicability of the routine activity theory to the context of cyberstalking and online abuse, and to use the theory to determine what constitutes 'capable guardianship' online. A population of university students that were proficient in the use of social media took part in the study. A mixed-methods design was used, employing a quantitative survey and two focus group sessions. A significant relationship was observed between participants that rated abuse online as being less serious than terrestrial abuse and their level of confidence in their own guardianship. A lack of knowledge about Victorian cyberstalking laws was a significant predictor of a range of disinhibited online behaviours. Knowledge of relevant terms such as "cyberstalking" and "cyberhate" was low amongst the sample population, suggesting a need for greater education. There is a need for further research which investigates the nature of capable online guardianship and social media users' knowledge of cyberstalking behaviours.

Keywords: cyberstalking, cyberbullying, guardianship, routine activity theory, social media

Masculinity and the Negotiation of Domestic Violence in the Melbourne's South Sudanese Australian community

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Abstract

The feminist conceptualisation of gender inequality has influenced many studies concerning violence that occurs in the home. However, there has been little research focused on South Sudanese-Australians (SSA), especially men as victims, interveners, or perpetrators of domestic violence. SSA families in general encounter challenges during their settlement period, and these can be worsened by the perpetration, victimisation and witnessing of domestic violence. SSA men are caught up between two cultures: Australian and South Sudanese (SS). They are generally included in mainstream or 'African communities' domestic violence studies without consideration of the diversity of African cultures in Australia. The presentation differentiates this group by exploring their past traumatic experiences in a war and refugee camps, and their experiences of social inequality experiences in the host country. It further investigates the suitability and accessibility of current prevention and perpetrator intervention programs, and the roles of SSA men in interventions into domestic violence matters in their community. It provides a clearer model of the challenges faced by SSA men and the complexity of their roles as victims, perpetrators and interveners in the field of domestic violence.

The Functionality of Drugs in Prison: Dope Fiends, Merchants and Weed Heads

Tammy Ayres (University of Leicester)

Abstract

Drug use in prison is rife, with the majority of offenders also being drug users, and although the types of drugs being used varies across the prison estate via type of establishment and population, drugs fulfil similar functions for everyone who use them; whether on the inside or on the outside. Drawing on the words of Jewkes (2005, p.44) this presentation examines drug use as a 'prison coping strategy par excellence'. Drawing on Clemmer's (1940) concept of prisonization and the importation and deprivation models, this presentation examines drug use among a group of male offenders identifying as both problematic (n=98) and non-problematic drug users (n=51) to show how drug use is implemented to not only cope with the pains of imprisonment, but also everyday life. Whether it is to 'check out' and 'escape' or for fun and recreation; drugs have become a functional and integral part of surviving in contemporary society. Situating this analysis in the context of neoliberalism, this presentation will show how prison (sub)cultures and the convict code have been impacted by drugs and capitalism, including its inherent visceral cultures and harmful subjectivities.

Incarcerated Queers: Understanding Experiences of Imprisonment using Queer Archives

Associate Professor Matthew Ball, School of Justice, Crime, Justice, and Social Democracy Research Centre (Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia)

Abstract

Research on LGBTQ people in prison consistently highlights the significant injustices that shape their experiences of incarceration. These include the risk of victimisation, coercion, and sexual violence; the need to remain closeted; and the unique injustices that transgender people encounter in prison. Historically, queer research and activist engagements in this context have also been framed by a focus on supporting those who have been unjustly imprisoned because of their sexuality or gender nonconformity. Comparatively little is known about the daily lives of incarcerated LGBTQ people beyond these issues, and particularly those who have committed serious offenses unrelated to their sexuality or gender nonconformity. This paper expands our understandings of incarceration for LGBTQ people, not necessarily to offer a positive picture of imprisonment, but to provide greater depth to our understandings of the daily lives and sometimes routine lived realities of incarceration. It draws from archival documents, specifically the correspondence and personal papers of incarcerated LGBTQ people, to capture the depth of these experiences. It details the many ways in which incarcerated LGBTQ people maintain and perform their sexuality and gender identities in prison, and how they reflect on and experience their incarceration.

Doing justice to young women? The risks of research on girls, 'gangs' and gender

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Abstract

This paper interrogates the ways in which young women who offend are conceptualised by contemporary criminologists and the ways in which victimisation is integral to this. A broad-brush overview of recent empirical work is followed by a critical and reflexive exploration of the author's own research concerning violent young women. This work has developed over the past 15 years with qualitative projects that have focused on teenage girls' views and experiences of violence, young women sentenced to imprisonment for violent offences, and young women involved in street-orientated, sometimes violent, youth peer groups. The focus throughout has been on unpacking the ways in which violence is undertaken, experienced, talked about and resisted by young women, acknowledging the ways in which young women can be both victims of crime and agents who resist victim status. The current paper explores the challenges involved in 'giving voice' to such young women whilst simultaneously 'making sense' of stories that are chaotic and contradictory.

Prospects, perils and processes: an exploration of South African environmental activist perceptions of their role in preventing and responding to state-corporate environmental crime

Laura Bedford, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Abstract

Through a series of in-depth interviews conducted with environmental activists in South Africa, and using a green criminology perspective, this paper explores the perceptions of environmental activists in South Africa regarding the relationship between economic growth and neoliberal development, global capitalism and the market society, the globalisation of environmental harms, and the role of environmental activism and resistance. With reference to a range of environmental issues currently at the forefront of campaigns in South Africa, it explores activist perspectives of the interlocking environmental consequences and structural violence associated with the commodification of nature and the disembedded economic system there. It highlights the prospects, perils and processes that forge resistance to, and aim to change the current status quo. It examines how activists seek to reverse the current trajectory, which is characterised by increasing social and economic inequality and widespread environmental harm in South Africa and around the globe.

Visualising Suffering: The Politics of Sharing Images of Children in Conflict

Helen Berents, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

Abstract

Nothing seems to capture the violence and suffering of conflict more acutely than images of injured and dead children. Such a visual frame into war has long been a feature of conflict reporting, but in the contemporary media landscape of viral videos, social media, and 24-hour reporting, children's suffering has emerged as a key feature of our engagement with violence and conflict. This paper asks what it means to publish, share, and mourn these images. It considers, following Bleiker's (2015) call for pluralist methods for visual politics, the production, content, and audience reception of key images of children's suffering in recent years. Considering the ongoing Syrian conflict, it looks at Omran Daqneesh, the Syrian 'boy in the ambulance'; drowned Syrian refugee Aylan Kurdi; and the 9-month-old Alyousef twins, killed in a gas attack. Through these images this paper explores how tropes of idealised childhood intersect with norms of uneven global circulation of power, and the ability to mourn only certain bodies. When children are made visible, the spectacles of their suffering necessitates more critical engagement with what their appearance contributes to how we understand and engage with violence and conflict.

[for inclusion on panel 'Digital Activism, Visuality, Participation' in the Governance, Activism and Social Change theme]

Governing Crime Globally for Sustainable Development: Pathologies and Possibilities

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Abstract

The United Nations represents a significant, enduring achievement of the post-WWII era. Although not without flaws, it has contributed to the advancement of human rights, helped to promote international stability, and supported international development efforts throughout the Global South. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been developed to foster a more integrated approach to creating and sustaining a more just, safe and equitable world. Perhaps more significantly, it is an agenda for human survival and arguably, a final test for multilateralism at a time when the liberal project of global governance appears to be in crisis. From a criminological standpoint, the problem is that the ‘machinery’ of global crime governance more specifically does not neatly align with the wider aspirations of the 2030 Agenda. Rather, the work of central entities like the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is constrained by a combination of institutional, political and material constraints that can be analyzed as organizational ‘pathologies’. In this talk, I set out to identify these pathologies and consider some possibilities for addressing them.

On Necropolitics, Dystopian Fiction and Green Cultural Criminology

Avi Brisman (Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, USA; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia; University of Newcastle, Callaghan, NSW, Australia)

Abstract

One of the main projects of green cultural criminology has been to explore how fictional and science-fictional depictions of human-environment relationships and disaster narratives reflect and create public understandings of human behaviour with respect to the biosphere (see, e.g., Brisman 2015, 2017; Brisman and South 2014, 2015, 2018; Brisman et al. 2014). This paper takes a different approach: it seeks to demonstrate how an examination of dystopian literature—specifically Margaret Atwood’s *MaddAddam* trilogy (*Oryx and Crake* (2003); *The Year of the Flood* (2009); *MaddAddam* (2013)) and Octavia Butler’s *Parable* series (*Parable of the Sower* (1993) and *Parable of the Talents* (1998))—can help develop theory—Achille Mbembe’s (2003) notion of “necropolitics” and “necropower,” which he employs to describe the relationship between sovereignty and control over mortality (i.e., “who may live” and “who must die”). As Mbembe puts forward, social and political power can be used “in the creation of *death-worlds*, new and unique forms of social existence in which vast populations are subjected to conditions of life conferring upon them the status of *living dead*” (2003:40) (emphases in original). This paper suggests that reading Atwood and Butler’s depictions of human struggles to survive following apocalyptic disaster due to anthropogenic climate change through a framework of “necropolitics” and “necropower”—in circumstances akin to Mbembe’s *death-worlds*—can provide an accessible and realistic scenario of conditions of living that might emerge as a result of socioeconomic and political collapse due to poor environmental stewardship.

Green Cultural Criminology: Developing the Script on Representations of Environmental Crime and Harm

Nigel South (University of Essex, Colchester, Essex, UK; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia)

Avi Brisman (Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, USA; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia; University of Newcastle, Callaghan, NSW, Australia)

Abstract

Green cultural criminology seeks to bring together green criminology and cultural criminology, and to identify points of overlap. It attempts to highlight means by which green criminology might adopt a cultural criminological lens: (1) by assigning greater consideration to the way(s) in which environmental crime, harm and disaster are constructed and represented by the news media and in popular culture forms; (2) by dedicating increased attention to patterns of consumption, constructed consumerism, commodification of nature and related market processes; and (3) by devoting heightened concern to the contestation of space, transgression, and resistance, in order to analyse the ways in which environmental harms are opposed in/on the streets and in day-to-day living. Rather than engage in a 'script rewrite' (Hayward 2015) for green cultural criminology, our goal with this paper is to develop further the green cultural criminological script by exploring a range of literary and cinematic and artistic/visual depictions of environmental crime, harm and disaster. In so doing, we seek to strengthen green cultural criminology's connections with three other emerging areas of criminological study: narrative criminology, gothic criminology and visual criminology.

How do sex workers in Queensland perceive the advantages and disadvantages of Internet-based sex work?

Dr Fiona Bucknall, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

This study of self-identified female Internet-based sex workers was located in Queensland, Australia, where a two-pronged system of licensing of sex work was introduced in the 1990s. Legislation has enabled the licensing of brothels and allowed independent sex workers to work on their own. The vast majority of sex workers in Queensland work privately, and most of them use the Internet to recruit clients, access key information (for example about sexual health and the law) and network with other workers (to share information, provide emotional support and engage in political activism).

Although there is a huge literature on sex work, relatively little is known about Internet-based sex work despite its dramatic uptake by sex workers globally and in Australia. There has been relatively little research that has directly examined the experiences of Internet-based sex workers and how using the Internet impacts on their working, personal and political lives. This mixed-methods study, comprising demographic and other questionnaire data along with semi-structured interviews and interviews with three key informants, found that Internet-based sex work is a 'two-edged sword'.

The findings of this research project are specific to Queensland. They highlight some of the issues facing Internet-based sex workers and demonstrate that the flawed licensing model (as opposed to the evidence-based, best-practice decriminalisation approach) continues to impact sex workers by preventing them from enjoying the same rights as other workers and citizens and by criminalising sex workers who do not or cannot comply with onerous laws.

Judging Social Supply: Understanding sentencing drug trafficking in Australia

Melissa Bull, Crime Justice and Social Democracy Research Centre, School of Justice, Faculty of Law, QUT, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

In Australia authorities primarily rely on the identification of threshold quantities of various illicit drugs as an indicator of supply offences to discriminate between traffickers and users. Research indicates that this approach is problematic because in practice it can be difficult for the courts to discriminate between heavy users or 'social suppliers' (supplying to friends and acquaintances for little or no profit) and 'dealers proper'. Erroneous sanction associated with threshold quantities, along with sentencing outcomes that are not proportionate in relation to the offence committed, seriously undermine the effectiveness of principles of general and individual deterrence that currently underpin drug law enforcement in Australia. Currently there is no qualitative systematic analysis of Australian sentencing outcomes that provides a nuanced account of how the judiciary currently navigate the relationship between different types of supply and the consistency and proportionality of the sentence applied. This paper reports on a project that: analysed 550 sentencing remarks from drug trafficking cases across Australian jurisdictions between 2012 and 2014; mapped out a demography and taxonomy of drug trafficking offenders and their offending behaviour that appears in drug trafficking cases in Australia; and interviewed Judges and Justices in relation to their experience of how sentencing frameworks in this country respond to those involved in 'social supply' and 'minimally commercial supply' who appear before their courts on serious drug trafficking charges. It concludes by discussing what the results of this research might mean for future drug law reform.

Do resettlement experiences make African Australians more likely to being in contact with the Australian justice system?

Dr Gerald Onsando, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Mr Elijah Buol OAM, Smart Answers Consulting, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Australia is traditionally owned by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Before colonisation by Europeans, Australia was a community of diverse cultural orientations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. However, since then successive groups of immigrants, including those of an African heritage, have made Australia their home.

Over the years, the number of African Australians in contact with the justice system in Australia has been increasing. Yet, there is little understanding or practice knowledge about the needs and challenges African Australians face, both in prison and in the community following their release. However, well documented resettlement challenges for African Australians lead to questioning whether being an African Australian makes one more likely to be in contact with the Australian justice system.

In this this presentation, we will draw from our combined research and community work to discuss about experiences, perspectives, and support for African Australians in and out of custody in Victoria and Queensland. We argue that addressing resettlement, imprisonment, and reintegration challenges confronting African Australians should be informed by the African philosophy of *Ubuntu*, that is, an understanding that humanity of the self is promoted through the humanity of others.

Challenges or Support for “Safe City by Design”? Enhancing urban planning and design to acknowledge brain-based human needs?

John Byrne, Urban Design Consultant and Adjunct Professor, Queensland University of Technology
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Abstract

Globally, the urban environment is now the majority habitat for the human species. Cities and towns are confronted by great challenges such as population growth, communication and technological change, multi-cultural, demographic and generational differences, economic globalisation, political populism ... and climate change. Amidst these challenges and the stresses they seem likely to impose upon the population, it is critical that urban environments better meet essential human needs: at an individual, group and community level. For them not to do so offers potentially disastrous outcomes. In this challenge, the urban design and planning of cities clearly has a significant role to play. In this context, the need for Safe Places is obvious and there is an established body of **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design** practice that has evolved over decades. It has been widely adopted by Australian planning administrations although seemingly too often ignored or given low priority in decisions. But these design strategies intersect with other human needs increasingly identified or confirmed by such as neuro-scientific research. What evolving implications then for Safe City-making practice? This illustrated paper therefore canvasses a variety of brain-related human needs and considers the changing ability of city planning and design to create supportive and safe environments.

The Inevitability of Suicide for Aboriginal Australians

Professor Belinda Carpenter, QUT, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Professor Gordon Tait, QUT, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Stephanie Jowett, QUT, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

All available data suggest that, like many other Indigenous peoples, Australian Aborigines are significantly more likely to kill themselves than are non-Aboriginal Australians. This statistical disparity is normally positioned as an objective, ontological and undeniable social fact, a fact best explained as a function of endemic community disadvantage and disenfranchisement. Our research suggests that higher-than-normal Aboriginal suicide rates may also be a function of colonial decision-making practices.

More specifically, the empirical conclusions from in-depth interviews with 32 coroners from across Australia revealed the following: first, Aboriginal families are less likely to pressure coroners during the investigation, or object to a finding of suicide once it has been reached; second, coroners make an explicit connection in their decision-making processes between Aboriginal disadvantage and the reasonableness of suicide, links they do not make for non-Aboriginal disadvantaged Australians; third, coroners appear to have a lower standard of proof for Aboriginal suicide, and appear to be more far more comfortable with a 51% decision if the deceased was Aboriginal.

This paper extends these empirical conclusions by placing such legal decision making within the modernist theoretical framework of colonialism. Previous research on the role of the colonial inquest into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, has suggested that Aboriginal Australians are “bodies marked for death”, and the role of the colonial investigation is to establish this “truth”. This paper broadens that discussion, suggesting that coroners utilise this same colonial narrative when they invite us to position Aboriginal deaths by suicide as more likely, more understandable, more reasonable, than non-Aboriginal deaths by suicide.

How Women's Police Stations prevent gendered violence

Professor Kerry Carrington and Maria Victoria Puyol, (School of Justice and Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology), Australia

Abstract

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a global policy issue with significant social, economic and personal consequences. While considered a 'global health problem of epidemic proportions' (WHO 2013), the burden of violence against women and girls is distributed unequally, with rates of violence significantly higher in low to middle income countries of the Global South. Yet the bulk of global research on gender violence is based on the experiences of urban communities in high-income English-speaking countries mainly from the Global North. There is a growing body of evidence that women's police stations or units, alongside the improvement of women in law enforcement more generally, will reduce some the systemic problems with current male dominated models of policing violence against women (Amaral et al 2018:3; Miller and Segal, 2014; Nararajan 2005). This paper draws on original research undertaken in Argentina to analyse how women's police stations prevent gendered violence. The study involved field research and interviews with 100 employees from 10 women's police stations in the province of Buenos Aires. These police stations were designed to enhance women's confidence in the criminal justice system, encourage reporting, prevent re-victimization, and send a message to the community that gendered violence was no longer tolerated and men who abuse women will be made accountable. The study concludes that lessons can be learned in Australia and other parts of the world from Argentina's innovative approach to preventing gendered violence.

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Building Cyber Security Awareness in Developing Countries

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Abstract

This paper uses Myanmar as a case study of cybercrime trends in Southeast-Asia, assesses current measures to combat cybercrime, and makes policy recommendations to strengthen those measures. Myanmar is of particular interest as it has recently opened to the world, including opening the mobile telecommunications market to private providers in 2014. While now one of the world's fastest growing mobile markets, it also has a very low cybersecurity awareness and capability. Hate speech, cyber bullying and online fraud have rapidly adapted to the opportunities created by the rapid growth of new users with little or no cybersecurity awareness.

This paper describes and analyses a pioneering cybersecurity awareness campaign in Myanmar funded by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. It will discuss the challenges and factors that have contributed to its success. It will also discuss government responses to cybersecurity incidents, the role of international conventions drafted in developed countries and the importance of reporting and international collaboration. In Myanmar, as elsewhere, effective cybersecurity involves the government, the private sector and individuals. The role of each, and techniques to strengthen those roles, are considered.

Sense of Place and Feelings of Safety: Examining Young Adults' Experiences of their Local Environment using Mobile Devices

Dr Michael Chataway, School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Many studies have explored the reasons for why people become fearful of crime, despite their low likelihood of victimisation experience. However, few have explored the opposite attitudinal pattern—feelings of safety, and what leads people away from fearing criminal victimisation. Using ($N = 499$) ecological momentary assessments collected from young adults living in Southeast Queensland, the current study aims to better understand the drivers of safety and security across day-to-day movements in private and public spaces. The findings of a thematic analysis of these data suggest that perceptions of safety are driven by: physical features of the environment, social characteristics of a place, and place familiarity. The findings of this study are discussed in terms of their broader application to developing safe places for community members.

White Terror: Christchurch and the mythologies of white genocide

Anthony Collins, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Abstract

The Christchurch terrorist articulated his motives in a 74 page manifesto, *The Great Replacement*. Like the worst undergraduate essays, it is both incoherent and conceptually plagiarised, but leaves us with enough material to identify the constitutive discourses that were assembled to produce his identity and state of mind. It reveals that he unwittingly emerges from long tradition of racial paranoia, and specifically the idea of 'white genocide' which runs from Madison Grant's 1912 *Passing of the Great Race*, through 1990's US neo-Nazis David Lane and Richard Spencer, the manifesto of the 2011 Norwegian mass murderer, Reynaud Camus' 2012 French book *Le Grand Remplacement*, Canadian fake-journalist Lauren South's 2017 documentary *The Great Replacement* and recent political statements of Peter Dutton and Fraser Anning. The presentation thus places this act of violence within broader colonial and neo-colonial discourses and identities, tracing how the idea of an existential threat to the 'white race' was central to colonial occupation, later refined by right-wing ideologues, and then invigorated by sundry political opportunists and contemporary internet trolls. This analysis shows how a compelling subject position was created for Christchurch killer, furnishing him with the necessary paranoia and grandiosity to unleash his violence. It doing so it reveals the inseparability of the two sides of 'white terror'- the terrorist violence of white supremacists, and the delusional fears of white racial annihilation which underpin them.

These violent delights have violent ends: the righteous killing of Mlungisi Nxumalo and the interpretation of South Africa violence.

Anthony Collins, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia; and Rhodes University, Makhanda, South Africa

Abstract

While the death of Mlungisi Nxumalo barely registered in the media and public consciousness, it can be read as an exemplar of South African violence. The disastrous unfolding of an attempt by concerned citizens to protect a child at risk provides both a case study for analysis, and a cautionary tale. The more closely we examine this incident, the more difficult it becomes to distinguish those fighting for justice, and those undermining it. The imagined boundaries between law-abiding citizen and criminal become unclear, as does the distinction between the use of force to protect citizens, and the use of violence to damage the social fabric. Rather, what comes into focus is how everyday life is imbued with physical violence as an intuitively available resource to execute a variety of intentions, good or bad. And more distressingly, what follows is how after a certain point, the good or bad intentions are not necessarily significant determinants of the social harms that are finally produced. It is precisely here that the explanatory value of this case may lie. This presentation reframes the problem of violence in South Africa not as an insurgent criminality in the face of failing social regulation, but as a pervasive and normalised resource readily available to negotiate many everyday situations. If this is to be understood as the problem, then it requires an entirely different range of interventions from the widespread appeal for more effective law enforcement. A tentative sketch of what these might be is thus offered.

Changes in the form of illicit drug markets: consequences for method, understanding, enforcement and other responses

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Abstract

Significant changes to the structure and nature of illicit drug markets in recent years is forcing a rethink as to how illicit drug markets work and how those that populate them are understood. From Dark Net cryptomarkets, through minimally commercial suppliers, to the exploited 'County Lines' involved young and vulnerable 'dealers' a methodological as well as practice based rethink is in train. By way of example, the development of a form of heroin and crack cocaine distribution in the UK called County Lines has not only transformed the practice of supply and sales of these substances at the local level it has also been instrumental in transforming the lens' through which 'drug dealers' are viewed that has resonance for evolving drug market research anywhere, 'North' or 'South'. This presentation will firstly provide brief insight into the nature of County Lines drug supply and how law enforcement has to now address 'drug dealers' differentially and through multiple lens' of criminality, vulnerability and safeguarding – often at the same time. The methodological lessons for researching drug markets in different countries, cultures and contexts will be explored and consideration will be given to showing how dominant conceptual and methodological approaches too often provide insufficient insight into local phenomena, stifle theory and method, and maintain convention.

Looking forward and looking back: Examining the “ideal outcome” for victims across the fraud justice network

Cassandra Cross, Senior Lecturer (Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia)

Abstract

Fraud is a unique offence, in that there are a multitude of agencies that victims can report to, including police, banks, remittance agencies, consumer protection, and other government and non-government agencies, termed the “fraud justice network” (FJN). Much of the previous research addressing fraud (particularly online approaches) has been from the perspective of victims and clearly outlines the overwhelmingly negative experiences they face in attempting to report their incident. This presentation seeks to address this issue from the perspective of organisations across the FJN. Based on interviews with thirty-one professionals across the FJN in London (United Kingdom) and Toronto (Canada), it examines how these organisations understand and view individual fraud victimisation. Surprisingly, these discussions indicated that organisations know exactly what victims want and expect from the system. Therefore the question remains, if organisations can articulate victim’s needs, why are they unable to respond in a satisfactory manner?

This presentation demonstrates that while organisations understand the ideal victim outcome, their own ideal organisational outcome is quite different. Organisations are focused on the future and on preventing further harm and victimisation, whereas victims themselves are clearly focused on the past (what has happened) and their present situation. Overall, the presentation argues that it is the reactive versus proactive stance taken by victims and organisations respectively, which causes much of the negativity and additional trauma experienced by victims at the hands of the FJN. The reasons behind this disparity and the implications of this finding are discussed.

Penal innovation and policy transfer

Tom Daems, Levens Institute of Criminology (LINC), KR Leuven, Belgium

Abstract

In this paper we will discuss and reflect on some of the findings of a research project on ‘penal policy transfer’, funded by the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), which was finalised in 2018. The focus of the project was on the introduction of two distinctive penal practices, in the 1990s, in Belgian penal policy, that is, electronic monitoring and restorative justice. For this project we used the ‘policy transfer’-framework of David Dolowitz and David Marsh (1996) (and the ways in which it came to be introduced in criminology through the work of Trevor Jones, Tim Newburn and Richard Sparks) to explore what kinds of cross-border influences may have played a role in the process of introducing electronic monitoring and restorative justice in Belgian penal practice. In this paper we will discuss in particular, on the basis of our empirical findings, the advantages and limitations of using such a ‘policy transfer’- framework to understand the determinants of penal policy-making.

#CallItFemicide: Identifying and documenting gender-based motives/indicators in the killing of women and girls

Myrna Dawson, Centre for the Study of Social and Legal Responses to Violence, University of Guelph, Guelph/Ontario/Canada

Abstract

Femicide, the killing of women/girls because they are women/girls, has received an unprecedented rise in international attention, largely due to feminist/grassroots organizations in the Global South. Introducing the term ‘femicide’ to capture inadequate state responses and impunity of perpetrators, the establishment of specialized police/prosecution units and specific legislation/offences have occurred in some of these countries. Paralleling these movements is increasing discussion about how femicide should be defined, how these killings differ from homicide, and whether differences can be operationalized in research and practice. To this end, the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences called upon all countries to establish femicide watches/observatories as a key mechanism for systematic and detailed data collection on femicide to guide evidence-based policymaking and to inform the development of effective prevention initiatives. Responding to this call, the *Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability* (CFOJA) was launched in 2017 to track femicides in Canada and to document social/state responses, including evidence of stereotypes and biases that may be evident, contributing to the impunity of perpetrators. A core goal is to determine the ability of researchers to identify and document the existence of and role played by gender-based motives/indicators (GBMIs). This paper describes recent findings from data collected on the killing of women/girls in Canada during 2018 and highlights, with examples, some preliminary findings on the benefits and challenges of capturing the presence of GBMIs in these killings and limitations of traditional data sources. Implications and priorities for future research are outlined.

Young people’s perceptions of sexual assault in residential care: “It does happen a lot”

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Tim Moore, Australian Centre for Child Protection, University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia

Abstract

The Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) examined child sexual abuse within a wide range of institutions that provide services to children, this included residential facilities. The current study (funded by the Royal Commission) considers young people’s perception of safety in residential care; specifically, the current study attended to the voices of young people who spoke about sexual harassment and assault in qualitative interviews. Interviews were conducted with young people aged between 13 and 21 years who were or had recently been in residential care. Participants were asked for their perceptions of situations in a series of vignettes describing various levels and types of sexual assault and harassment. During these interviews the young people in this study voluntarily reported known incidences of sexual assault and harassment in varying levels, perpetrated by workers, individuals outside of residential care, and peers within residential care. Sexual assault and harassment was discussed in heteronormative and gendered ways with young men seen as perpetrators and protectors, and young women seen as being vulnerable. Further, it was evident from this study, that there were varying responses to these situations from workers within the residential care facilities.

Towards a Global Policing Framework: Bridging the North-South divide

Ruth Delaforce, Lecturer in Criminology and Policing (Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, NSW, Australia)

Abstract

While framed as a transnational enterprise, academic and political discourse on global policing often reflects a deficit model. Policing agencies in the Global South require reform, management and democratisation, deficits that are addressed through programs funded and delivered by the Global North. Such reformist programs are predicated on a policing model that is hierarchical, disciplined, accountable and state-based. However, application of this model to the Global South is contestable, based upon a specific historical trajectory enjoyed by states in the Global North, ignoring the effects of colonial and post-colonial development in the Global South, and neglecting the inherent dependency and protectionist structures of an international system. Discussion of a Southern criminology cannot ignore the role of police; however, comparison of policing arrangements across the North-South divide is challenging. In the Global South, while state 'police' institutions and their powers are determined by the government or regime, legitimacy is recognised (or otherwise) not only by citizens and communities, but also law enforcement agencies in other states, regionally and globally. Further, the global policing landscape has changed significantly since 1945 to include not just public police agencies, but the private sector, hybrid groups of public-private agents, and community protection networks. It is proposed that one step towards expanding the discussion on Southern criminology is to visualise a global policing framework. How the framework may be conceptualised, categorised and incorporated into a Southern criminology is explored in this presentation.

The Case for a Southern Criminology of South Africa

Bill Dixon, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, United Kingdom

Abstract

Critics of southern criminology have pointed out that, while it seeks to challenge the hegemony of northern theory, it risks homogenising the Global South. A unitary conception of southern-ness that pays no heed to the diversity of ideas, theories and experiences to be found across the South does little more than replace one set of pretensions to universalism with another. This paper's response is to make the case for a southern criminology of South Africa that takes account of the country's history, its exposure to colonialism and colonial criminology, and what research tells us about how crime, justice and security are experienced and understood a quarter of a century into its hard-won democracy. In doing so, it seeks to respond not just to a growing sense of dissatisfaction with northern theory as a means of making sense of contemporary South Africa, but also to insistent calls for the decolonisation of the curriculum not just in criminology but across the social sciences, and in higher education generally.

Rising Waves of Feminism or Faltering Steps of Criminal Justice- What plagues India?

Dipa Dube, Professor [Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, INDIA]

Abstract

In recent years, the #MeToo campaign has hit the country hard. From celebrities to journalists to politicians- a host of high flying names have come under scanner for alleged sexual abuse of women. Flagged by a Bollywood actress, Tanushree Dutta, the #MeToo campaign brought together feminists to rethink about the continued abuse of women in all sections of society especially those in positions of vulnerability. Despite a stringent legal regime backed by stern punishment, especially after the Nirbhaya incident and the consequent amendment of criminal laws, abuse of women has continued unabated in the country. The National crime records bureau has registered alarming increase in reported crimes against women; though the figures on prosecutions and convictions do not appear as encouraging. Feminists opined that violence against women remains a continuous concern which is heightened in the face of a failing criminal justice system which fails to address their plight. Lack of confidence in the system discourages women from approaching the authorities, something palpable in #MeToo allegations, where women preferred to remain silent in the face of inevitable backlash from society; lack of support and cooperation from police and prosecution and finally, courts, where the victim is positioned as the accused to respond to questions of how and why?

In the circumstances, the present paper examines the issue of rising gender based violence in the country and the consequent failure of the criminal justice system to respond to the same.

'Whoever worked the place had gloves on': How police investigation practices and forensic technologies influenced the rise of the guilty plea in the Queensland Supreme Court

Lisa Durnian, Griffith University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Abstract

Most defendants in contemporary Westminster legal systems plead guilty rather than stand trial for serious criminal offences. The origins of the guilty plea systems in England and the United States trace back to the mid-to-late nineteenth century and are presumed associated with police professionalisation and the development of modern scientific policing technologies. The prevailing hypothesis states that forensic evidence, like photography and fingerprinting, improved the quality of evidence and subsequently increased the likelihood that more defendants pleaded guilty (for a bargain). Yet the only study explicitly testing this association found no evidence linking these technologies with the acceleration in defendants' guilty pleas. Conversely, the first study investigating the origins of the Australian guilty plea system provides strong evidence that police investigative practices were central to the guilty plea phenomenon. This paper employs a case study of a female defendant prosecuted for burglary in 1951. This case study is an exemplar of sixty property theft offences investigated by Queensland's Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) detectives during the first few decades of the emerging guilty plea system. The prosecution of 'Ada Selman' showcases the specific policing practices and the forensic technologies that influenced defendants' decisions to plead guilty. The findings presented here highlight the unique development of Australian criminal justice during the twentieth century and argue for the revision of the current hypothesis linking police to the rise of the guilty plea.

'You'd just cop flak from every other dickhead under the sun': Navigating the tensions of visibility and invisibility in LGBTI police liaison programmes in three Australian states

Angela Dwyer, University of Tasmania, Tasmania, Australia

Matthew Ball, Queensland University of Technology, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

This paper examines the different ways that LGBTI police liaison officers in three states of Australia conceptualised and problematised the public visibility of LGBTI police liaison services. In a climate where LGBTI police liaison services appear to be the dominant model for building relationships between police and LGBTI people, this paper considers, from the perspective of LGBTI police liaison officers, how LGBTI people engage with these service enhancement programmes. Specifically, it explores the tensions and difficulties that arose for liaison officers as a result of the general invisibility of liaison officers themselves and, by extension, the programme, and the problems and tensions that increased visibility of the programme would bring. While it is easy to assume that enhancing the visibility of a programme like this would be a worthwhile goal, the interview data analysed here clearly demonstrated that careful consideration needs to be given in terms of how this visibility is produced and maintained, as officers were concerned about the risks that may emerge if new forms of visibility were adopted.

Fa'a Saymore from Promised Land to dreamland.

Perceptions of Fa'a Samoa by New Zealand born Samoans in Brisbane, Australia.

Dion Enari, Bond University, Gold Coast/Queensland/ Australia

Abstract

"I am - a Samoan, but not a Samoan...

To my *aiga (family)* in Samoa, I am a *palagi (White)*

I am - a New Zealander, but not a New Zealander...

To New Zealanders I am a 'bloody coconut', at worst, a 'Pacific Islander', at best

I am - to my Samoan parents, their child" (Anae, 1998).

Challenges arose for New Zealand born Samoans who were not able to fully engage within mainstream society and Samoan society. This group often felt the cultural clash, "feeling shunned from mainstream society for being different, and in Samoan circles being labelled a foreigner" (Tiatia, 1998). Others believe the "NZ-born exists in a confused state of ambiguity and paradox" (Anae, 1998). An "Identity crisis" amongst NZ-born Samoan youth has now been identified as a "new stress issue" associated with suicide (Samu, 2003) and crime. This cohort is being required to grow up in an environment that produces "cultural and identity conflicts". An example of this is when "physical punishment" is preferred in Australian Samoan homes regardless of conflict with the "legal system in Australia" (Va'a, 1995). New Zealand born Samoans are faced with contradictory values and practices of both the "Samoan and mainstream cultures" (Samu, 2003).

This study is based on the literature and life narratives of New Zealand born Samoans, their journey through Brisbane and their relationship with Fa'a Samoa (Samoan culture). The culturally appropriate method of talanoa (Vaiioleti, 2003) will be used to analyse this cohort's perceptions of the three main concepts of fa'a Samoa; fa'a Matai, aiga potopoto and faalavelave/fesuaiga (Sauni, 2011).

The importance of building solidarity between animal and food scholars and activists: Representing and responding to the problem of food security within animal cruelty policy debates.

Dr Brodie Evans, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Dr Hope Johnson, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Abstract

Research on ethical issues within food systems is often human-centric and, as a consequence, overlooks animal-centric policy debates where policy decisions about food security are being made. This is especially present in recent Australian policy debates around the issue of live export of animals for food consumption. Using Foucault's tools, we present findings of a discourse analysis illustrating how the concern of 'food security' is conceptualised and governed within these debates. The problem of food security shaped Indonesians as 'victims' of food insecurity due to an inability to produce its own sufficient quantities of animal protein, reproducing dominant narratives of food security. In doing so, intensive animal agriculture, and Australia's live export trade specifically, was positioned as a vehicle to address global food insecurity. We argue that this dominant problematisation of and response to food security flourishes where the alliances between animal activists and food activists are weak. As a result, we pose the need for more engagement from agri-food scholars and activists producing resisting food security discourses in policy discussions about the treatment of animals, as this is a key space of food governance.

Australian no-body homicides: Exploring common features of solved cases

Claire Ferguson, QUT, Brisbane, Australia

Kamarah Pooley, QUT, Brisbane, Australia

Abstract

The absence of a homicide victim's body and the corresponding physical evidence found with it creates particular challenges to the criminal justice process. There has been little study of homicides involving successful body disposal, their common features, nor how they might be solved. This exploratory analysis examined 25 no-body homicides in Australia. Coroners' findings, case law, and media reports from 1983 to 2017 were examined qualitatively and descriptively. Features of the cases appeared to differ based on whether the homicide was related to organized crime or the illicit drug trade, serial sexual offences, or domestic violence. Challenges posed by each type of case are discussed with reference to the available forensic medical literature. Opportunities for solving these complex cases are examined, with particular relevance to police investigators and forensic examiners.

Preventing teenage intimate partner violence: education programs in the global-South

Gisella Lopes Gomes Pinto Ferreira, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane/QLD/Australia

Abstract

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a problem that persists in developed and developing countries, amongst all nationalities and social classes. This is gendered violence and the impacts and social consequences of violence against women (VAW) are extensive. One woman is killed per week by her intimate partner in Australia (Bryant & Bricknell, 2017) and the annual total cost of VAW and children to the Australian economy was estimated \$22 billion in 2015-16 (KPMG, 2016). In Brazil, rates of violence are even higher: four women are killed per day by their partner or ex-partner (Waiselfisz, 2015), and the cost of VAW is estimated to be R\$975 million (approximately \$348 million) a year in terms of salary mass – the social cost would be even higher (Carvalho & Oliveira, 2017). Evidence suggests that young people are the age cohort most susceptible to IPV (The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare [AIHW], 2018; Harris, Honey, Webster, Diemer & Politoff, 2015; Martins, 2017) but lack understanding of how IPV manifests and can be prevented. Overwhelmingly, studies in IPV target adults. Research on teenagers experiences of IPV and IPV prevention mostly comes from North America (Taylor et al. 2017). This paper uses southern theory in discussing the need to address this knowledge deficit and raise awareness, inform and educate young people about teenage IPV in the global-South. In reviewing teenage IPV prevention initiatives in Australia and Brazil, it is contended that the global-South has important lessons to impart and affirms the value of southern criminology.

Men's Violence Against Women as a Social Justice Issue

Michael Flood, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Abstract

Men's violence against women is widely identified as a social justice issue – as an expression of structural and systemic gender inequalities. Men's domestic and sexual violence against women is the predictable outcome of patriarchal gender relations, while also shaped by other intersecting forms of disadvantage and privilege. What are the implications of this for preventing and reducing this violence and, in particular, for engaging men in prevention? First, to what extent do existing violence prevention efforts in Australia and the region address violence against women as a social injustice? To what extent do they challenge structural oppressions and draw on community empowerment and liberation? Second, how can a social justice approach effectively be used in efforts to involve men in the prevention of men's violence against women? There are various dimensions to this, reflecting political and strategic dilemmas that are typical in 'ally politics', where members of a dominant group are involved in efforts to address that dominance. For example, should feminist and social justice frameworks be presented explicitly and upfront in initial work with men, or left until their interest and involvement are secured? Should men be addressed as members of dominant groups who may be complicit in oppression? Should work with men emphasise that they will benefit from progress towards gender equality? Should prevention efforts build alliances between gender justice and other social justice struggles and movements? In short, what are the most effective ways to nurture and mobilise male allies and to foster change towards social justice?

Victim Support at the Welfare State

Carina Gallo, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA, USA

Kerstin Svensson, Lund University, Lund, Sweden

Abstract

This study provides a rich analysis of the history of Swedish victim support. With the majority of research on victim support centering on the Anglosphere, it offers a unique case study for considering the role of the victim in the criminal justice system. While Sweden has enacted many laws to support victims, and victim assistance programs have grown rapidly, welfare policy has become more restrictive, and crime policy, to some degree, more punitive. Drawing on archival material and interviews with key representatives for the National Association for Victim Support (BOJ), we examine what role the Swedish victim movement has played in a changing welfare state. We argue that BOJ filled a function in the decentralization and privatization of the Swedish welfare state, and explore distinctive features of the Swedish victim movement, and the form it has taken, as compared to other countries. We show that BOJ has not explicitly contended for tougher policies on crime. However, it has indirectly pushed the political discourse in a neoliberal punitive direction in a number of areas. It also played a role in changing structural discourses on class and gender, by supporting a notion that claimed abused women as crime victims, and not as women primarily. Over time, BOJ adhered to contemporary governing ideas. This transformation can be viewed as a co-optation, whereby SAVS is eager to do as the state, or welfare market, might expect.

Serial Killer ‘Johns’ and Public Safety: Explaining Differences in Police Communication about Gendered Violence

Bailey Gerrits, Doctoral Candidate, Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Abstract

Police have incredible authority to selectively make visible types of gender-based violence (GBV), demarcate real and so-called false claims, define police legitimacy in responding to violence, and, at times, racialize GBV. For example, in its 2015 report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW), the RCMP included serial killer “johns” who targeted Indigenous sex workers in the category of “known to the victim.” Downplaying racist exploitation of Indigenous women and girls and over-representing intra-Indigenous GBV, the RCMP report advances a particular narrative about the relationship between MMIW and ‘public safety’. In contrast, the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) has excluded sexual assaults when the survivor knows the assailant in their online statistics and crime map since 2008, spatially underrepresenting the phenomena of police-reported sexual assaults. The WPS’s crime map bolsters the myth that predominately strangers rape women, obscuring the high prevalence of sexual violence perpetrated by friends, family, boyfriends, husbands, etc. Despite its undoubted effect on public discourses, police communication about GBV is an understudied facet of police authority. To fill this gap, this paper will draw on interviews with civilian and non-civilian police communication officials and discourse analysis of a sample of public police communication about GBV from 4-6 police forces in Canada to understand how police frame GBV and explain differences across police forces. It is likely that racializing gendered violence is a key, yet unspoken, component of police strategic communication and the differential and localized representation of gendered violence works towards legitimizing the role of the police.

Everyday violence: Women's experiences of intimate intrusions on Tinder

Rosalie Gillett, Queensland University of Technology (Brisbane City, QLD, Australia)

Abstract

Intimate intrusions, which I define as behaviours that made women feel uncomfortable, uneasy, or unsafe, on dating apps like Tinder, are a pressing social issue. Despite emerging popular and scholarly interest in gendered violence and online abuse, to date, little is known about women's everyday lived experiences of intimate intrusions in mobile dating contexts. This paper investigates women's experiences of intimate intrusions on the dating application (app) Tinder. To better understand women's experiences, this research draws upon data from 17 semi-structured interviews with women aged 18 – 30 years who were current or former Tinder users living in Brisbane, Australia and had experienced what they themselves defined as intimate intrusions through the app. To supplement the interview data, and provide information about Tinder's textual content, aesthetics, functions and features, this paper also presents a comprehensive walkthrough of the app (Light et al. 2016). Findings from this research (1) help to identify the commonness of women's experiences of intimate intrusions on Tinder; (2) demonstrate how intimate intrusions on Tinder are routinely normalised as part of digital dating cultures; and (3) highlight the cumulative impact everyday intimate intrusions can have for women who experience such behaviour. This is a significant area of study because relationship patterns established early on, as well as experiences of abuse, have potentially long-term implications for health and well-being (Hlavka 2014). At the same time, the normalisation of intimate intrusions experienced via dating apps, such as Tinder, may reinforce a wider culture that supports violence against women.

Ethics, Ambiguity and responsibility for mass crimes of child sexual abuse: the case of George Pell.

Kate Gleeson, Macquarie Law School, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

Abstract

The conviction of Cardinal George Pell for historical child sexual abuse offences has prompted a wave of aggressive denial about Pell's guilt emanating from Church and other conservative representatives in Australia and internationally. The trial came in the wake of repeat revelations of institutionalised child sexual abuse in Catholic institutions, which prompted governments around the world to examine the problem of systemic organised crime through truth commissions and other quasi-judicial mechanisms. For many Church representatives however, the Pell trial was illegitimate. In this paper I consider the refusal to accept the verdict in the Pell trial in light of consideration of how we might allocate responsibility for mass crimes while holding individuals to account - a fundamental challenge of modern democracies, which increasingly employ remedies of transitional justice as markers of temporal progress to crimes of peace time. This paper examines this challenge in the context of denial as it presents to researchers. It is guided by a reflection on ethics and freedom devised in the face of great evil: Simone de Beauvoir's *Ethics of Ambiguity*, published in 1948 in the aftermath of the Occupation and revelation of the excesses of Nazism, which also prompted waves of denial that persist until today. I suggest that returning to the existential theorisation of Nazi war crimes in the *Ethics of Ambiguity* might offer us guidance by which to ethically engage with, rather than deny, the actions of apparent evil as part of our society. Even more radically, it might inspire a sense of freedom in the researchers who do so.

The Comparative Youth Penalty Project: Conceptual co-ordinates, research methods and key findings

Professor Chris Cunneen (University of Technology Sydney, New South Wales, Australia)

Professor Barry Goldson (University of Liverpool, UK)

Abstract

This paper will comprise an analytical review of the Comparative Youth Penalty Project, a four-year study that critically examined core trends and contemporary manifestations in youth justice and penalty in Australia and the UK. It will review the conceptual co-ordinates that framed the study, explain the core research methods that underpinned it and present some of the key findings. The paper will presage *Youth Justice and Penalty in Comparative Context* to be published by Routledge in late 2019/early 2020.

Death on the job: Examining preventable mortality through an occupational lens

Dr Katie Hail-Jares, Griffith Criminology Institute

Abstract

Research on sex work has often focused on debating whether it is an inherently violent profession, yet emerging research shows that violence against sex workers is just as often perpetrated by intimate partners or strangers than clients. Furthermore, such work has failed to compare how workplace violence experienced by sex workers compares to other occupations, or considered frequency of workplace violence vis a vis other types of preventable mortality, such as drug overdoses, suicide, or motor vehicle accidents. Here, using data from the National Coronial Information Systems (NCIS), I compare the causes of preventable death and their work-relatedness across four occupations: sex work, construction, housecleaning, and taxi drivers (n=5,529). The discussion will also consider how the legal framework governing sex work mitigated violent deaths, limitations of using governmental death data for studying stigmatised populations, and the programming and research implications.

Strengthening Theory in Digital Politics

Max Halupka, Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis, University of Canberra

Abstract

Digital Politics is a fledgling field, driven by the proliferation of internet capable technologies, and the innovative ways they interact with politics. Digital Politics as a discipline has largely been driven by empirical work. Now, newly developed empirical methods allow us to comprehend more promptly the unfolding consequences of online actions. Digital Politics has grown to thrive by way of the data driven nature of the field itself. Unfortunately, theoretical approaches, and the pursuit of concepts beyond data, have been significantly displaced. This is a response to the fast, and frequently, fluid nature of the internet and new digital technologies. This is not to argue that no continuing, relevant theory has been developed in this field, but rather that such theory often fails to encapsulate the full complexity and significance of the broad changes unfolding in society. What is needed then is theory which conceptualises Digital Politics beyond empirical analysis.

In this paper, I stress the continued significance of implementing and developing theory in Digital Politics. The paper concerns itself primarily with the notions of intentionality and motivation since both concepts play a significant role in our continued understanding of political participation and online politics more broadly. This is because they serve as the next critical keystone in the immortal theoretical debate of 'what is politics'? And while this question has been previously considered and articulated in countless academic articles, it is within Digital Politics that we find it must be made anew. It is by thoroughly unpacking the way in which intentionality and motivation work in a digital space, that we recognise the difficulty of labelling online actions political, and that the absence of intent from the mind of the scripter, renders it unfair to do so.

The purpose of theory to Digital Politics is not to undermine nor even distract from the normative work which has served as its foundation. Rather, as this paper contends, such theoretical conversations stress the significance and complexities of broader societal changes. In this way, the pursuit of theoretical discussions is to strengthen the foundation and provide new avenues for further analysis.

Noncompliance among young people in juvenile justice settings: Does power matter?

Nazirah Hassan, National University of Malaysia, Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia

Abstract

The exercise of power by correctional officers and staff is consistently most important issues that concern young people in juvenile justice settings. Nonetheless, the sphere of power may involve coercive in nature that potentially cultivate non-compliance. This study investigates young people's perception of the exercise of power in juvenile justice settings, and examines how this relates to non-compliant behaviour. Using the Malaysian sample, the study comprised a survey completed by 289 male and female young people, aged 12 to 21 years old, in 8 juvenile justice institutions. A set of questionnaires was distributed to all participants, including the Measuring the Quality of Prison life (MQPL) and the scale version of Direct and Indirect Prisoner behaviour Checklist (DIPC-SCALED_r). The findings revealed the majority of young people reported high involvement in non-compliant behaviour, including aggression, substance use and gang membership. About 95 per cent of participants reported at least one behaviour indicative of aggression towards others in a month. Also, 32 per cent of participants reported involvement in gang membership and 45 per cent reported substance use in institutions. In addition, factors related to the exercise of power have been found to underpin non-compliant behaviour, including fairness, bureaucratic legitimacy, humanity, respect, and staff-offenders relationships. This study argues when young people do not perceive the power being exercised as fair and legitimate, they are unlikely to comply the rules that stem from that authority. As the heart of justice treatment, officers and staff members play a vital role to minimize the coercive power.

Young South African men confronting violence

Crispin Hemson, International Centre of Nonviolence, Durban University of Technology, Durban, South Africa

Abstract

In South Africa, there are high levels of physical assault, murder and sexual violence against girls and women, leading to attempts to strengthen the response of police services and other agencies. Attention also goes to the role of boys and men's socialisation in that violence. What is seldom explored is how this violence relates to the extremely high levels of violence against African and "Coloured" young men in particular, primarily at the hands of other men. A previous study (Hemson, 2019) reported how young men at a university in KwaZulu-Natal could speak and listen with empathy to accounts of such violence, but responded defensively when women spoke of their experience of violence. This presentation reports on a subsequent action research study that seeks to understand the connections between these different forms of gender-based violence, and to develop interventions that enable young men to become agents of positive change in reducing violence. Participants will be about ten male students at the same university. Data collection will include the use of visual methodology, a record of discussions in the group and a focus group interview. The findings, drawn from on a thematic analysis of this data, will inform an intervention that brings this group together with young women addressing gender-based violence.

Key words: gender-based violence, South Africa, young men, agents of change

Doing Gender Online: Gender Performativity, Hypermasculinity and Heteronormativity on Image-based Sexual Abuse Sites

A/Prof Nicola Henry, Social and Global Studies Centre, RMIT University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Abstract

This paper investigates the nature and scope of image-based sexual abuse (IBSA) material (also known as “revenge pornography”) online. We argue that there is a high demand for non-consensual imagery online, including stylized representations of non-consensual acts, such as rape, covert filming of intimate/sexual acts, and the non-consensual sharing of nude or sexual images. We argue that non-consensual image exchanges are contextualized within ever-expanding digital environments characterized by dislocation of time and space, over-visualization, and hypersexuality. Image-based sexual abuse is a vehicle for the construction, performativity, and negotiation of the hypermasculine and heteronormative self within the bounds and structures of existing gendered power relations.

Definitional dilemmas in youth gang research: a cross-national perspective

Angela Higginson, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Research into youth gangs largely relies on two competing definitions of gang membership from the global north. The first is self-reported gang membership, commonly used in US research, whereby the respondent identifies themselves as belonging to a gang. The second is the Eurogang ‘consensus’ definition: “any durable, street-oriented youth group whose involvement in illegal activity is part of its group identity” (Weerman et al., 2009). Operationalisation of the Eurogang definition relies on responses to 5 questions: (1) Do you have a group of friends? (2) How long has this group existed? (3) Does this group spend a lot of time together in public places? (4) Is doing illegal things accepted by your group? (5) Do people in your group actually do illegal things together? Previous research from the UK (Medina et al., 2013) argues that the Eurogang definition casts a wider net than intended, conflating groups of drug-using youth with other delinquent youth groups. Indeed, using the Eurogang definition, data from the International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISR2), which surveys 12-16 year old students, identifies a seemingly unrealistic prevalence of youth gang membership across countries, and little overlap with self-reported gang membership – half of the countries’ samples identified prevalence of over 10%, and two countries identified prevalence of over 20%. This paper uses the ISR2 data from 29 countries (n=40,465) to examine the degree of functional overlap between the two dominant definitions, the subsets of youth delinquency identified by each, and the variation across countries in the global north and south.

The Prospect of International Criminal Court Prosecution in Australian Parliamentary Debate

Natalie Hodgson, PhD Candidate (UNSW Sydney, NSW, Australia)

Abstract

The International Criminal Court (ICC) was created to prosecute ‘the most serious crimes of concern to the international community’, namely genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and aggression. In this sense, the ICC is a unique accountability mechanism with the potential to investigate and prosecute powerful state actors who might otherwise act with impunity. In this paper, I explore how the possibility of ICC prosecution has featured in Australian parliamentary debate. I focus on four specific instances where the prospect of ICC prosecution has been discussed: in relation to Australia’s involvement in the Iraq war, the actions of Australian Defence Force members in Afghanistan, Australia’s involvement in Syria, and Australia’s refugee policy. I discuss how the issue of prosecution at the ICC arose, including how the actions of academics, the media and minor political party MPs contributed to raising the issue, the government’s response to the prospect of ICC prosecution, and why the risk of prosecution had little (if any) effect on the government’s actions. I conclude by making some observations about what is needed if the prospect of ICC prosecution is to have a greater impact on governmental decision-making – both in relation to changes at the ICC itself, and how civil society might enhance their advocacy efforts.

The Criminalisation of Violence: Early Findings from an Australian Study

Russell Hogg (QUT). Contact: russell.hogg@qut.edu.au

Professor Luke McNamara (Faculty of Law, UNSW, Kensington, NSW, Australia)

Associate Professor Julia Quilter (School of Law, UOW, Wollongong, NSW, Australia)

Abstract

‘Criminalisation’ has attracted considerable scholarly attention in recent years, much of it concerned with identifying the normative limits of criminal law-making. Australian scholars have tended to approach criminalisation from a different perspective: one that starts with and highlights contextual and interdisciplinary approaches and values historicised and empirical work. Over a longer period, violence prevention has been a high priority of governments and has produced a range of criminal law innovations both applauded and derided.

This panel will discuss recent findings from the early stages of a large-scale Australian study of the criminalisation of violence since the 1970s. Panellists will discuss the rationale for, and utility of, new conceptual and methodological approaches for researching criminalisation. Three key organising concepts for the project will be introduced: drivers, processes and modalities of criminalisation. In addition to introducing these concepts, the panellists will share findings from a pilot study into criminal law making in three Australian jurisdictions (Queensland, NSW and Victoria). One of the interesting findings we will discuss is the notable variations that exist between different sites of violence prevention in terms of how and why the criminal law is deployed.

Assessing the Use of Cyberattacks by Extremist Groups

Thomas J. Holt, School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA

Abstract

The threat of terrorism and political violence has become global, with violence stemming from white nationalists and jihadi threat groups alike. The use of technology as a mouthpiece for extremists to recruit and radicalize actors has also been the focus of research and policy makers. There is, however, little attention paid to the potential use of cyberattacks by ideologically motivated actors in order to cause harm and embarrass potential targets. This is due in part to the lack of empirical data available to document any incidents that may have occurred. This presentation attempts to address this gap in the literature through a mixed methods series of analyses examining unique open and closed source data sets to consider the factors associated with attacks performed for political, national, and other motives. The findings demonstrate that cyberattacks are a growing problem and may have fundamentally different drivers compared to economically motivated offenses.

Policing Family Violence: Guidelines Versus Practice on the Use of Interpreters

Loene Howes, School of Social Sciences, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia.

Abstract

Family violence now has a prominent place on the Australian policing agenda. Improving the ways that police work with interpreters in family violence cases is necessary to enhance access to justice for people with limited proficiency in English. The Victorian *Royal Commission into Family Violence* heard of regrettable police responses that would likely result in decreased help-seeking by victims from police. For example, police had not believed victims or had asked perpetrators to interpret for victims who had limited English proficiency. Codes of practice for the policing of family violence are regularly revised to reflect emerging best practices in the field, but there remains a policy-to-practice gap. This presentation outlines the findings of a study in which police officers in two Australian jurisdictions discussed their experiences of working with interpreters. Findings suggest several reasons that explain why it can be difficult for police to adhere to recommendations and guidelines about working with interpreters in practice. These include a lack of available interpreters in languages of need and limited training on how to work effectively with interpreters. The presentation identifies some avenues to explore further in practice and research. The use of technology to facilitate interpreter-assisted interactions and targeted training on an as-needs basis offer promising developments.

Embedding Social, Emotional, and Experiential Learning in the Preparation of Future Justice Professionals

Silvina Ituarte, California State University East Bay, Hayward, California, USA

Abstract

In seeking to make a difference and promote fairness throughout the justice system, one cannot deny the significance of focusing on the professionals who work within the system as officers, victim advocates, correctional officers, etc. Social change is possible within the justice system if professionals with the appropriate values and skills are the leaders guiding and directing the system. This presentation emphasizes a university-based professional development opportunity provided to students enrolled in criminal justice courses who wish to pursue careers in the justice and social service fields. Throughout the course, students gained information about the course content while also gaining invaluable skills, ideals, and values such as empathy, compassion, active listening, cultural humility, and professionalism. This study explores whether university students are better able to comprehend course content while acquiring valuable interpersonal skills through the implementation of experiential learning within real-world contexts. The data showed a higher rate of student enthusiasm, awareness and humanistic outlook regarding the justice and social fields, an increased awareness of the variety career opportunities encompassed by the “helping professions,” and improved appreciation and compassion for diverse communities.

Autonomy from Funders and Decriminalisation of Sex Work, Case Studies of Peer-Based Sex Worker Organisations Scarlet Alliance (Australia) and Empower Foundation (Thailand).

Dr Elena Adriana Jeffreys, Respect Inc Qld. Townsville, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Sex workers have been fighting for decriminalisation since the first documented activity of the contemporary sex worker rights movement in 1975. Funding for sex worker organisations since the 1980s has threatened to compromise the capacity for autonomous political action by sex worker organisations, particularly in the ongoing campaigns for decriminalisation of sex work and against state intervention in the lives of sex workers (Perkins and Prestage 1994:15–18). Decriminalisation of sex work is a claim for ‘labour’ rights (van der Meulen 2012). In 2014 and 2015 I conducted research with Scarlet Alliance (Australia) and Empower Foundation (Thailand) to investigate how sex worker organisations maintain political autonomy while collecting funding from at best, allied, and at worst, hostile, funding bodies. My case study work found that using the mechanisms of engagement with local and international landscapes and community development, along with a critical understanding of oppression, means that the key political demand of Scarlet and Empower—the full decriminalisation of sex work—is unable to be swayed by external influence. By drawing on the first-hand experiences of sex workers, and privileging those experiences above the opinions of funders, sex worker organisations are able to continue to campaign for decriminalisation, despite the very meaningful influence of funding.

A critical review of “lab-grown meat” as a means to achieving equitable food systems

Hope Johnson, QUT, Brisbane, Australia.

Abstract

When Mark Post and his lab at Maastricht university publicised their “lab-grown meat” patty in 2013, it appeared as if the technological remedy to the injustices associated with intensive animal agriculture. In particular, “lab-grown meat” is discursively constructed as the solution to food insecurity and animal suffering. This presentation looks beyond the hype to evaluate the transformative potential of “lab-grown meat” as a pathway to achieving food justice. Rather than being the “solution” to intensive animal agriculture and food security, it is argued that “lab-grown meat” largely continues dominant trends in agricultural research and development that are counter to food justice and represent a continuation of colonial power relations. The presentation then examines how regulatory debates and processes operate from a basis of uncritical acceptance of “lab-grown meat” as a desirable innovation for food systems. To conclude, avenues to resist and transform dominant agricultural technological trajectories are considered.

Extradition from Canada to the United States: Online child sex offences, extraterritorial reach, and procedural fairness

Ms Sally Kennedy, Deakin University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Abstract

Extradition is an important form of transnational cooperation because it enables the transfer of individuals to the prosecuting country, while allowing nations to attempt to combat global crime beyond territorial borders. An extradition request is commonly sent when all or part of the criminal conduct has occurred within the geographical confines of the requesting nation. However, requests can also be made when a nation has experienced the consequences of the offence, despite the alleged offender being physically located elsewhere. Due to the nature of the Internet, cybercrimes often fall into this category. This can raise several issues which have not been completely reconciled concerning extraterritorial reach and fairness for the extraditee.

This paper outlines several cases involving requests from the United States (US) to Canada concerning online offences including child luring, illicit sexual conduct, and child exploitation material. Some extraditees committed the offences in the US and subsequently fled, whilst other conduct occurred online from Canada. The cases raise issues about the evidentiary impact of sexually explicit cyber conversations collected by undercover US law enforcement and peer-to-peer file sharing software. One case of particular importance concerned an extraditee who argued there was insufficient evidence to identify him as the user of the Internet Protocol (IP) address. Despite a successful appeal, he was subsequently found extraditable after the US sent a second surrender application. The cases also illustrate broader justice issues concerning extradition and cross-border investigations of online criminal conduct, including sentence disparity, cruel and unusual punishment, and procedural fairness.

The social death and social rebirth of participants included in witness protection programs: how does social rebirth affect participants of a witness protection program?

Dr Phil Kowalick, Adjunct Professor, Queensland University of Technology, Garden Point, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Inclusion in a witness protection program is voluntary but the obligations for a witness entering such a program are significant. Maintaining the facade of a new identity and attempting to parachute into a new community whilst maintaining some sort of anonymity creates tensions that may be almost unbearable to some but routine to others.

Relocation and re-identification are central tenets of witness protection and the concept of social death and rebirth are considered within that rubric. Social rebirth is the re-identification of participants and their integration into a new community. If these critical components of the program, relocation and re-identification, are unsuccessful, or less than adequate, the effect will likely manifest in a detrimental way as regards the mental health of the participant. The idea of social death and rebirth was first explored in 1979 in the United States of America; apart from extensions of that study in 1980 and 1981 no further specific research has been undertaken on its effects.

This research will explore the concept of social death and rebirth and the implications for participants entering the program. It will consider factors in the re-identification of a participant and immediate family as well as seeking to draw out issues likely to impact on the well-being of the participants. It will explore strategies protection providers could adopt to lessen the extreme tension placed on participants, including longer-term arrangements to ensure participants are able to cope in their new environment.

The Congo, an 'Exemplary' Australian, and the Massacre of Civilians in Kilwa: A Case Study of Capitalism, Structural Violence, and the Banality of Evil.

Kim Lah, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Abstract

In 2004, Congolese President Joseph Kabila ordered the massacre of over seventy civilians in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) mining town of Kilwa, assisted by part-owned Australian company Anvil Mining. The 2006 military trial conducted in the DRC to investigate the massacre acquitted all involved. Australian William Turner was Anvil's chief executive officer and president at the time of the massacre. In 2016, Turner was awarded the Order of Australia (AO). This presentation explores contextual factors that contributed to the Kilwa massacre, locating it in a longer colonial history. The legacy of inherited violence and economic exploitation in the DRC, and its continuation through capitalist neo-colonialism, is explored through the lens of structural violence. Next, the conundrum of state-corporate crime, individual agency and the function of bureaucratic entities is conceptualised through Arendt's theory of the banality of evil. In doing so, I develop a critical conceptualisation of the two versions of Turner: celebrated Australian mining executive and monster in the Congo, as a contribution to a Southern Criminology of violence which locates individual atrocities in the developing world within global relations of structural violence.

The politics of plural policing in a contested and unequal cityscape: The case of Cape Town, South Africa

Guy Lamb, Safety and Violence Initiative, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Western Cape South Africa

Abstract

The City of Cape Town (CoCT) has excessively high levels of inequality, poverty and unemployment. At an aggregate level Cape Town has some of the highest rates of reported violent crimes per city in South Africa, with the current murder rate being 63 per 100,000, which is double the national murder rate and is 50% higher than that average murder rate for all major cities in South Africa. Furthermore, there are very high levels of gang- and drug-related crime. The CoCT is politically unique in South Africa as the city is governed by an opposition (minority) political party, the Democratic Alliance. This paper will explore how the various policing entities have interacted over the past decade in relation to crime prevention and safety promotion in the CoCT. It will show that there has been a general commitment from all government policing entities to cooperate in relation to policing and crime prevention within the city. Nonetheless, institutional rivalries, the non-strategic allocation of police resources, and militarised policing ideologies have hampered the ability of government at all levels to comprehensively improve the conditions of safety within Cape Town. Conversely, the safety deficit and tensions between key police agencies have resulted in the CoCT pursuing policing innovations, particularly: the leveraging community participation; the development policing specialisations; and the use of new surveillance technologies.

Outlaw Motorcycle Gang international imperialism: plotting the worldwide expansion of the Big 6

Mark Lauchs, QUT, Brisbane Australia

Wayne Delaforce, QUT, Brisbane Australia

Michele Romeo, QUT, Brisbane Australia

Abstract

Outlaw motorcycle gangs are expanding around the world. This quintessentially American cultural invention has found favour regardless of local cultural norms. Not only are new clubs forming in all regions, but the large clubs like the Hells Angels, are continually creating new chapters internationally. While the phenomenon of outlaw clubs is receiving increased focus, the fundamental questions of who the clubs are and where they are has not been explored. This paper will examine where and when the major clubs have expanded using information provided by clubs in the public domain. It will look at patterns of expansion and determine whether the clubs are competing for the same regions, demarcating their expansion or the new chapter formation is driven by other local factors. The presentation support conclusions with time lapsed maps of chapter formation. This data is essential for understanding the outlaw culture and its resilience, not only in the West but internationally. The paper will provide essential data for the future discussion of the universal attraction for the role of Outlaw clubs as an outlet for hyper-masculinity.

Visualising Injustice: Digitally Mediated Martyrdom as a New Practice of Resistance in Transnational Activist Cultures

Kelly Lewis, PhD candidate, Digital Media Research Centre, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

Abstract

Established and emerging digital media affordances are providing new ways for individuals to document, publish, and share acts of brutality and injustice. Specifically, in contemporary Middle-Eastern political culture, digitally mediated images depicting death and martyrdom emerged as recurring and critical instruments of dissent in the Arab uprisings of 2010-11. Drawing from literature in visual politics, digital activist culture, and media and communication, this paper investigates the communicative practices through which activists grant visibility to everyday citizens' unjust deaths and explores the role that the visual mediation of death and martyrdom plays in contemporary digital activist culture. I conduct systematic analysis of recurrent and resonant visual social media content shared in response to 1) the Egyptian youth Khaled Said's brutal death in 2010 at the hands of Egyptian police and whose image was posthumously appropriated as a modality of resistance in the 2011 Egyptian Revolution; and 2) the killing of African American youth Trayvon Martin and his posthumous appropriation as a martyr for a new generation of activism in the Black Lives Matter movement. I introduce *digitally mediated martyrdom* as a newly emerged, socially constructed and ritualised protest dynamic; I contend this is a recurrent communicative practice of activism within Middle Eastern-based conflicts that has emerged in the post-Arab Spring landscape as a template for resistance within transnational activist cultures and popular social movements globally. This paper privileges the visual – in emerging configurations of contention and resistance – as a critical site for inquiry in digital activism and visual politics research.

[for inclusion on panel 'Digital Activism, Visuality, Participation' in the Governance, Activism and Social Change theme]

Prison monitoring in Australia: the new regime introduced by the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture

Dr Anita Mackay, La Trobe Law School (La Trobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia)

Abstract

Australia ratified the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ('OPCAT') in December 2017. This introduces a dual-level monitoring regime of all places of detention: (1) international monitoring by the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ('SPT') and (2) domestic monitoring by the National Preventive Mechanism ('NPM') that Australia is required to establish within 3 years.

This presentation will focus on some of the implications of the OPCAT for prison monitoring, given that prisons are one of the major institutions that the OPCAT applies to. The presentation will cover how the OPCAT may change the monitoring landscape from being predominantly reactive to having a preventive focus. The presentation suggests that there are some lessons for Australia to take from New Zealand's experience with the OPCAT because New Zealand ratified the OPCAT in 2007 and was subject to a visit by the SPT in 2013.

Public Health, Public Schools, Public Transport....Public Food?

Dr Amy MacMahon, Community Research Officer, Community Engagement Branch, Ipswich City Council.

This paper is part of the “Food Justice” panel, organised by Erin O’Brien

Abstract

Food insecurity in Australia is a profoundly political problem. Nearly three decades of neoliberal consensus has resulted in stagnant wages, skyrocketing housing costs, expensive privatised electricity and transport systems and a diminished welfare system. As a result, around 5% of Australians live with some degree of food insecurity. In cities such as Ipswich, west of Brisbane, high rates of unemployment mean that food banks are struggling to support thousands of families.

In conceptualising food insecurity as the result of neoliberalism, we can start to draw parallels with other social movements that are pushing back against neoliberalism. Responses to food insecurity tend to focus on pathways for families to regain their ability to afford food - raising the rate of welfare and minimum wage, addressing the cost of housing, electricity and transport. These kinds of solutions, while essential, similarly fall into a neoliberal trap of individualising solutions to systemic problems, while continuing to render food a commodity that can only be accessed via economic exchange. I argue that to break free of the neoliberal consensus, we could be conceptualising food as public goods that everyone should have access too.

A public food system has potential beyond addressing food insecurity. Publicly-owned food delivery services could create opportunities for public care and public health. Public food networks could be launched in areas affected by post-fossil fuel transitions. Community food networks could also be working to create social bonds in areas, like Ipswich, where economic deprivation has also led to cultural divisions and systemic racism.

Examining the Links between Gendered Violence and Climate Change

Rowena Maguire, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law (Queensland University of Technology, Australia)
Danielle Bozin, Lecturer, Faculty of Law (Queensland University of Technology, Australia)

Abstract

Climate change is changing gendered household dynamics and has been associated with an increase in gendered- based violence in both the global north and global south. Slow onset natural disasters such as droughts increase stress and tension at the household level and existing research documents a link between natural disasters and gender-based violence in the aftermath of severe weather events. This presentation draws upon findings from field work carried out in Kenya which explored the gendered implications of climate change in the agriculture sector. An unexpected finding which emerging from this research was hinted references to an increase of domestic violence and in some cases prostitution emerging in instances of crop failings due to lack for rainfall. A Gender Action Plan (GAP) has recently been adopted within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The aim of the GAP is make climate policy at the international and country level less gender blind. There are two key concepts within the GAP – gender balance: which aims to increase the participation of women in climate policy at the international and country level; and gender-responsive climate policy which aims to ensure that climate policies are implemented in a way that considers gender. The types of initiatives being conceived under the GAP do not explicitly recognise changes in household dynamics or the link between climate change and violence. This paper will argue that issues of gendered violence need to be considered in climate and disaster planning and recovery policies.

Challenging Algorithmic Profiling: Data Protection and Emergent Forms of Discrimination

Dr Monique Mann (QUT, Australia)

Professor Tobias Matzner (Paderbon University, Germany)

Abstract

In this presentation we contend that with increased data collection, storage, flows, and algorithmic complexity (i.e., machine learning), algorithmic bias and discrimination will become more sophisticated, opaque and difficult to control for or contest. Our argument has two steps: first, harnessing algorithms and machine learning means that data gathered at a particular place and time over specific persons can be used to build group models that are applied in different contexts to different persons. Thus, privacy and data protection rights, with their focus on individuals, do not protect from the problems of algorithmic profiling. We explore the idea that anti-discrimination regulation may be more promising, but acknowledge its limitations. Second, in order to harness anti-discrimination regulation, we argue that it needs to confront the challenges of new subjectivities formed by algorithmic verdicts that use all kinds of seemingly arbitrary and abstracted data. We ask whether such data (e.g., travel history, banking, social media friends) can be used as a proxy for legally protected social identities like race, sexuality, gender, religion, etc. – or whether algorithms create new biases that cannot be reduced to these well-known ones. Our main contribution is questioning how we go about developing new concepts and tools with regard to discrimination in the era of big data and algorithmic profiling, and examining how we address these practices at social, political and regulatory levels.

Principles of Good Data

Dr Monique Mann (QUT, Australia)

Dr Kate Devitt (UQ, Australia)

Dr Angela Daly (Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong)

Abstract

Moving away from the body of critique of pervasive ‘bad data’ practices by both governments and private actors in the globalised digital economy, we paint an alternative, more optimistic but still pragmatic picture of the datafied future. We propose ‘good data’ practices, values and principles from an interdisciplinary, international perspective. From ideas of data sovereignty and justice, to manifestos for change and calls for activism, we open a conversation on the kinds of futures we want to see, and present concrete steps on how we can start realising good data in practice. We outline lessons that we have taken away from the Good Data project and advocate for data methods to dismantle existing power structures through the empowerment of communities and citizens. We present 15 principles of Good Data: Good Data must be orchestrated and mediated by and for data subjects (Principle 1), including communal sharing for community decision-making and self-governance (Principles 2 and 3). Good Data should be collected with respect to humans and their rights and the natural world (Principle 14). It is usable and fit for purpose (Principle 13); consensual, fair and transparent (Principles 9, 11 and 12), and must respect interpersonal relationships (Principle 10). Good data reveals and challenges the existing political and economic order (Principle 3) so that data empowered citizens can secure a good democracy (Principles 5, 6, 7, and 8). Dependent on context, and with reasonable exceptions, Good Data should be open and published, revisable and form useful social capital (Principle 15).

Giving thieves the time of day: a temporal analysis of shoplifters in NSW

Adam Marsden, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

This study analyses the temporal factors of shoplifters in the NSW region, and presents information for managers of store loss-prevention professionals to assist with allocating resources whilst cutting costs and 'doing more with less'.

The research uses data from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), 'steal from retail store'. The data categories are time of day, day of week, and month of year; data findings are visually represented in graphical format.

The study uses n=188,014 steal from retail store reports of the period January 2010–June 2018, and refers to a number of academic sources, including Rossmo's (2014) and Muller's (2011) explorations of reducing uncertainty in investigations by observing patterns in crime, and research around analyses into programs of crime-prevention in shoplifting.

There is a distinct rise in retail thefts during the period; however, the data is limited in that the increase cannot be attributed to individual Local Government Areas (LGAs). Although more thefts were reported on Thursdays (late night shopping) than any other day (n=36,657), it did not have an effect on thieves' preferred time of day for targeting retailers (before closing time on other days). Limitations also exist around accuracy of reporting, in particular the temporal factors, which may in turn have an impact on the findings. Because the data is generic in the sense that it represents an entire state and not LGAs, it would be impractical to suggest the same temporal analysis is accurate when analysing individual LGAs to address crime-prevention methods.

Title: The 'Very' Straight Male Sex Workers in Botswana's Tourism Industry: Blurring the Dominant Discourses of Male Hetero- and Male Homo-sexualities.

Lesedi Mashumba, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

The tourism industry has been one of the fastest growing economy sectors in Botswana, and studies confirm a strong correlation between growth in tourism and the increase in sex work, and this has also been the case in Botswana, particularly in the context of male sex workers. This study aimed to explore the discourses of male sex workers (MSWs) in the Botswana tourism industry. Like other countries, Botswana is a heteronormative society, where sexuality reside in the intangible web of culture; social norms and conventions, as such homosexuality has always been perceived perverted and abnormal and remains criminalized. There is, however, limited literature exploring the experiences of MSWs in this context, including their sexual identities and how they negotiate criminalization. Twenty in-depth interviews with male sex workers were conducted. Intriguingly, the study discovered a subculture of 'very' straight men keeping heterosexual relationships in the outside world while engaging in a homosexual lifestyle with clients in the tourism industry. These challenges the already established dominant discourses of homosexual desire and identity if the 'very' heterosexual male can temporarily assume a homosexual identity and practices.

Using the interview data, this paper argues that a) not all sexual behaviours express one's sexual orientation, b) Transactional sex, coupled with other significant factors, drive some 'very' straight men into homo sexual behaviours, hence confirming homo sexual behaviours as normal within this industry, which shakes the traditional stance of male heterosexuality as normal. However, at the same time, the homosexual male once perceived to be different and criminal loses the edge of transgressive.

Bias Crime Policing: 'The Graveyard Shift'

Gail Mason, University of Sydney Law School, Sydney, NSW, Australia

Les Moran, Birkbeck School of Law, University of London, London, England

Abstract

Bias crime is crime that is motivated by prejudice or bias towards an attribute of the victim, such as race, religion or sexuality. Police have been criticised for failing to take bias crime seriously. There is a pressing need to understand the reasons for this failure. This article aims to address this gap by presenting the results of the first empirical study of bias crime policing in the Australian state of New South Wales. Drawing on interviews with the New South Wales Police Force, our study found that sustainable reform in this domain has proven elusive. This is attributed to several key challenges: reporting; recording; identification; framing; community engagement and leadership. The lessons that emerge from our findings have important ramifications for all police organisations.

The reality and impact of sex offender registration and management.

Kieran McCartan. PhD, Professor of Criminology at UWE, Bristol Adjunct Associate Professor at QUT, Brisbane; Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Huddersfield

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Abstract

The management and integration of individuals who have committed sexual offences back into society can be challenging for professionals, the criminal justice system and communities themselves. One solution to the challenge of community management of people who have committed sexual offences is the creation of a "sex offender's register". This presentation will discuss the history of sex offenders registration and community notification internationally, the rational and the evidence base before going on to discuss police officer understandings of and attitudes to the sex offenders' register, Violent and Sex Offenders' Register (ViSOR) and Child Sexual Offender Disclosure Scheme (CSODS) in England and Wales. This research utilises a mixed-methods approach, combining an online questionnaire survey (N = 227) with a series of semi-structured interviews (N = 27). The study found that police officers, irrespective of role, were generally supportive of the register, ViSOR and CSODS in principle, but they thought that logistics, practicalities, infrastructure, multi-agency collaboration and public understandings had problematic impacts on the scheme in practice. The participants believed that greater investment was needed in terms of time and resource to make the register, ViSOR and CSODS easier to use and access and thus fit for purpose.

The Potential Role of Recovery Capital in Desistance from Sexual Offending

Kieran McCartan. PhD, Professor of Criminology at UWE, Bristol Adjunct Associate Professor at QUT, Brisbane; Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Huddersfield

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Abstract

The challenges in the integration of individuals convicted of sexual abuse into the community are well documented, with recent research noting the importance of 'social capital' (i.e., external resources accessible to the (ex) offender and their availability over time) in the process of successful integration and desistance. Research within the substance misuse field has highlighted that 'recovery capital' (i.e., internal and external resources accessible to the (ex) offender and their availability over time) is also important to successful behavioural change, transition to a non-offending lifestyle and the formation of pro-social identities. This article draws on research from Circles of Support and Accountability to examine the role of recovery capital in desistance from sexual offending.

Animal 'welfare' regulation in Australia's live export trade: Considering animals in political economy

Laura McGillivray (PhD Candidate) Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Abstract

The proliferation of regulatory activity within capitalism has significant implications for animals designated as livestock whose commodity status is central to this structurally violent political economy. While welfare laws attempt to regulate the level and nature of animal exploitation inherent to capitalism, they also appear to be used in various ways to entrench and expand it. The intensified regulation of animal welfare in the Australian live export trade illustrates this and raises questions about its role and use in industries with fragile 'social licence'. This presentation will examine one aspect of the trade's regulatory framework: the Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS), which was introduced following the 2011 trade suspension. Situated in the interdisciplinary space of green criminology—wherein there are calls for greater consideration of the relationship between political economy and animal exploitation—this research adopts a regulationist approach (based on 'regulation theory') to examine the live export trade. The case study will illustrate that the trade is bound to socio-political crises because of its fundamental prioritisation of economy over welfare. It will suggest that regulatory regimes, like ESCAS, are stabilisers used to accommodate, mediate, and normalise industry crises by constructing perceived legitimacy. Drawing on interviews with live export industry, regulatory, and third party stakeholders this presentation will emphasise the critical role these actors play in the social contestation of regulatory spaces. Ultimately, this work will assist in conceptualising animal 'welfare' which suggests duplicitous regulations are increasingly co-opted to advance capitalist agenda and this cements animal harm and exploitation.

“I sort of trust them but I don’t. If I was in trouble, I’d go to them”: Homeless Women and Law Enforcement

Dr Helena Menih, University of New England, Armidale, NSW, Australia

Abstract

The depiction of the criminal homeless has been deeply imprinted into the mindset of journalists, police and politicians. Evidence demonstrates that homeless people are primarily depicted as criminals, as opposed to victims of crime, even though they are more likely to fall victim to crime than to commit it. In fact, the criminal homeless are described as beggars, aggressive beggars or squatters. These behaviours are all linked back to the historical notions of ‘vagrants’, which were deemed to be illegal. This raises questions in regards to the way the police respond to homeless population. In this research (focused on the experience in one major Australian city – Brisbane), according to the homeless women’s own accounts, their involvement in criminal activity was not extensive. Crime and policing are not necessarily a daily occurrence in homeless women’s lives, but it is something they all had come across at some point during their homelessness. For some women, witnessing or being involved in criminal activity occurred during their first days of homelessness, for others, this occurred later. While this research did not focus on police perceptions of, or approaches in responding to homeless women, the review of literature reveals that while homelessness itself is not viewed a crime, responses from the police consider behaviours and actions of homeless as criminal. Consequently, such approaches framed women’s experiences with law enforcement.

Minorities Policing Minorities: 'Asian' Police and LGBT People

Dr Toby Miles-Johnson, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Abstract

An online survey was used to capture Asian-Australian police recruit’s perceptions of policing of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. This research determines that the intersectionality of identity that Asian-Australian police recruits have (as police officers, as Asian-Australians, and, for a small number of recruits as LGB people) shapes their perceptions of policing of LGBT people. The results suggest that whilst police training is effective in instilling operational practices and guidelines regarding policing of minority groups, the overall perceptions of Asian-Australian recruits towards LGBT people are negative. This research supports the idea of increased recruitment of diverse people into police organizations, but it argues that the background characteristics diverse recruits bring into policing (such as cultural influences and levels of bias) can have (like non-diverse recruits) a detrimental effect on perceptions of policing of minority group members.

Democracy, Populism and Bureaucratic Control in Criminal Justice in Japan: Lay-Judge Trials, Compulsory Prosecution, and Victim Participation in Criminal Trials

Setsuo Miyazawa, Professor Emeritus, Kobe University; Senior Visiting Professor of Law, University of Hastings College of the Law; Adjunct Professor, Temple University Law School Japan

Japan launched a comprehensive justice system reform in 2001. One of the most celebrated items was the lay judge system introduced in May 2009. Most serious cases are now tried by a panel of three professional judges and six lay people who are randomly selected from among local voters. This year is its tenth anniversary. Another item which was also introduced in May 2009 was the compulsory prosecution based on a decision by the Prosecution Review Board (PRB). Consisting of eleven people randomly selected from among local voters, the PRB reviews cases which the prosecutor decided not to prosecute. Its decision used to be only advisory, but its decision is now binding if it decided twice that the case should have been prosecuted with a special majority of eight or more votes. Furthermore, preceding these two reforms, the victim participation system was introduced in December 2008. In trials of most serious cases virtually same to those for the lay judge system, the victim, the bereaved family, or their lawyer may question the defendant and demand a certain sentence. How were these reforms introduced? What are their impacts? Are they examples of democracy or populism? Are they free from bureaucratic control? This paper will discuss these issues.

Policing Vulnerability: An examination of police responses to persons with mental illness in the community

Matthew Morgan, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Abstract

Inadequacies associated with police mental health training, and the problematic nature of policing persons with mental illness (PWMI) has resulted in many police officers being heavily criticised for the way they treat PWMI in the community, particularly in relation to heavy handed policing techniques and or criminalising treatment. To address this problem, one of the largest state police organisations in Australia (de identified for ethical reasons) created a number of initiatives with the health sector to overcome the difficulties police face when interacting with PWMI. This includes enhanced 'Vulnerable Persons' training and improved interagency schemes that seek to synergise police responses to PWMI. At present, the effectiveness of these initiatives remains unknown, particularly in creating therapeutic police responses to PWMI. This research therefore aims to assess whether these initiatives prove effective in providing 'fair and just' police responses to PWMI in crisis. Using semi-structured interviews with participants who work across a range of mental health related professions, this research will examine perceptions of treatment PWMI receive during police response. To determine fair and just processes during PWMI-police interactions, the research applies a procedural justice lens.

How to combat terrorist's propaganda in the cyberspace

Author Name: Anoooshe Mushtaq, Raqīb Taskforce

Abstract

The Raqīb Taskforce (Raqīb) is a newly formed, Australian organisation which adopts a grass roots, social cohesion approach to countering violent extremism and radicalisation. The taskforce is well connected in the Australian Muslim community, conducting research and gathering information relating to radicalisation and violent extremism in Australia from on the ground. This connectedness to the community at risk of radicalisation is vital to a wholistic, collaborative counter terrorism strategy that addresses the issue from the bottom up, not just the top down.

It is vital to understand that Islamic State will continue to wreak havoc on the international community through its war in cyberspace, regardless of the success it is having on the battle field of Iraq and the Levant.

In this paper, Raqīb will argue that for as long as Islamic State continues to disseminate slick, social media content offering Islamic 'education' and empowerment to Muslim youth which goes ideologically and intellectually unchallenged online, our youth will continue to be lured into the net of terrorist organisations.

It is integral for a counter terrorism strategy to also fight terrorism on the ideological and intellectual front.

Throughout this paper, Raqīb will emphasise that Islam is not what Islamic State says it is. Their ideology does not have veracity among trained Islamic jurists. The difficulty is, that they are specifically targeting Muslim youth experiencing alienation, and are delivering their messages in a convincing, professional format, which are not being readily dismantled by Islamic Scholars and Clerics in the same online space.

Fighting forced labour on Facebook: What are they saying?

Judith Newton, QUT, PhD Candidate, (Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia)

Abstract

Social media have been increasingly used by activist groups to communicate, organise, and mobilise their followers into action. However, we do not know how the content of activists' social media communication can be used to motivate people to actively participate, both individually and collectively, in online and offline action such as ethical consumerism.

This paper provides insight into the content of Facebook communications of two Australian anti-modern slavery organisations over a four-month period from 1 July 2018 to 31 October 2018. This study identified that the use of motivational collective action frames, and breaking news post formats were extremely popular with Facebook followers. Factors such as the need for targeted social media content, building of collective identity, the use of clear and specific calls to action, and the promotion of opportunities for collective action also influenced the effectiveness of online social justice communication.

This review, together with the conduct of forthcoming in-depth interviews with Facebook followers of the two activist organisations, will make a significant and original contribution to knowledge. This interdisciplinary research will synthesise research and methods from justice, digital communication, and business marketing to make a novel and unique contribution to the literature. Additionally, this research will focus on the comparatively under-researched area of forced labour outside of the commercial sex industry, making a much-needed empirical contribution to the literature. Finally, the research outcomes and subsequent recommendations will be fed back to activist groups to enhance their future communication and activism strategies in their fight against forced labour.

The Geography of Crime and Violence: Exploring Queerphobic Crime and Violence in Two Southern African Countries

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Zaynab Essack, Human Sciences Research Council, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Abstract

In this paper we explore the experiences of spaces that queer men and transwomen have identified as queerphobic and violent in Southern Africa. In an effort to locate geographies of queerphobic crime and violence, we focus on how in these spaces queer men and transwomen are prone to both implicit and explicit violence. We draw from critical theories to question the nature of crime and violence and the extent to which it reflects wider social inequalities. Using queer geographies as an analytical framework, and analysing a subset of qualitative data with queer individuals and couples, we describe and elucidate geographies of queerphobic crime and violence in South Africa and Namibia. Our analysis revealed a plethora of spaces that were identified as queerphobic by our participants. These included in their homes, immediate communities (mostly rural and township areas), public areas (such police stations, taxi ranks, bus stops and healthcare centres), roads and other local transport areas, shopping areas and places of worship. We further found evidence that in order to navigate these spaces; queer participants had to remould themselves both in dress and performance. We present this data under three major themes: Intersectionality of queerphobic violence and space; queerphobic and unsafe spaces; and adjustment to self when navigating queerphobic spaces. Our findings illustrate that space in Southern African countries, and Africa more broadly, is continuously constructed as heterosexual, and that in these spaces, queer individuals experience crime and are at risk of implicit and explicit violence.

Fighting trafficking through digital games: assessing the potential of virtual humanitarianism

Dr Erin O'Brien, School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology
Dr Helen Berents, School of Justice, Queensland University of Technology

Abstract

In recent years, advocacy groups have increasingly utilized apps, online video games, and virtual reality experiences to raise awareness of human rights abuses and humanitarian crises. These forms of 'virtual humanitarianism' seek to promote an interactive element to learning about a range of issues including human trafficking, asylum seeking, and environmental disasters. The introduction of virtual mediums as a tool for advocacy poses a new dimension to ongoing research into the impact of humanitarian appeals, and the representation of vulnerable populations within awareness campaigns. New questions also emerge concerning the implications of virtual platforms for humanitarian advocacy, and the ethics and politics of the interactive nature of these games, Apps, and virtual experiences.

This paper focuses on the issue of human trafficking as a case study through which to examine the trend towards virtual humanitarianism. The paper analyses three online games released in the last five years for the purposes of raising awareness about human trafficking: Balkans ACT NOW's *Ban Human Trafficking* game for desktop or smartphone; *(Un)Trafficked* online game promoted by the Kailash Satyarthi Foundation in India; and *Missing: Game for a Cause*, developed by artist and anti-trafficking activist Leena Kejriwal for smartphone and tablet devices. In analysing three games about human trafficking, we argue that persistent tropes continue to dominate the narrative, with a focus on individualized problems rather than the structural causes of the problem. However, there is also clear potential for complexity and nuance in storytelling through videogames that may expand the scope for humanitarian advocacy.

Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict: Prosecutorial Disinterest in Nigeria and a Re-imagination of the Protection of the Domestic Criminal Legal Regime in the Boko Haram Situation

Victoria O. Ojo, Doctoral Researcher (Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany)

Abstract

Acts of sexual violence have long been weaponized in the context of both internal and international armed conflicts in history. Within the Boko Haram violence in the Lake Chad Basin region in West Africa, conflict related sexual violence and an excessive focus on women became symptomatic of the crisis. Sexual and gender-based violence also continue to play a crucial role in the common criminal purpose of the Boko Haram group. Generally, norms of internal and international criminal law are firmly in place for the protection of women in armed conflicts. However, these have scarcely translated into practical protection in the Boko Haram situation.

Although international sexual violence prosecution has a chequered history, the ICTY and the ICTR successfully returned landmark decisions in which acts of sexual violence were prosecuted as genocide, war crimes and/or crimes against humanity. In the Boko Haram crisis however, no act of sexual violence has been prosecuted in the cases before the courts in Nigeria so far. This paper contextualizes the domestic legal regime in Nigeria within the greater framework of international criminal law on sexual violence in armed conflict. It also attempts to understand the prosecutorial disinterest in Nigeria and concludes with a re-imagination of a more proactive investigatory and prosecutorial approach within the domestic legal framework.

Predictive and Proactive policing of young people in NSW: Critiques and lessons in driving reform and change.

Dr Vicki Sentas, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Dr Scarlet Wilcock, Lecturer, School of Law, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia – non presenting co-author

Camilla Pandolfini, Senior Solicitor, Public Interest Advocacy Centre, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Abstract

The Suspect Targeting Management Plan (STMP) is a proactive NSW police program that purports to 'predict' and then target individuals considered at risk of re-offending through repeated policing, including stop and search and home visits. In October 2017 we published the first public report on the STMP, focussed on the impact of its use against children and young people. Drawing on a multi-source research design combined with critical theories of risk-based and proactive policing, we describe and critique the workings of this strategy and its effects. We argue that, notwithstanding police justifications of efficiency and effectiveness, the STMP has consolidated and amplified an oppressive policing regime. The STMP circumvents law, legitimises the over-policing of young people and Aboriginal peoples, and raises fundamental questions about the impacts of proactive policing strategies on the criminal justice landscape. Reflecting on the long-term campaign to contain and abolish the STMP, we draw lessons from the response to our report; the limitations of police accountability and reform, and broader possibilities for community based resistance against policing.

Criminal Victimization in Post-Conflict Settings: The Case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Michaela Pieterse, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Walter Forrest, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Several studies report that violent and property crime rates increase in the aftermath of war, especially in the Global South where wars are concentrated and most likely to result in significant social, economic and political upheaval. In these contexts, increased criminal victimisation can delay reconstruction and even threaten the stability of peace. For growing numbers of victims, criminal victimisation can also have long-term, adverse life-course impacts. Yet few studies have examined which individuals or groups are most likely to be victimised in the aftermath of conflict or why. As a result, little is known about how to reduce the risk of victimisation in these settings. In this paper, we draw upon three contemporary criminological theories of victimisation — routine activities, self-control theory, and sub-cultural deviance — to understand who is at greatest risk of criminal victimisation in post-conflict settings. Using data from the Secure Livelihoods Research Consortium Panel Survey, we identify individual correlates of victimisation in a single post-conflict setting: the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In doing so, we evaluate the capacity of criminological theories, normally used to explain victimisation in the Global North during peace, to account for patterns of victimisation in the Global South in the aftermath of war. We discuss the implications of our findings for explanations of criminal victimisation in post-conflict settings and for crime prevention in significantly disrupted environments.

Violence in Campus Protests: Exploring intergenerational trauma and the escalation of conflicts.

Simóne Plüg, International Centre of Non-Violence, Durban University of Technology, Durban, South Africa

Abstract

Civil resistance, including protest and demonstration action, is a crucial part of achieving social change and essential for the operation of a functioning democracy. At South African universities these processes, arising from major underlying problems, have increasingly become infused with serious violence. The nature and role of violence engaged in by all parties in these situations is complex, and understanding the nuanced ways in which these processes play out is essential for effective intervention. This research responds to recent campus protests at Durban University of Technology in February 2019, where a student was shot dead by security officers and a young staff member suffered life-threatening injuries when attacked by a student. This paper forms part of a broad preliminary exploration that seeks to understand, through in-depth conversations with parties most directly involved in the conflicts at this university, how these campus conflicts rapidly escalate into acts of violence, and what alternatives might allow for effective non-violent strategies for institutional and social change. Drawing on the broad theories of intergenerational trauma and structural and cultural violence, this presentation aims to explore some of the key questions, methods of data collection and analysis, and the complex ethical considerations which would enable us to understand these processes better. Here it contributes to a critical Southern Criminology by moving away from the decontextualizing approaches that simply criminalise acts of individual protesters or security personnel, and instead explores the role of both ongoing social inequalities and pervasive intergenerational trauma in the escalation and reproduction of these violent conflicts.

The End of Penal Populism; The Rise of Populist Politics

Professor John Pratt, Institute of Criminology, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand

Abstract

Since its emergence in the Western democracies in the 1990s, penal populism has radically reshaped and reorganized many aspects of penal policy in modern society. In general terms, this has brought about a shift from the emphasis given to protecting the rights of individuals from excessive use of the state's power to punish to, instead, using those powers, often in the form of innovative measures previously thought to have no legitimate place in the modern world, to protect the public from those individuals thought to put them at risk. In so doing, it acted as a kind of dam, to contain the anxieties and uncertainties unleashed by the neo-liberal restructuring of these societies, simultaneously allowing it continue apace. However, the recent ascendancy of populist politics indicates that penal populism is no longer able to maintain this function. Its toxic contents have spread throughout the social body, with the result that, in carrying out its new roles and hunting down its targets (sometimes before they have even committed a crime – at risk of doing so can be sufficient), punishment in modern society moves still further away from the boundaries of what had previously been possible. The paper argues that the reasons for this lie in the effects of the 2008 global fiscal crisis, the mass movement of peoples around the globe, and the rise of social media which ensures that 'the establishment' no longer **provides the exclusive public discourse through which risks and dangers are understood.**

Distributive Justice and the Moral Economy of Hunger and Food Waste

Carol Richards, School of Management, QUT Business School

This paper is part of the Food Justice panel organised by Erin O'Brien

Abstract

Estimates that between 30-50% of edible food is wasted are often juxtaposed with concerns about high levels of food insecurity. That food can be simultaneously 'wasted and scarce' highlights shortfalls in distributive justice. In economically developed countries such as Australia, Canada, the US and the UK, charitable agencies are reporting growing demands for food relief as social inequalities widen. Through these charitable mechanisms, food that falls outside of the market (due to overproduction, cosmetic appearance, etc) is often directed to food insecure people who also exist outside, or on the margins of, the formal economy. Described as 'second class food for second class people', the food waste/food relief nexus requires further critique. In this paper, the current tensions of food waste and food insecurity are examined through a moral economy lens. It is argued that the decoupling of social and economic life under modern, (neo)liberal forms of governance have eroded rights to food which are artificially reinstated through largely unsatisfactory market mechanisms, such as corporate social responsibility, voluntary codes of conduct and industry self-regulation.

The role of culture in identity transformation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men who have sexually offended

Dr Kelly Richards, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Dr Jodi Death, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Reintegration following prison can be especially challenging for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (A&TSI) people who have sexually offended, as many are not allowed to return to their home communities due to the nature of their offending. One innovative practice that has been introduced to alleviate this issue is the Cultural Mentoring Program, which provides A&TSI offenders with one-on-one cultural and spiritual mentoring support from an Elder. After providing a brief overview of this A&TSI-led program, this presentation will explore how (re)connecting offenders with aspects of A&TSI cultures shaped the desistance journeys of the men who participated in the program. Using the conceptual lens of 'redemption scripts' (Maruna, 2001), it will give voice to the men who participated in the study, and demonstrate, in their words, how culture shapes their identity transformations post-prison. The study was funded by Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) and is part of a larger study about sexual offender reintegration in Australia. Findings from the research will have relevance beyond the Cultural Mentoring Program, as very little has been documented about good practice in reintegrating A&TSI offenders generally or A&TSI sex offenders specifically. Findings also point to the need to extend our understanding of 'redemption scripts' to consider the role of culture in the development of these narratives.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership: Secret Trade and Trade Secrets

Matthew Rimmer, QUT Faculty of Law, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

The *Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)* sought to strengthen the protection of trade secrets throughout the Pacific Rim.

The United States Congress has passed the *Defend Trade Secrets Act 2016 (US)*. Under President Barack Obama, the United States Trade Representative pushed for the inclusion of criminal penalties and procedures for trade secrets violations in international trade agreements such as the *TPP*. Nonetheless, there has been concerns that the closed model of trade secrets protection and computer crimes in the *TPP* could have a chilling effect upon innovation, knowledge diffusion, and entrepreneurship.

Despite the withdrawal of the United States under President Donald Trump, the remaining countries have agreed to the '*Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP-11)*'. A number of controversial intellectual property provisions were suspended – as a result of Canada's demands. However, the text on criminal penalties and procedures for the *TPP* has remained unaltered in *TPP-11*. As a result, participants in the *TPP-11* will have to provide for heightened protection of trade secrets and computer crimes. The *TPP-11* will come into force in 2019, given that 6 or more countries will have completed their ratification.

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump has pursued an aggressive model of defence of United States' trade secrets in the trade dispute with China. Indeed, the Department of Justice has brought a number of criminal actions within the United States – and has even extradited a Chinese intelligence officer from Belgium over the alleged theft of trade secrets relating to aviation technology.

The Future of Printcrime: 3D Printing and Gun Control in the Age of Trump

Matthew Rimmer, QUT Faculty of Law, Brisbane, Queensland

Abstract

The controversy over 3D printing of guns has intensified in the United States in 2018. The Trump Administration has sought to settle the federal government's dispute with Cody Wilson and Defense Distributed. There has been much public debate about the decision of the Trump Administration in respect of the regulation of 3D printing of guns.

In response, the Attorneys-General of 20 States – led by the Washington State Office of the Attorney-General – sought to block the Trump Administration action. Washington State's Attorney-General Bob Ferguson said: 'These downloadable guns are unregistered and very difficult to detect, even with metal detectors, and will be available to anyone regardless of age, mental health or criminal history.'

The US District Court of the Western District of Washington at Seattle granted a temporary restraining order. US District Judge Robert Lasnik noted that a previous Director of the Office of Defense Trade Controls Management had concluded that in spite of the Court order, Cody Wilson distributed the blueprints to the public anyway. He is charging a suggested price of \$10 each and has distributed the blueprints via a mailed flash drive, email, and secure download links. Wilson said at a press conference: 'I'm happy to become the iTunes of 3D guns if I can't be Napster.'

Following the issuance of the temporary restraining order, Justice Lasnik granted an injunction to the States. The judge held: 'The Court finds that the irreparable burdens on the private defendants' First Amendment rights are dwarfed by the irreparable harms the States are likely to suffer if the existing restrictions are withdrawn and that, overall, the public interest strongly supports maintaining the status quo through the pendency of this litigation.'

After a warrant was put for his arrest another matter, Wilson fled to Taiwan as a fugitive, although he was returned to the United States. Wilson has been placed in jail, awaiting trial, and has relinquished his leadership of Defense Distributed.

No doubt there will be further debate over this controversial case study in the US legal and political system.

Reckoning with a “Bad Past”: Policing and the Queer Politics of Regret in the ‘Age of Apology’

Emma Russell, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia

Abstract

Criminological scholarship on state crime and institutional scandal has often drawn on Stan Cohen’s framework of ‘states of denial’ to analyse governmental responses to past and ongoing systemic harm and abuse. In contrast to denial, the institutional apology signifies a form of acknowledgement of historic injustice and is thus positioned as a superior response. However, the discourse of apology may not be as progressive as it initially appears. This paper argues that official narratives of regret are structured by selective silences and animated by a desire to repair reputational damage and maintain power. As state institutions are increasingly calling upon LGBTIQ+ populations to bear the weight of forgiveness and cleanse them of a “bad past”, critical and queer criminologies ought to attune to the potential power effects of apology.

This paper discusses the recent phenomenon of official apologies for historic queer injustice, issued by police organisations and state governments in Australia and elsewhere. Complicating a conventional view of apologies as a self-reflexive effort by those with power to come to terms with past mistakes, the paper analyses the performance of apology as a self-protective and self-aggrandising gesture that attempts to manage and subsume the figure of the “unhappy queer”. By transforming a shameful past into a proud present, the apology ultimately seeks to reinvigorate queer investments in policing and nation.

Can Restorative Justice Disrupt the “School-to-Prison Pipeline?”

Mara Schiff, Ph.D. Associate Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, College for Design and Social Inquiry Florida Atlantic University

Abstract

The “school-to-prison pipeline” commonly refers to the impact of zero tolerance and other harsh exclusionary discipline policies on school suspensions and expulsions. Impacts are especially felt among minority students of color in the United States and elsewhere where abundant evidence now concludes that such students are suspended, expelled, disciplinarily referred and arrested at rates far exceeding either their representation in the population or that of their white peers. Restorative justice practices have emerged as an increasingly popular response to racial disparity in school discipline, supported by research, state and federal governmental initiatives. However, the capacity of restorative justice to limit the school-to-prison pipeline may remain unfulfilled unless it can disrupt current social-organizational structures that maintain racial inequity in institutional structures. This paper considers the effectiveness of restorative justice in schools as an alternative to overly punitive discipline policy and as a strategy for reducing racial disciplinary disparity. It then considers organizational and cultural impediments to implementing restorative justice to overcome racial disciplinary inequity for school-based youth and asserts that restorative justice must strive for more than incremental change inside existing systems.

Neither Boat nor Barbeque: In Search of New Language to Unleash the Transformative Possibility of Restorative Justice”

Mara Schiff, Ph.D. Associate Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, College for Design and Social Inquiry, Florida Atlantic University

David Anderson Hooker, PhD, JD, M.Div, Professor of the Practice of Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding, Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies

Abstract

Restorative justice (RJ) has been offered as an alternative to address some of the perceived inequity and marginalization engendered by traditional retributive justice systems. However, grounding restorative justice philosophy and practice in linguistic and discursive formulations of “justice” cannot be disentangled from historical actions, systems, and narratives that use such language to codify and exacerbate marginalization, oppression, and exclusion. Drawing on J.L. Austin’s classic theory of language and Ferdinand de Saussure’s concept of semiotics, this article argues that the current linguistic environment of RJ may prevent it from accomplishing true societal transformation as a social movement. Using the linguistic examples of “boat” and “barbeque” to help elucidate the limiting aspects of restorative justice language, we then introduce the concepts of linguistic abstractions and conversational domains as pathways to liberate restorative justice from the limiting constraints of its languaging. By introducing three central questions, we provide an inquiry framework that offers related concepts of racecraft, public health, permaculture, and satyagraha to demonstrate how alternative languaging may be needed to fully achieve the aspirational possibilities of “restorative justice.”

Charting the Place of islands in the Criminological Imagination

John Scott, School of Justice Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Abstract

Criminology has long been concerned with the ecology of crime. However, critics have noted that attention has often been restricted to highly urbanized places and rural and emote places have been relatively neglected. In similar vein, criminology has largely been a mainland venture and islands, especially in a more isolated setting, have been neglected. Despite this islands have been important settings for crime in popular culture and have been important sites in the colonial management of crime. This paper examines the possibilities for island criminologies, drawing on ecological perspectives, especially as they have been applied to rural places. The possibilities for an island criminology are explored with reference to the sole remaining British Territory in the South Pacific, Pitcairn Island, and its recent history, including well publicised sexual assault trails (2004).

Crime Statistics and Racialised Narratives: Exploring Criminalised Representations of Sudanese-Australians

Leah Slattery, PhD candidate at La Trobe University, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia

Abstract

The Sudanese-Australian diaspora have been problematised and politicised since 2005 by media sources which routinely project legitimacy for common narratives by quoting from crime statistics, anonymous police sources and politicians. This paper explores and challenges these representations to increase our understanding of the way in which Sudanese-Australians are framed as particularly problematic, especially in terms of their perceived collective proneness to criminality. Contesting narratives have suggested that social processes of racialisation have created a problem where one might not otherwise exist, and that Sudanese-Australians are no more prone to criminality than other groups. This suggests that the Sudanese-Australian diaspora have been framed unfavourably not due to their own actions, but because of prevailing suspicions of migrant groups which are noticeably different. This paper posits that representations of racialised migrant groups in colonial settler societies such as Australia create and perpetuate criminalisation as an expression of power dynamics which work to preserve ongoing post-colonial control.

Civic Food Justice: Directions for localising the Sustainable Development Goals

Kiah Smith, DECRA Fellow, School of Social Science, University of Queensland, St Lucia, QLD, Australia.

This paper is part of the “Food Justice” panel, organised by Erin O’Brien

Abstract

In many countries, food system governance that directly engages with food justice and civil society has resulted in major transformations in people’s ability to define healthy, sustainable and just food systems, as well as improve food access for those most vulnerable. To achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals, stronger efforts towards enabling civil society engagement with policy in ways that challenge ‘business as usual’ approaches to food production and consumption are needed. This is especially so in regards to Zero Hunger (goal 2), where mainstream food security visions or actors tend to crowd out food justice perspectives with implications for both food access and policy.

This paper outlines a case for including civic food justice actors, networks and initiatives in defining locally appropriate progress on, and implementation of, the SDGs. In Australia, civic food networks such as urban gardens, community supported agriculture, farmers’ markets, organic cooperatives, food charities and ‘fair food’ organisations are important civil society stakeholders who actively confront food system inequalities such as food insecurity and food waste, through a framework of food justice. But civil society has largely been excluded from SDG debates, despite evidence that they are instrumental in addressing hunger and food access. This paper introduces key theoretical ideas about food justice, and argues that ‘fair food’ activities differ greatly from food security approaches focused on producing more food. They therefore provide a potentially progressive framework for thinking about alternative food futures and the SDGs.

'I wouldn't call the cops if I was being bashed to death' - Sex worker experiences with the criminal justice system

Zahra Stardust, Scarlet Alliance, Australia

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Abstract

Stigma is recognised as being a critical barrier to effective health promotion and human rights. Among sex workers, stigma is associated with mental health issues, social isolation, and can discourage people from accessing avenues to justice.

Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association and the Centre for Social Research in Health conducted focus groups among 25 sex workers of diverse gender, ages and working types, recruited through Scarlet Alliance networks, to explore issues around stigma related to sex work. Criminalisation of sex work was recognised as both a driver of and symptom of stigma.

Criminalisation of sex work and fear of arrest meant that sex workers rarely identified the police as protectors and provided a disincentive to sex workers reporting crime. Sex workers experienced police requesting natural services and arresting them (entrapment), police using condoms as evidence (hindering safer sex practice), being required to register on permanent police databases, criminalisation (and imprisonment) of sex workers living with HIV, raids on Asian brothels and migrant sex workers, and the disproportionate targeting, harassment and displacement of street-based sex workers. Reasons for not reporting crime included a lack of trust in police, lack of faith in a just outcome, and to avoid re-traumatisation. Where they did disclose their sex work, some sex workers were met with cultural prejudice, including assumptions that sexual assault constituted part of their job.

The qualitative findings indicate the need for sex work sensitivity training for police and judiciary, appropriate referral pathways, and funding for sex worker legal clinics. Scarlet Alliance and CSRH are currently developing a quantitative survey on sex work stigma which will be significant for government, policy-makers, justice agencies and potential law reform. This will be used to evaluate future projects such as trialing stigma reduction interventions.

Young people —agents of change in preventing violence in relationships

Rachael Pascau, R4Respect, YFS Ltd, Logan. Queensland.

Andrew Taukolo, R4Respect, YFS Ltd, Logan. Queensland.

Abstract

Violence supportive attitudes, including a belief in male superiority, remain common among many boys and young men. They are one of the drivers of violence in relationships (National Community Attitudes Survey, 2019 and Our Watch, 2017). To counter these attitudes and to reduce gender-based violence, young people can be effective agents of change among our peers.

In the evaluation of our R4Respect program (Struthers, Parmenter & Tilbury, 2019)— a relationships peer education program based in Logan— the young participants overwhelmingly stated that they had engaged well with us as peer educators and they had improved their understanding of what behaviours ‘cross the line’ into harm. However even with some improvement following participation in the workshops, around 10 % of the young people still held the view that it is ok to put pressure on or physically force someone to have sex.

In establishing R4Respect, YFS was inspired by an asset-based framework that views young people as both: resources to be developed, not problems to be managed (Roth & Brooks-Gunn, 2003) and agents of change, not solely targets of change (United Nations Children’s Fund [UNCF], 2012). In the R4Respect model young people are supported to develop the knowledge and skills required to take leadership in the prevention of gender-based violence. We use social media, community events, peer education and law and policy reform activities to advocate for change. Be inspired from this workshop to promote young people as agents of change in violence prevention.

“Who Wears the Pants?” and “Boys Will Be Boys”: Perceptions of Intimate Partner Violence in Same-Sex Relationships

Shannon Stuart, The University of Queensland (Brisbane, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia)

Professor Barbara Masser, The University of Queensland (Brisbane, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia)

Associate Professor Blake McKimmie, The University of Queensland (Brisbane, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia)

Dr Sharon Dane, The University of Queensland (Brisbane, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia)

Abstract

Although it has been suggested that the stereotype of same-sex intimate partner violence (IPV) is based on heterosexual gender stereotypes that have simply been applied to same-sex partnerships (Terrance & Little, 2010), our recent qualitative research suggests that this may not be the case. In the context of IPV, these results indicate that people use gender typical stereotypes and their congruity with acts of violence to assess the severity of the abuse. The aim of the current study was to expand on this work and experimentally confirm the use of these stereotypes, and their impact on people’s legally-relevant judgements about the case. Participants (N= 269) read a hypothetical police report detailing an incident of IPV, in which the gender of the victim and perpetrator, and as the couples’ sexuality varied. Consistent with our qualitative work, stereotypes about gender, rather than sexuality, impacted perceptions of IPV. However, contrary to expectations, IPV in a relationship between two women was seen as similarly severe as relationships where there was a male perpetrator and female victim. Further, incidents with male victims were seen as less severe because male victims were seen as less gender typical, and the incident as less typical of IPV. These findings suggest that stereotypes about gender, combined with the role of the victim may be influencing perceiver’s judgements in cases of IPV. This research has important implications for how we address the effect of stereotypes on legally-relevant judgements in cases of IPV.

Crime prevention by design

Douglas Tomkin, Designing Out Crime Research Centre, University of Technology Sydney

Abstract

Utilising design as a means of preventing crime was validated in the 1960's by Jeffery and Newman with the formation of crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED). More recently design methodology has been employed to tackle complex crime related problems in a wide variety of areas including, for example, identity theft, countering terrorism and reducing recidivism. Developing this new approach was made possible through a partnership with UTS and Justice NSW in 2009 establishing the Designing Out Crime Research Centre (DOC). Over the past ten years DOC has undertaken over 120 crime related projects and in the process developed a new design-based methodology specific to this field. A key element of the method involves a co-design process where designers, criminologists and other key participants work collectively to "reframe" the problem from alternative perspectives. The majority of these projects involve the public sector; local councils, policing, corrections, health and transport. This presentation will illustrate how designers, criminologists and others collaborating together can effect social change joining government on long-standing crime linked issues.

Masculinities and loathed and legitimate urban drug use and intoxication

Stephen Tomsen Western Sydney University, NSW, Australia

Abstract

Heavy public drinking has been a key means to signal and cultivate a normalised masculine identity in alcohol-centric urban venues, locations and related leisure activities. This has been in sharp contrast with the depiction of men who sell or use illicit drugs in specific lower status or "dangerous" locales. These are viewed as a serious threat to urban order and embody a feared form of dealer's "hyper-masculinity" or an equally loathed or "failed" addict masculinity. This presentation reflects on the past results of interviews focused on the meanings of violence and safety among 20 male injecting drug users at the Sydney Kings Cross *Metropolitan Safe Injecting Centre* (MSIC). Interviewees exhibited identities and led lifestyles that were shifting, vulnerable, and at frequent risk of victimisation as "out of place" men. This and other evidence about illicit drug use suggest the need for more safe injecting sites throughout the city. At the MSIC, marginal client identities are drawn from a view of the Centre as an abject space. Irrational hostility to these sites partly reflects the imagery of the harmful masculinities that illicit drug selling and drug use are believed to host. This differs notably from the contested but still legitimate masculinity built on night-time consumption in locations of extended drinking and gambling.

From romanticism to realism: Southern Criminology and its critics

Max Travers, University of Tasmania

Abstract

As Southern Criminology develops, it will receive its fair share of criticisms. In this paper, I will review three early papers by sympathetic critics that seek to strengthen the approach. Chris Cunneen (2018) has argued that, when conceptualising the South, there should be more recognition of Indigenous experiences. Leon Moosavi (2018) has asked whether Australia suffers marginality that is comparable with developing countries. My own contribution criticises critical theorists for over-generalising and romanticising non-western cultures and viewpoints (Travers 2017). In discussing these critical traditions, I draw on my own experiences: supervising an Indigenous project in Tasmania; engaging with international literatures as an Australian academic; and attending a conference on juvenile justice in the People's Republic of China. Realism will take us further on the journey than romanticism, even though it complicates any political program.

Different Ways of Punishment Affect Recidivism Rate Among Italian Criminals

Tommaso Trinchera, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

Abstract

According to a collective myth, a prison cell must be tightly closed until the last day established in the judgment of conviction. The "certainty of punishment" seems to be guaranteed by the quantity rather than the quality of the days, months or years spent inside the cell. The longer the time, the more effective the punishment. However, the data show that the facts are the opposite of the myth. The tendency to commit new offenses after being in prison to serve one or more sentences (recidivism) is higher for inmates kept strictly closed inside the prison for all the time than for those serving the sentence with any kind of alternative punishment.

The working hypothesis underlying the present study is the following: in cost-benefit terms for community safety, prison or other punishments operated according to criteria of rehabilitation and re-socialization is much more "advantageous" than one just oriented to incapacitation and compensation. An effective criminal policy, therefore, would be the one assuming rehabilitation-oriented punishments as a rule, and prison as the exception to be applied in special circumstances (very dangerous criminal).

Australian Penal Cultures

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Abstract

We have argued earlier that models of Northern criminology are insufficient to understand Australian penalty, as expressed in the number of people that are in prisons, and differences thereof between Australian jurisdictions (Tubex et al., 2015; Tubex, 2017). The fact that these differences are stable and longstanding demonstrate different punishment patterns and cultures in Australian jurisdictions. In this contribution, we start from a Southern perspective as we are focussing on differences between Australian jurisdictions and their punishment histories, the political climate in which these were taken and with a focus on the role of colonialism and the overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system. Based on data analysis and empirical research, we will explore how this resulted in different Australian penal cultures.

Explaining Tourists' Risk of Being Victimized

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Clair. L. Alston-Knox, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia

Abstract

There is a clear association between tourism and crime. Of particular relevance, tourists are more likely to suffer crime than are local residents, and citizens are relatively more likely to experience crime when on vacation than when at home. This has been linked to lifestyle factors. That is, people behave differently when on holiday to when they are at home. However, to date there has been no research on the way in which different groups of tourists behave differently, and the impact this has on risk of victimisation. In contrast, it is well established in the criminological literature that lifestyle factors explain crime risk. Routine activity theory, among others, suggests that citizens' prosperity, work patterns, leisure activity, area and type of residence etc. determine to a large extent whether or not they are victimised.

The current research operationalises the concepts incorporated in routine activity theory to address the relationship between lifestyle and victimisation among a sample of tourists from Australia who recently visited the UK or Bali. The sample was drawn from the members of an online labour portal Mechanical Turk. The respondents were asked questions about their last holiday and whether or not they experienced any crimes while away. The paper shows that vacation-style and tourist-style are useful in differentiating between victims and non-victims. Implications for practice are also discussed.

A Southern Criminology Approach to the Study of Criminal Selectivity: The Argentinean Case and the Over-Criminalization of Indigenous Peoples

Valeria Vegh Weis (Buenos Aires University/ Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Abstract

The present paper aims to offer critical analytical tools (criminal selectivity, over-criminalization, under-criminalization) in order to push forward the development of a critical green southern criminology. Using Argentina as a case study, the article develops the notion of *criminal selectivity* to expose the biased functioning of the criminal justice system. On the one hand, the article explores how crime control is being intensively used to the detriment of the indigenous peoples claiming for their rights, despite the fact that their protests are not producing significant social harm and are even framed within constitutional rights. This phenomenon, as the article argues, might be referred to as *over-criminalization*. On the other hand, the study exposes how the criminal justice system is not used to prosecute neither green harms perpetrated by corporations nor the unlawful use of force against native peoples by law enforcement agencies, in spite of the severe harm that those behaviors produce against the environment and the lives and physical integrity of the communities. This process might be referred to, arguably, as *under-criminalization*. Overall, the article exposes how the Argentinean criminal justice system is targeting the most vulnerable peoples while failing to provide environmental protections as a case study that reflects the biased functioning of the criminal justice systems in the Global South.

Living Under the Shadow of Death: The Experiences of Women Formerly on Death Row in the Philippines

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Abstract

This paper illuminates the experiences and issues of women who spent time on death row before the suspension of capital punishment in the Philippines in 2006. To contextualize the discussion, the researcher examines their pathways to prison and the common themes in their backgrounds that brought them in contact with the criminal justice system. The researcher looks into the women's concerns and coping mechanisms when they still lived under the sentence of death, and the impact of their incarceration on their family members and other significant networks. This paper elaborates on their social worlds under confinement, their struggles for survival when they were on death row, and their negotiation of the social order in the penitentiary. The researcher also delves into the near-execution of one woman, the subsequent confirmation of the death sentences of five other women, and the impact thereof on the rest of the women inmates on death row. The researcher discusses the women's views on the suspension of capital punishment, their understanding of the commutation of their death sentence to life imprisonment without parole, the changes in their situation, if any, since the repeal of the death penalty, and their fears regarding the revival of the death penalty in the Philippines under the current administration of President Rodrigo Duterte. This paper concludes with a discussion of their persisting issues and service needs in prison as they continue to serve long-term sentences, while avoiding the prospect of returning to death row if capital punishment were to be reinstated.

Surveillance and control: Technologically and violence against women in Singapore, perspectives of frontline workers.

Dr Laura Vitis, QUT, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Abstract

Technologically Facilitated Violence against Women (TFVW) is readily becoming a key site of analysis for criminologists. The burgeoning scholarship in this area has identified online sexual harassment, image-based abuse and gender based cyberhate (among others) as key manifestations of TFVW with gendered impacts. However, much of the existing empirical scholarship has been produced within countries like the US, UK and Australia and there is limited research on this phenomenon within South East Asia. As such, this paper examines the ways in which technology is shaping Singaporean women's experiences of domestic and sexual violence. To do so, it draws upon a recent research project which utilised semi-structured interviews with Singaporean frontline workers in the fields of domestic and sexual violence. This paper outlines the range of roles technology played within their clients' experiences of sexual and domestic violence including: contact-based harassment, image-based abuse and technologically facilitated surveillance. It argues that the prominence of surveillance within these accounts reflect the need for a contextually located analysis of TFVW.

Information Access 2.0: Freedom of Information and Australian Criminal Justice

Ian Warren, Senior Lecturer (Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria, Australia)

Abstract

Much overseas research uses Freedom of Information (FOI) as a proactive tool to promote greater knowledge of the institutional contexts of many aspects of justice activity, and greater accountability for those processes. Despite calls for the increased use of FOI in Australian criminological research, progress has remained slow, even though reforms to state and federal FOI laws theoretically establish a default position that favours public disclosure of any information associated with governmental and bureaucratic decision-making. This default position is compromised by several aspects of justice administration that promote secrecy or only qualified disclosure of certain forms of information. In other words, the new era of FOI or Information Access 2.0, is simply not amenable to reflecting the nuances of justice administration compared with other domains of public service provision.

This paper has three objectives. The first is to examine why the presumption of full disclosure under Information Access 2.0 is at best counter-intuitive, and at worst a self-defeating ideal when it comes to Australian justice administration. Second, it documents the results of preliminary research examining when, why and for what purposes FOI claims involving justice agencies are lodged. This aims to paint a more contextualised picture of the role of FOI in Australian justice administration and to help identify its potential value, if any, in criminological research. Third, the paper concludes with some thoughts on why FOI is a largely neglected aspect of Australian criminological research in light of alternate modes of information disclosure to enhance institutional accountability.

What is a Southern Criminology of Law?

Ian Warren, Senior Lecturer (Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria, Australia)

Abstract

This paper reviews a range of examples, including laws relating to police powers urban governance and criminal punishment, to illustrate how Southern Criminology can open up new avenues for the development of a critical theory and methodology of law. First, it argues for the importance of a comparative approach to the history and reception of laws associated with criminalisation, police procedure and sentencing. The objective is to understand how established common law doctrines developed in the global north shaped governance practices in the 'global south' (or 'north-in-south'), and have fed back into established policies that garner criminological acceptance throughout the globe, or represent important variations and adaptations to accepted practice that warrant greater theoretical examination in the criminological mainstream. Second, it highlights how legal empiricism can provide a critical subterranean approach to examining law in action that transcends the geolocational contexts in which it is commonly administered. Using law as a form of empirical data can greatly assist in developing legal doctrine and new understandings regarding its purposes and the complexities of its enforcement. Third, the paper highlights how case studies are an important methodological tool for critical Southern approach to examining case law. The paper concludes by emphasising how a Southern Criminology of law can help produce a greater understanding of relevant historical developments in criminology, and their ongoing impacts in promoting or stifling meaningful justice reform.

Rejecting Gender Equality: Community Views on Security Provision by the Tuvalu Police Service

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Abstract

Discussions by police leaders about improved policing strategies in small island Pacific countries centre around partnering with communities to better meet their needs. A focal area for Police in Tuvalu has been responding to international calls for improved gender representation and relations. These discussions highlight the value of community-police partnerships and emphasize the need for further dialogue between police and communities to determine their experiences with police service provision as well as their expectations of police organizations in their jurisdiction. In an attempt to better meet the needs of the communities serviced, the Tuvalu Police Service (TPS) commissioned a study to investigate stakeholder perceptions of policing on eight of the nine islands. A total of 1896 residents were surveyed accounting for more than 10% of the total population. A sub-section of the study was devoted to attaining community views on the need for increased number of female officers in the TPS. The findings revealed that the majority of residents surveyed reject notions of gender equality in the TPS. Within this paper, we discuss ideas about the importance of community views on security provision and local ownership as anti-democratic and supportive of gender marginalization.

Child Sexual Abuse and the Australian Roman Catholic Church: Using Techniques of Neutralisation to Examine Institutional Responses to Clergy-Perpetrated Child Sexual Abuse

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Abstract

Clergy-perpetrated child sexual abuse (CSA) is a long occurring phenomenon. The contemporary Roman Catholic Church (RCC) has, however, often failed to address this problem openly. Throughout the twentieth century many RCC institutions quietly handled cases of clergy-perpetrated CSA internal to the institution, keeping such cases beyond the view of the media and public (Jenkins 1996). As highlighted by the recent Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and other Australian and international inquiries, this inadequate response indicates that the RCC were more concerned with protecting the institution than with addressing the causes, contexts, or harms, caused by acts of clergy-perpetrated CSA.

What remains to be examined are the causes and context of these responses, how these responses change or evolve during the progression of a case, and how the responses in different cases compare to one another.

The research therefore examines how the response of the RCC to cases of clergy-perpetrated CSA changes throughout the course of a case. To achieve this, I analysed transcripts from the Royal Commission's investigation into two landmark cases of clergy-perpetrated CSA using the framework of neutralisation theory. The research explores whether the use of neutralisations allows the RCC to effectively protect the institution from responsibility in relation to claims of clergy-perpetrated CSA. Overall it argues that the response of the RCC changes throughout the course of a case, and will depend on the level of threat that the RCC interprets that the case poses to the institution.

Constructing a Post-Colonial Feminist Positionality for Research in the Global South: The Case of Fiji

John Whitehead, Monash University, Melbourne

Abstract

A search on google scholar for Post-Colonial Feminist research will result in numerous articles that claim to utilise this paradigm. However, upon reading these articles it becomes apparent that there is confusion on how to position or conduct a Post-Colonial Feminist study. Often, authors use Post-Colonial Feminism and Intersectionality interchangeably, or lack a firm definition of this paradigm. Highlighting the need for located scholarship in the Global South, this paper argues that Post-Colonial Feminism is not a theoretical framework, but instead a positionality constructed from multiple epistemologies which complements Intersectionality. By locating Symbolic Interactionism, Southern Criminology, and Intersectionality to Fiji, it demonstrates a grounded approach to constructing a Post-Colonial Feminist positionality, which can then flow into a scholar's methodological selection and results. In doing so, and through a Fijian case study, this paper argues that when selecting a positionality or theoretical framework for research in the Global South, scholars should be cautious of universalising the voices and experiences of their participants. Instead, research in this context should be focused through paradigms that recognise the complexity of criminal justice and identity outside of the west.

Privacy advocacy and populist reason: Rethinking collective resistance to hegemonic surveillance systems

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Abstract

The Australian Government has recently legislated for mandatory data retention and compelled access to encrypted communications (Data Retention Amendment, 2015; Access Amendment, 2018). In response, privacy advocacy organisations have conducted political campaigns such as *Citizens, Not Suspects, Go Dark Against Data Retention*, and *National Get a VPN Day*. These have raised awareness of and promoted the use of privacy-enhancing technologies to circumvent data capture processes. However, the majority of Australians continue to support invasive surveillance systems as components of counter-terrorism policies (Medhora, 2015; ANU, 2016; Groggin et al., 2017). And this popular support is considered a problem for privacy advocates committed to disrupting the hegemony of surveillance systems. Within this paper, I draw upon the political theory of Ernesto Laclau (2005; see also Laclau and Mouffe, 1985 and Hogg, 2013) to challenge the pathologisation of ‘populism’ as a mode of political reasoning about privacy, surveillance, and digital justice. Based upon data collected through semi-structured interviews with Australian privacy advocates (n = 21), the research demonstrates how an antagonistic frontier between ‘the people’ and ‘the elite’ is embedded within the constructions of ‘privacy’ as a discursive signifier, the constitution of the political identities of privacy advocates, and the justifications of collective resistance to hegemonic surveillance systems. Overall, the research suggests effective political mobilisation against digital surveillance cannot exclusively rely on the elite, rationalistic, and liberal-technocratic discourses traditionally associated with privacy advocacy and should include counter-hegemonic discourses with moral and affective appeal.

The Rule of Law on Instagram: An Evaluation of the Moderation of Images Depicting Women’s Bodies

Alice Witt, PhD Candidate (Digital Media Research Centre, Faculty of Law (School of Law), Queensland University of Technology)

Abstract

Users of online platforms are increasingly concerned about whether their content is moderated in ways that are free from arbitrariness. In this paper, I use innovative digital methods to empirically evaluate whether images that depict women’s bodies are moderated in a way that aligns with the Anglo-American ideal of the rule of law, specifically the values of formal equality, certainty, reason-giving, transparency, accountability and participation, on Instagram. This paper focuses on female forms due to widespread concerns that the platform is arbitrarily removing images of women’s bodies and, possibly, privileging the depiction of certain body types. The proposed rule of law values, many of which are also procedural justice safeguards, provide a useful evaluative framework as they are principally characterised by opposition to arbitrary power. After sampling 4,944 images of (a) *Underweight*, (b) *Mid-Range* and (c) *Overweight* female forms, none of which the platform expressly prohibits, I find that up to 22% of images that were removed by Instagram or by the user are potentially false positives – images that arguably should not have been removed based on the platform’s policies. This suggests that concerns around the risk of arbitrariness on Instagram, and, indeed, ongoing distrust of the platform among users, might not be unfounded. Overall, I argue that deficiencies in formal equality, certainty, reason-giving and user participation, and Instagram’s largely unfettered power to moderate content with limited transparency and accountability, are significant normative concerns. These concerns pose an ongoing risk of arbitrariness and procedural injustice for women and users more broadly.

Digital Justice Implications in automation of government decision making

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Abstract

Governments around the world are deploying automation tools in making decisions that affect individual rights and entitlements. The interests affected are very broad, ranging from the time spent in detention to the receipt of social security benefits. This presentation focusses on the impact on digital justice and rule of law values of automation using: (1) pre-programmed rules (for example, expert systems); and (2) predictive inferencing whereby rules derived from are historic data (such by applying supervised machine learning). The presentation does so by examining the use of these systems in four cases studies across a range of nations. It explores the tension between digital justice, rule of law and automation, and concludes with observations on how the automation of government decision-making can detract from rule of law values and digital justice.

The new anti-corruption supervisory in China: CCC

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Abstract

Purpose – There is no comparative research into the Chinese anti-corruption supervisory and the Australian supervisory in particular. This paper aims to show the scope of the Chinese mainly anti-corruption bodies' power by law such as supervisory commission, commission for discipline inspection, how they are working and why they were set up this way .What are the effective factors during the whole process? Analyse the commons and differences and offer up some suggestions as to how to make supervisory more effectively.

Design/methodology/approach –Empirical data demonstrate that the CCC has the strong power to supervise corruption and the SC is also an efficient watchdog. In this paper, based on analysing the original “Supervisory Commission Law of PRC”, a series of reports, which are released by official.

Findings – There are many similarities in anti-corruption in both the countries, though they have different regimes. However, the scope of the watchdogs' power in China is wider than Australia. It is more efficiency to combat corruption crime, but also a little dangerous. It is a technique to balance the efficiency and the power in the supervision of anti-corruption.

Originality/value – The study of supervisory commission provides two original approaches. On one hand, it makes the new watchdog in China more details and clearly. On the other hand, the reasons behind the authority have been revealed. And the key factors in supervise corruption can be summarized, which are critical to anti-corruption.

Keywords Chinese/Australian supervisory, Comparative study China / Australia, Supervisory Commission, SC

White Collar crimes, government through crime and new kind of punitive populism? An exploration based on the Odebrecht corruption case

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Abstract

The Odebrecht case became the largest judicial case of corruption in the history of Latin America and the largest case of transnational bribery condemned by the United States' justice system. Odebrecht SA is the largest construction company in Latin America—investigated in the titanic judicial Brazilian case known as *Lava Jato* for local and transnational bribes involving millions of dollars, money laundering, and other corruption related crimes. My aim here is to focus on the public perceptions, political struggle, and use of white-collar crime for governance in Latin America. I am convinced that this case study shows that, despite traditional views about the tolerance for, weak criminal prosecution of, and weak punishment of, white-collar crimes (in contrast to ordinary crime), there are indicators that certain forms of high political corruption and some other related offenses could be becoming a powerful goal of selective governance during political struggle, according to the approach of “governing through crime” developed by Simon (2007).