

Department of Media and Communications public lecture

Demonstrations, Riots, and Uprisings: mediated dissent in a changing communication environment

Professor Simon Cottle General editor, "Global Crisis and the Media"

Dr Bart Cammaerts Chair, LSE

lse events

Suggested hashtag for Twitter users: #lsecomms

'Demonstrations, Riots and Uprisings'

Mediated Dissent in a Changing Communication Environment



Simon Cottle









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Transnational Protests and the Media



Simon Cottle



Mediatized Conflict Global Crisis

Simon Cottle

Reporting Journalism in the Global Age

IN CULTURAL AND MEDIA STUDIES

IN CULTURAL AND MEDIA STUDIES

Past findings and beyond?

The Whole World is Watching: Media and The Making and Unmaking of the New Left

The important point is that the movement paid a high price for the publicity it claimed and needed. It entered into an unequal contest with the media: although it affected coverage, the movement was always the petitioner; the movement was more vulnerable, the media more determining.

(Gitlin 2004: 128)



Photo: Keystone Agency











riots spread across capital

Birmingham city centre

return, PM still on holiday

Vikram Dodd and Caroline Davies

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althamstow and Islington. Kavanagh vowed to deliver "speedy A masked man on the streets of Hackney where a car burns out of com

Kavanagh vowed to deliver "speedy univer" for Londers, conderning the justice" for Londers, conderning the later of the Londers, conderning the test of the Londers, and the Londers Officers from Thannes Valley, Essex, and the Londers of Londers and Londers Rath, Surray and City of London were datafied in to support the Mes. But appar-dimension of Londers and Londers Arg secondaria to the Londers of Londers Thankaby Thankaby Thankaby

troduced special powers in four areas -mbeth, Haringey, Enfield and Waltham ampetin, Hanngey, Binheid and Waltham orest, allowing stop and search with ut reasonable suspicion. The section 0 powers were invoked at midnight on unday. One incident of stop and search a Hackney was reportedly the catalyst

ol on the third day of street disturbances across London Photograph: Kerim Okten/EPA

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Ohama's call for urgency fails to prop up plunging chare







Mob rule

David Cameron flies home from holiday as London burns for a third night and riots spread

ULL REPORTS, PAGES 2-6





Rampaging gangs burn buildings and loot shops

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troublemakes. With golfcal concern about the Met's performance growing. Thereas May, the Home Sacetaway, and Socia Johnson, the Mayor of London, also cut short their holdary to reterm home. A Westminster source sold The Tunes. There are obvious concerns about the way the police are handling.

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Streets of fire News, pages 4-7 Leading article, page 2 Theoderen same 70

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week Despite initial suspicions that Mr Duggan, who was armed, had been killed after opening fire on police it is now understood that he did not shoot

















Fears grow over excessive sentencing as cases pile up

By Emily Dugan and Matt Thomas The Independent, Sunday, 14 August 2011

As courts struggled to process the cases arising from last week's riots, fears were growing last night that disproportionate sentences were being handed down.

A mother of two was given a five-month sentence yesterday for accepting shorts stolen by someone else. Ursula Nevin, 24, was asleep during the riots, but she took the shorts, which were part of a stash of clothing taken by her flatmate Gemma Corbet from the Vans store.

Greater Manchester Police appeared triumphant at the news, posting on their official Twitter account: "Mum-of-two, not involved in disorder, jailed for FIVE months for accepting shorts looted from shop. There are no excuses!" They later apologised and deleted the message, after widespread criticism. David Cameron made it clear on Thursday that he wanted tough sentencing for those who had taken part in the disorder. "Anyone charged with violent disorder and other serious offences should expect to be remanded in custody – and anyone convicted should expect to go to jail," he said.

Justice and welfare experts are concerned that draconian sentences could be handed out without due thought. On Thursday a 23-year-old was sent to prison for six months for stealing a £3.50 case of water from Lidl. A 43-year-old is still being held in prison for stealing items worth £1 from a newsagent. Others believe the courts have not been hard enough – arguing that sentences of a few days, which some people have been given, do not reflect the seriousness of the harm they caused.

City of Westminster Magistrates' Court was in chaos yesterday, with lawyers describing "a complete shit fight" as hearings were rushed through. One said: "I've been here a day, and what with the heavy press presence too, the atmosphere has been even more pressured than usual."



Cameron ditches his pledge to shut down Twitter, Facebook and Blackberry during riots

By REBECCA CAMBER Last updated at 7:44 AM on 26th August 2011

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David Cameron's plan to shut down social networking sites to prevent disorder was ditched in a humiliating U-turn yesterday.

The Prime Minister vowed to look at banning thugs plotting violence from communicating on sites such as Facebook and Twitter or via instant messaging services such as BlackBerry Messenger.

All were said to have been used by rioters in the disturbances earlier this month.

But yesterday the Home Secretary Theresa May firmly killed off the prospect of any clampdown in the face of opposition from human rights groups and social networking companies.

In a summit with Facebook, Twitter and Research in Motion – makers of BlackBerry – the Home Secretary indicated that Mr Cameron's plan did not

even merit discussion. She told the firms that she was not there to talk about restricting internet services. Instead Mrs May appealed for help, seeking advice on how law enforcement could more effectively use social media.

Social networking firms are said to have advised police to employ internet monitoring firms to help keep an eye on public chatter on the web.

More...

 Looter who took one lick of stolen ice-cream is jailed for 16 MONTHS



C AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Theresa May met with bosses of social network sites in Westminster today to discuss whether users should be blocked if they are plotting to riot or commit crimes

Space, time and genre







Developments and debates

- Political mediated control and transnational communications
- From the local to the global: scaling up and down
- Delegitimizing framing and political dramaturgy
- Public sphere or public screens
- Old media, new media (the politics of representation and politics of connectivity)
- Media systems and communication networks (for media ecology)

Political mediated control and transnational communications





From the local to the global: scaling up and down

- 1. Local actions resonating with transnational charge
- 2. Seeking international legitimation and support
- 3. Transnational issues mobilized in and through the local/national 'rooted cosmopolitans'
- Global/transnational `unrooted cosmopolitans'



Piracy Up-Linked: Sea-Shepherd and the Spectacle of Protest on the High Seas

David Crouch and Katarina Damjanov

... almost instantaneously images are spread across the globe via satellite up-links, webcams, and around-the-clock internet blogging. Sea Shepherd takes their environmental protest in this remote and unforgiving location, impossibly beyond everyday reach, and broadcasts it back to the world, disseminating it through the Internet and blogosphere; they constantly send out fresh broadcast-quality images and a barrage of news releases, twitters, and updates of events ... by staging their anti-whaling protest as spectacular "pirate" attacks, they also exploit elements of popular culture, tapping into the social imagination of a potentially transnational public sphere.

Delegitimizing framing and political dramaturgy



Delegitimizing framing and political dramaturgy

16 The Guardian Monday August 1 2005

The Editor

The Sunday columnists

Those who believe the Mail and Times newspapers are becoming increasingly interchangeable could have pointed to yesterday's editions of the Mail on Sunday and the Sunday Times as evidence. Pondering militant Islam's disgust with the west in the former, Bel Mooney said "even I am sickened by our debased, sex-obsessed society," while Minette Marrin said in the latter we had been "confronted with our own decadence".

"There is no such thing as restraint," said Mooney. "Children are not taught it. So-called celebrities do not show it, and the idea of it is detested by those with power over our mass media ... The aggressive materialism which deludes us into thinking we have the right to own virtually anything we want — breeds ignorance and self-importance. Ignorance rules."

"We have somehow created a society that is characterised by growing disorder, uncertainty and loss," added Marrin. "For a long time now, Britain — or rather many of its institutions has been suffering from a Dance macabre A techno fan faces Czech riot police

guard

A techno fan appeals to anti-riot police following a free techno party near the village of Mlynec, 80 miles west of Prague, on Saturday. Czech police used water cannon and tear gas to disperse an annual gathering of thousands of such music fans, known as CzechTek Photograph: Michal Cizek/AFP/Getty Images

Public sphere or public screens

The Habermasian public sphere, which is based on the dialogic articulation of ideas and interests, establishes the ground for the formation of public opinion. Shared ideas form as interacting private individuals search for recognition ... I suggest that cyberspace provides its participants with more or less fair conditions for this kind of interaction. It moreover provides participants with the information they need to evaluate the validity of claims made in the course of this interaction. And it gives them the opportunity to participate anonymously, with limited fear of social or political threat. In fundamentalist societies in particular, as in the example of Iran, cyberspace provides its users with more reliable and significant means of participation in the formation of public opinion. (Nazanin Ghanavizi, chapter 18)

Public sphere or public screens

In comparison to the rationality, embodied conversations, consensus, and civility of the public sphere, the public screen highlights dissemination, images, hypermediacy, spectacular publicity, cacophony, distraction, and dissent. We have focused on the image event as one practice of the public screen because it highlights the public screen as an alternative venue for participatory politics and public opinion formation that offers a striking contrast to the public sphere.

(DeLuca and Peeples, 2002: 145)

Old media... new media



Old media, **new media**









Media systems and communication networks



Throwing punches and mowing them down with motorbikes: The shocking videos which 'prove brutal police overstepped the mark with Wall Street protesters'

- Videos show police 'attacking protesters, punching them and mowing them down with their motorbikes'
- · Shocking images suggest authorities have 'gone too far'
- Officers now gear up for weekend of violent clashes across the country
- Protesters jubilant after trying to confront NYC Mayor Bloomberg last night
- Attempted to deliver a petition while he was at Manhattan
 restaurant Cipriani

By MARK DUELL and PAUL BENTLEY Last updated at 6:16 PM on 15th October 2011

□ Comments (192) Share

E Like 511

The police has been accused of shocking brutality after videos emerged showing officers in New York punching Occupy Wall Street protesters and mowing them down on motorbikes.

As demonstrations turned bitterly violent, hundreds of protesters clashed with police as they marched in Manhattan - jumping over barriers, pushing over police scooters and blocking traffic.

Officers in turn seem to have responded in the most draconian manner. In one clip a policeman appears intentionally to run over a protester, trapping his leg under his motorbike's back wheel.

Scroll down for videos



Heavy handed? Police have been accused of brutality after footage has emerged showing officers mowing down protesters on their motorbikes



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VOICES OF THE PROTESTERS PAGE 5; REPORTS PAGES 2&3; GORDON BROWN PAGE 2

The day I turned superhero In Extra



Bahrain's secret terror

Desperate emails speak of 'genocide' as doctors, who have treated injured protesters are rounded up

THE INTIMUATION and detention of doctors treating dying and in jured pro-democracy protester in Bahrain is revealed today in series of chilling emails obtained

By Jeremy Lauran

surgeons, physicians, paedia cians and obstetricians, ha been arrested and detained Bahrain's police in the last mo in a campaign of intimidat that runs directly counter to



sponsors The Independent Earth Day supplement



Steve Ricbards

Ricbards When did republicanism become taboo in the UK?

VIEWSPAPER, PAGE 3

John Sentamu Is the Big Society big enough for those fleeing repression? VIEWSPAPER, PAGE 5

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Cell phones, camels and the global call for democracy





Camels – symbolism and dramaturgy for democracy







The global call for democracy: journalism getting close-up and personal



Here Are The Journalists Who Have Been Harassed, Attacked, Or Detained In Cairo

Joseph Alexiou | Feb. 4, 2011, 6:58 PM | 🔥 4,423 | 🛡 5



The other nigh CNN's Ben

Wedeman, the <u>network's</u> correspondent in Cairo, tweeted that it was likely there was going to shortly be a crackdown on media in Egypt. And sadly he was correct.

Many of the stories coming out Cairo this week were about journalists being threatened, arrested, assaulted or detained.

Fox's **Greg Palkot** and **Olaf Wiig** appear to have suffered the worst: On Wednesday they were severely beaten and hospitalized.

But it's sadly not limited to them.

ABC's Erin McGlaughlin and Joanna Suarez compiled a list of journalists who have been in some way threatened, attacked or detained while reporting in Egypt.

It's a lot of people (at least 40). Let's hope it doesn't get any bigger.

Click here to see the journalists >

View As One Page

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Tags: People, CNN, NBC, ABC, Anderson Cooper, Christiane Amanpour, Violence, Egypt, Protest, Features | Get Alerts for these topics »



Cross-section of Egyptian society attend protests



February 2011 Last updated at 19:41

Egyptian protesters are holding huge rallies in Cairo and other cities as they step up their efforts to force President Hosni Mubarak from power.

Journalists at the scene estimated that hundreds of thousands of people - men, women and children from a cross-section of Egyptian society were there, although in the absence of official estimates, there is no way of finding out the exact numbers.

George Alagiah went to meet some of the protesters.

Read More

Mass protest fills central Cairo

Egypt protesters use voice tweets

?



Media and the Arab Uprisings of 2011

- State controlled Arab media, blind western media
- Media, consumerism and democracy
- Media conviviality in everyday life
- Facilitating/communicating protest
- Facilitating repressive state responses
- Media contagion
- International recognition and protest legitimation
- Media and the global village of repressive states
- Human rights surveillance and the responsibility to protect
- Media systems & communications maintaining democratic momentum

Who's Reporting the Protests? Converging practices of citizen journalists and two BB World Service newsrooms, from Iran's election protests to the Arab uprisings.

Maximillian T.Hänska-Ahy and Roxanna Shapour



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	Criminal	Riot	Trouble	Incident	Rebellion	ΛI
Media Police Community Politician Other	13.9 17.1 17.6 38.1 34.8	73.4 71.4 29.4 42.8 39.1	10.3 8.6 23.5 4.7 26.1	2.4 2.8 17.6 14.3 0.0	0.0 0.0 11.8 0.0 0.0	77.5 8.2 4.0 4.9 5.4
Overall usage	(n)71 16.6	(n)291 <i>68.2</i>	(n)48 <i>11.2</i>	(n) 15 3.5	(n)2 <i>0.5</i>	(n)427 <i>100.0</i>

Note: percentages indicate frequencies in usage of event terms in each social group; overall usage indicates each term's occurrence as percentage of all event terms.

Descriptive

Criminal/violence Riot Trouble/disturbance Incident/event Rebellion

Examples

'violence', 'orgy of looting' 'riots', 'rioting', 'Handsworth riots', 'troubles', 'disturbances', 'disorder' 'incident', 'event', 'occurrence' 'rebellion', 'revolt', 'protest', 'uprising'



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HIGHLIGHTS / EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Success stories from the Avaaz movement worldwide



Breaking the Middle East Blackout

Funded by donations from almost 30,000 Avaazers, an Avaaz team is working closely with the leadership of democracy movements in Syria, Yemen, Libya and more to get them high-tech phones and satellite internet modems, connect them to the world's top media outlets, and provide communications advice. We've seen the power of this engagement -- where

our support to activists has created global media cycles with footage and eyewitness accounts that our team helps distribute to CNN, BBC, Al Jazeera and others. The courage of these activists is unbelievable -- a skype message read 'state security searching the house, my laptop battery dying, if not online tomorrow I'm dead or arrested'. He's ok, and together we're helping to get his and many other voices out to the world.

IN THIS SECTION:	
Emergency Response	<u>e</u>
Climate Change	
Corruption	
Human Rights	
Natural World	
Burma	
- Tibet	
Peace	
Food and Farms	
 Media and Internet 	
A few more	

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AVAAZ

Avaaz is closing the gap between the world we have and the world we want, one campaign at a time



Worldwide Solidarity for Egypt



In the darkest hours of their struggle for liberation from Mubarak, Egyptians told the world they needed solidarity -- and Avaaz members answered the call. 600,000 of us around the world signed messages of support carried by AI Jazeera broadcasts straight into Tahrir Square -- helping to sustain a movement fueled by hope through some of it's darkest and most uncertain hours.



Mubark's Billions, Frozen



When Mubarak left power in Egypt, he tried to take his stolen fortune with him – but within days, more than half a million of us petitioned the G20's Finance Ministers to immediately freeze his billions, delivering the message with a 'protest pyramid' built opposite the Eiffel Tower during the maintent' meating. In the weak following, the ELL http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/worldmiddle-east-12339344



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Suggested hashtag for Twitter users: #lsecomms