



Mannheim Matters

June 2011

Meet....Janet Foster



I have recently returned to LSE following a secondment to The Police Foundation - an independent charity dedicated to improving policing for the benefit of the public.

I am passionate about criminology (and for Master Chef viewers passionate about food too!). Part of that passion is about wanting to use our academic knowledge and skills to make a difference and to work at the theory/practice interface. I must be one of the few people who is pleased that the next REF exercise has some emphasis on social impact.

At The Police Foundation I conducted an action based research programme to

improve neighbourhood policing in two British Police Forces. Here we undertook in-depth qualitative research in selected policing neighbourhoods and then fed back the results to policing teams with evidence based recommendations about how they might improve their service (see Foster and Jones 2010). We then worked with them to develop their practice and monitored their progress. Though not without its frustrations and challenges, we had some notable successes – including a team who were short-listed for a national policing prize. Staff said that the action research encouraged them to think differently about their work and what they were seeking to achieve. In one of the forces I also worked with their neighbourhood teams in their most challenging areas and here household surveys were conducted in 2008 and 2010. The 2010 results are currently being analysed but the 2008 results showed significant improvements in public perceptions of neighbourhood policing (see Foster and Bailey 2010).

I also worked with senior police officers when I directed a bespoke Diploma and Masters programme at the University of Cambridge during the late 1990s. This enabled me to develop lasting

relationships of trust that have opened doors for me in terms of my own research and given me the freedom to do things that many other researchers might not have had the opportunity to do. This probably pertains to the no conditions access I was given to look at murder investigation in London. I am currently trying to be very focused, hard at it completing a book on this research that involved three years ethnographic fieldwork. The book examines investigative practice; changes in detective culture; relationships with murder victims' families; gendered differences in detective practice; perceptions of race, the impact of the Lawrence Inquiry and how these issues featured in murder investigation; and an important though much neglected area - how homicide police manage their emotions. Writing the book has been a long and fascinating journey but I am really looking forward to getting it finished.

Moving between the worlds of practice and academia is rich and rewarding but sometimes makes one feel rather disjointed. I have also returned to a Department (Sociology) that is very different from the one I left. Once rich in Criminologists I am now the soul survivor! However, I am very much looking forward to being more involved in Mannheim and working with my fellow 'crims'.

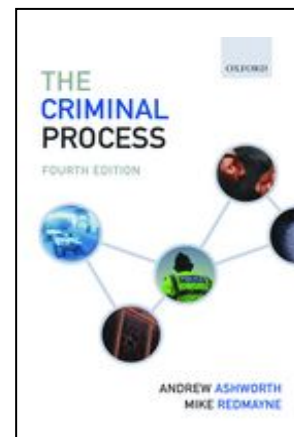
References

Foster, J and Bailey, S (2010) 'Joining Forces: Maximizing ways of making a difference in policing practice' *Policing* Vol. 4 No.2 pp95-103.

Foster, J and Jones, C (2010) "'Nice to do but not essential': Neighbourhood police officers' views on community engagement and citizen focus in an English police force" *Policing: An International Journal of Policy and Practice* (2010) Vol. 4, No.4. pp395-402.

News

Recent publications



Andrew Ashworth and Mike Redmayne have produced a fourth edition of *The Criminal Process* published by OUP. There is a new chapter on the interface between criminal and civil (preventative) justice and additional coverage of the treatment of victims, and diversity and discrimination within the criminal justice process

Niki Lacey's '**Out of the Witches' Cauldron?: Reinterpreting the Context and Re-assessing the Significance of the Hart-Fuller Debate**' appears in Peter Cane (ed), *The Hart-Fuller Debate Fifty Years On* (Hart Publishing)



Hart as professor of jurisprudence at Oxford delivered the Holmes annual lecture when visiting Harvard Law School during 1956/7 and outlined his emerging theory of legal positivism. Fuller was the Carter professor of jurisprudence at Harvard and presented the alternative natural law position. The chapter revisits this debate.

Kevin Stenson has a chapter on risk and governance in Martine Herzog-Evans (ed.), *Transnational Criminology Manual* (volume 1) Nijmegen: Wolf Legal, Publishers. 2010.

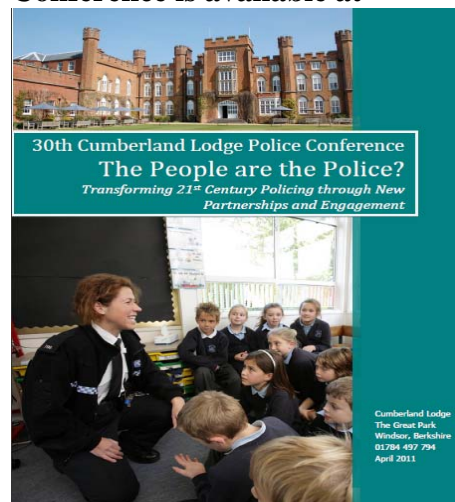


Phillips, Coretta (2011) **Institutional racism and ethnic inequalities: an expanded multilevel framework.** *Journal of social policy*, 40 (01). pp. 173-192.

Ramsey, P. (2010) **Substantively uncivilised ASBOs.** *Criminal Law Review* 10, pp. 761-763.

Redmayne, Mike (2011) **Recognising propensity.** *Criminal law review*, (3). pp. 177-198.

The 30th Cumberland lodge police Conference is available at



<http://www.cumberlandlodge.ac.uk/Resources/Cumberland%20Lodge/Past%20Conferences%20Reports/People%20are%20the%20Police%20Conference%20Report.pdf>

Post graduate update



Jennifer Brown met with some of LSE PhD students to discuss possible activities that

could be organised under the aegis of the Mannheim Centre. These included a “getting to know you” event between academics and students and a regular feature about PhD research in the Newsletter.

Letter from.. Hanover

By Steffen Bieneck



Steffen together with colleagues, Margit Oswald and Jorg Hupfeld-Heinemann are editors of Social Psychology and the Punishment of Crime which looks recent advances and new findings.

Chapters explore psychology and social cognitive theories to decision making in the context of punishments by judges and the punitiveness of lay opinion. The book also highlights the different legal systems in the UK, US and Europe, discussing how attitudes to punishment can change in differing contexts.

The Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony (KFN) in Hanover was founded in 1979 as an independent, interdisciplinary research institute and has strong links with the University of Hanover. Its aim, as laid down in its charter, is to carry out and promote practice-oriented criminological research. Staff members come from different professions (e.g., psychology, law, sociology, education) and work together in small groups on various topics. Also, post-doctoral staff members

hold seminars/lectures at the universities of Hanover, Göttingen and Hildesheim. The KFN receives regular funding from German government departments and foundations, amongst them the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Federal Ministry of the Interior or the Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony, as well as the Volkswagen Foundation and the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

In general, the KFN is dedicated to the study and analysis of trends in reported and unreported crime, investigating the causes of crime, identifying risk groups and studying the consequences of crimes for victims, perpetrators and the society, always with the aim of providing the empirical basis for legal policy making. One of our recent projects deals with experiences of victimisation between prison inmates. In this study, which is conducted in all prisons in Lower Saxony, data will be collected about the extent to which prisoners experience violence by other inmates, what types of violence they are confronted with, and in which situations/under what circumstances violent acts predominantly occur. A questionnaire was developed that comprises well-established psychological and criminological measures in order to allow for comparisons with international studies with a similar focus. To obtain a comprehensive picture of victimisation in prison, the questionnaire was translated in 18 different languages. Results will be used as a basis for designing intervention strategies aimed at improving prisoners'

safety.

In a second study, we focus on sexual violence across the life span. A representative sample of 11.000 German adults aged 16 to 40 is currently presented with a brief interview and a detailed questionnaire. Each participant is asked about prior experiences of physical and sexual abuse in childhood and in intimate relationships. In addition, detailed information on individual and situational characteristics of the abuse situation (i.e., relationship between perpetrator and victim; age at first incident; location of incident) as well as reporting and help-seeking behaviour (i.e., time delay until the incident was reported; reasons for (non-)reporting) related to the abuse situations are assessed. The results can provide a basis for evaluating the recent enactment of laws by the German government that aimed at protecting victims of sexual violence in close relationships and will also be of use to legal policy makers.

Colleagues interested in these areas of work are welcome to contact me at:

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Steffen Bieneck

Recent events

Policing Ibero-America May 10th

The Mannheim Centre was pleased to support this conference. Jerry Blaney gave a paper "The 'Failures' of Police Reform under the Second Spanish Republic, 1931-1936"



A fascinating series of papers were presented with the underlying theme of purposes of policing and police reform in periods of political transition. The case study of policing under the Monarchy, the Franco regime and contemporary Spain has seen the transformation of police from agents supporting the ruling elite to public servants protecting the citizen. Since 1978 after the death of Franco, the police in Spain were changed by evolution rather than revolution: a diminishing influence of the military, growing confidence of the post Franco Governments, external influences such as membership of NATO, resistance of police to become embroiled in attempted coup in 1981. The changing composition, professionalization and new uniforms are resonant with changes in policing in Northern Ireland, former soviet bloc and South Africa.



Two papers, one by Chris Berkbeck (Sheffield) and Fiona McCauley (Bradford) discussed policing in South America where, for the most part, there is a blurring of function with the military. They made the point that the lacks of external enemies mean that police are seeking an internal role.



Here potentially the army and police vie for resources and a rather depressing picture was painted of political corruption, complicated by geo-politics and drug trafficking.

Further details from

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The role of the private sector in the future of national policing economic crime capability by Adrian Leppard Commissioner of the Police for the City of London. 16th May

Adrian Leppard, the Commissioner, described the City of London's Economic Crime Directorate and the extent of the

£38.4 billion pound problem of fraud by showing the national Fraud Agency Authority statistics.

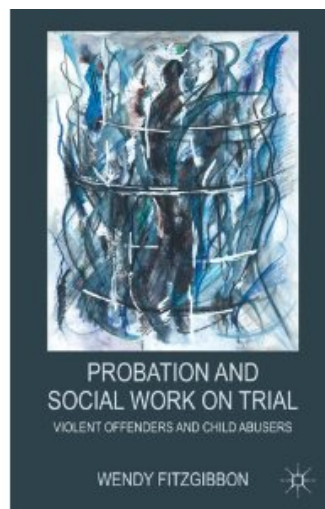


He discussed new types of internet and online frauds and the metropolitan centres where most frauds are committed. He mooted the idea of regional hubs to consolidate and make most efficient use of fraud investigative expertise and the accreditation of investigators. The discussant, Jonathan Fisher, drew attention to issues of practice and principle which were reflected in the subsequent Q & A. Questions to the commissioner included the potential conflicts of interest between privately financed fraud investigation and investigating the financially contributing institutions, the success of civil fraud cases and the less sophisticated credentials of private investigators versus the complex model being proposed for criminal investigations. Points were also raised about letting the public know about trends in frauds and also the problems associated with the

under reporting and the apparent lack of public pressure to deal with fraud.

Probation and Social Work on Trial: Violent Offenders and Child Abusers'
by Dr Wendy Fitzgibbon (London Metropolitan University) 18th May

Dr Fitzgibbon's presentation drew on her forthcoming book



Her starting point was the recent review by Professor Eileen Munro. This was critical of social workers' "tick box" style of working focussing on targets rather than relationship building. She quoted the strapline of Munroe's recommendation 'doing things right rather than just doing right things (interestingly a comment made by Charles Pollard when looking at the quality of police services in the 1990s). Wendy observed that there has been an accountability shift in child protection away from the offender towards the intervening professional. Moving to the probation service, Wendy suggested that it was not under the same scrutiny as social workers. However, there are, she argued, parallels. She discussed the Dano Sonnex murders

of two French students whilst he was under probation supervision after being released from jail and had not been recalled to prison after breaching his release licence.

(<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/crime/article6388675.ece>). The criticism of probation were resourcing, inexperienced practitioners, high case loads, insufficient time to check information, lack of inter agency co-ordination and confusion over risk levels. Thus compliance to electronic workflows and speed of responding were paramount rather than making sensitive and informed judgments, emphasising the statistical rather than narrative accounts of offending. She, like Munro in the social work case, eschewed the bureaucratising of tick box risk assessment. She then discussed the implications of Munro's recommendations for social work applying to probation: notably the cost of lower case loads and relationship building with clients and the possibility of greater privatisation. She feared a loss of professionalism and difficulties of oversight if there were incursions into probation by private companies and the voluntary sector. The discussion centred on the breakdown of relationships between agencies, use of professional judgments, training and standards.

Forthcoming Events

Wednesday Seminar

Joint Seminar Series with the British Society of Criminology

15 June 2011

Dr Roy Coleman (University of Liverpool)
'Urban Governance and Synoptic Power: surveillance, class and state'

Location: London School of Economics, EAS (East Building), Room E304

Seminars run from 6.30 to 8.00 pm, with drinks available from 6.15pm.

Speciality seminars

7th June 2011, in conjunction with Howard League for Penal Reform

"What role for short prison sentences in the rehabilitation revolution?" to be given by Sarah Armstrong, Scottish Centre for Criminal Justice and Julie Trebilcock, Imperial College.

Moot Court Room, 7th Floor New Academic Building, LSE, 6.30-8pm

Please register at the following link

<http://www.howardleague.org/ecan-event-bkg/>

What if..series

Robert Reiner will present the inaugural debate around the topic of fire brigade policing. We hope for a date in late October, details to be announced.

Research Groups

The Universities' Police Science Institute by Professor Martin Innes



A recurring challenge for researchers is how to get findings to influence what criminal justice practitioners actually do. In 2007 South Wales Police (SWP), the University of Glamorgan and Cardiff University came together to form the Universities' Police Science Institute (UPSI) a partnership designed to get research evidence to lead innovations in police practice. As UPSI's work has matured, an inter-locking set of educational and research activities to support this aim have emerged. Central to how UPSI has developed has been a focus upon developing 'evidence for the art, craft and science of policing'. Accenting the art and craft dimensions of policing, in particular, has provided the basis for a distinctive approach. Adapting a 'Medical School model', UPSI's approach is based upon the notion that changing police organisational policies, practices and cultures requires more than just the establishment of research evidence, but a process that helps police to see how such evidence can routinely

inform the arts and crafts that they practise in delivering services to the public.

Analogous to how medical practitioners are trained, this philosophy has been operationalised through a 'bottom-up' approach, whereby police staff are themselves encouraged to develop and use evidence to deliver services differently. Specific mechanisms for this have included:

- All SWP recruits being trained at the University of Glamorgan;
- SWP officers participating directly in data collection for University-led research projects;
- 6 senior staff being funded to take Cardiff's Masters' in Public Administration;
- A number of other staff are enrolled on higher degree courses;
- 6 Executive Education seminars for SWP's current and future leaders.

One area where this approach has gained particular traction is in developing innovative Neighbourhood Policing. In South Wales between 2008-09, UPSI researchers trained PCSOs in 'signal crimes' methodology to engage with the public in order to identify their key drivers of neighbourhood insecurity. Applying a structured and systematic approach to identifying contacts within and across the different residential communities of South Wales, supported by the research team, these PCSOs conducted 4200 in-depth interviews with members of the public. These data were then analysed by UPSI

to inform a range of strategic and tactical interventions by police and Community Safety Partnerships.

In addition to providing a more robust and evidence-led approach to the delivery of Neighbourhood Policing, this approach has started to afford some new ways of tackling serious and organised crime associated with drugs markets in South Wales. They have also provided some empirical evidence that plays into the complex challenges facing the coalition government's police reform agenda. For example in Cardiff, the southern half of the City has traditionally been the more deprived, with higher crime rates and greater need for policing services. And yet, what the empirical data show is that it is residents in some of the more affluent wards in the north of the city who are disproportionately worrying about crime and seeking reassurance in the form of a visible policing presence. When elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) are introduced, there is every chance that these nascent tensions will be amplified by the electoral process. The deprived wards will continue to have the greatest needs, but the PCCs will be under pressure to service the demands of 'the worried well' who, after all, are more likely to vote in any election.

UPSI's expertise in studying social reactions to crime, disorder and policing, built up through an extensive programme of field studies such as that in South Wales, has led to its increasing involvement in other areas of policing. For example, in 2007 the Institute was commissioned by ACPO to conduct

exploratory research into the social processes involved in violent radicalisation. Last year this work was extended to examine how Prevent policing has evolved and developed in light of the findings of this earlier study. Informed by an analysis of data from the British Crime Survey between 2004-09, together with nearly 100 in-depth interviews with police and community representatives, the recently published study provides the most comprehensive assessment of the effects of Prevent policing conducted to date. It found that contrary to some mass media representations:

- Prevent policing does not appear to have caused widespread alienation amongst UK Muslim communities, albeit there are concerns about some key aspects;
- The policing tactics and strategies associated with Prevent have evolved to become more sophisticated, particularly in the use of overt counter-terrorism policing and disruptions;
- The study identifies a number of areas where policy and practice could be enhanced and improved.

The tenor of these findings gives a sense of how the independent perspective that high quality University research can provide is important in both cataloguing where changes occur, but also challenging received conventions. Along with all other public services, in the future policing will have to be smaller, smarter and sharper. Embedding a robust evidence-led

approach is as good approach as any, to meet such challenges.

More information on the Institute's work is available at www.upsu.org.uk

Martin Innes
Director, Universities' Police Science
Institute, Cardiff University

Summer Break

There will be no Newsletter during July and August.

And Finally..



The cheering sight of bluebells opposite Sugarloaf Mountain (Mynydd Pen-y-fal) in the Black mountains, taken by Jennifer Brown on a recent walk.

cwasu

CHILD & WOMAN ABUSE STUDIES UNIT

WORK IN PROCESS, WORK ON PROGRESS: 21ST CENTURY APPROACHES IN VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN RESEARCH

FRIDAY 1 JULY 2011 • 9.30-4.30

This one-day conference brings together researchers, educators, practitioners and students to hear the latest research and cutting edge thinking on violence against women.

PROGRAMME

Keynote address from Professor Jan Jordan, (University of Wellington, New Zealand), internationally renowned researcher on sexual violence and author of 'The Word of a Woman' and 'Serial Survivors'.

Presentations by CWASU staff & students - see over for full programme

VENUE

London Metropolitan University Holloway Road

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