



## Mannheim Matters

October 2011

### Meet....Jon Jackson



I write this piece as I come to the end of a blissful year spent on sabbatical leave. Sabbaticals are a time to complete projects and develop new creative impulses; they are certainly addictive! My first six months were spent in the UK. Clare Hall and Cambridge's Institute of Criminology were generous hosts, but I would particularly like to thank Alex Sutherland and Justice Tankebe for lively debate and exchange. The second half of the year was even more exciting. New York University's (NYU) Department of Psychology provided an intellectually stimulating environment, and I especially thank Tom Tyler and Avital Mentovich for their insights, generosity and energy.

Let me give you a potted history by way of introduction. My research career began with an MSc in the LSE's Methodology Institute and then a PhD in the LSE's Social Psychology Department. Working with Jan Stockdale and Paul Rock – on the topic of fear of crime – helped me form a passion for interdisciplinary research and methodological rigour. Then with an ESRC postdoctoral fellowship, I spent six months at the LSE and six months at NYU, turning my unwieldy 100,000 word manuscript into papers and book chapters. (Current doctoral students can thank their lucky stars for paper-based theses!).

After this I took up a lectureship in the Methodology Institute on a series of fixed-term contracts. Loving the environment helped me deal with the uncertainty of my position, and when a permanent position was advertised, I eagerly applied. Sorry to all those who have lost out in this sort of situation, but the inside candidate won, and I am now a senior lecturer, teaching statistics, survey methods and research design.

Some thoughts on my research. My doctoral research on fear of crime led to a book entitled 'Social Order and the Fear of Crime in Contemporary Times' with Steve Farrall and Emily Gray. Investigating what

fear of crime means as an everyday experience and what it expresses as a social attitude, we found that concrete experience of worry about crime was relatively rare in England and Wales (diffuse anxiety was more common). People's broader perception of criminal threat was also grounded in their perception of social and cultural threat. People do not separate out the issue of crime from issues of cohesion, collective efficacy, social change and tension. Rather than being about an irrational and narrow sense of crime, 'fear' expresses and distils lay diagnoses about neighbourhood breakdown and stability. Our quantitative findings were thus consistent with a good deal of existing theory and qualitative work.

During my postdoc with Tom Tyler at NYU I also became interested in public trust and police legitimacy. A few years later our team won funding from the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme for a funded project entitled 'EuroJustis,' led by Mike Hough with partners in seven countries. Our goal was to develop and pilot new survey-based indicators of trust and confidence in justice in diverse countries across Europe. The motivation was (and remains) political. Tyler argues that a values-based model is a more efficient, effective and fair basis for encouraging people to bring their behaviour in line with law and legal institutions – at least compared to crime-control policies based around deterrence and instrumental models of cooperation, which seek to demonstrate to citizens that

the police are effective and the courts are punitive. If most people obey the law without the active force of deterrence and punishment, then the police can target the hard-core whose behaviour is motivated not by values, but by the rational choice of likelihood being caught and the severity of subsequent punishment. A value-based approach to legal regulation designs institutions in ways that promote the development of social values such as legitimacy. In turn, legitimacy encourages people to follow the rules, not out of fear of punishment but because they believe they ought to.

EuroJustis sought to build consensus across Member States about the importance of assessing crime policy against objective criteria of public confidence and trust. An important part of the project was a successful bid for space in the ESS R5, allowing us to design 45 questions on public trust and institutional legitimacy that were recently fielded in a survey of 28 countries (the data are out later this month). Of future interest to our team is to collect more data, this time to apply concepts of legitimacy and normative commitment to the law and institutions to 'new crimes', i.e. new modes of behaviour that are unfamiliar to individuals and not necessarily seen as illegal and/or immoral.

Finally, let me say a few things about the recent social unrest in England. Aziz Huq (Chicago), Tom Tyler (NYU), Ben Bradford (Oxford) and myself are currently writing up a study based upon interviews with

1,000 young males from black and minority ethnic groups in London. Conducted before this Summer – but nevertheless relevant to the events – our study links the procedural justice and legitimacy of the police to the willingness of citizens to use violence as a form of social control, a tool for social change, and a tool of social protest. Legitimacy is not just the recognition of power, we argue, it is also the recognition that the police have a monopoly over violence in society.

One cause of the riots and looting may have been a breakdown in trust between the police and (some of) the policed, with the resulting loss of legitimacy encouraging not just criminality, but also the use of violence to achieve certain goals. Normative commitment to institutions carries with it the belief that violence and force is the sole property of sanctioned government agencies. It may be useful to picture state legitimacy as having a ‘crowding out’ effect on positive judgments of private and extralegal violence. The more legitimate the police are perceived to be, the less tolerance exists for extralegal violence. Thus understood, legitimacy judgments have a zero-sum quality. To the extent that the state’s use of violence loses legitimacy, private and extralegal violence gains legitimacy.

The riots also provide us with a second opportunity, this time to study justice reasoning. We are currently investigating the effect of social threat on people’s support for the harsh punishment of rioters. There is much evidence from

social psychology that people turn to authorities and become more punitive when the social order is perceived as being under threat. One explanation for this link lies in the system-justifying function of punishment. System-justification refers to the tendency to ‘...justify and rationalise the way things are, so that existing social, economic and political arrangements tend to be perceived as fair and legitimate’ (Jost & Hunyady, 2005: 260). We are currently conducting a large-scale experiment to explore whether this system justifying motive is increased when the social order is under threat or when dependency to the system is high. We are assessing whether the riots increased a sense of social breakdown, elevating punitiveness perhaps because harsh punishment helps bring back to observers a perception of legitimacy and fairness of the system.

So it is back to teaching after a wonderful year focusing only on research. But I missed my connection to students and colleagues, and there is much exciting research to be carried out. These are fascinating times for empirical criminology!

Jost, J.T. & Hunyady, O. (2005). Antecedents and consequences of system-justifying ideologies. *Current Directions in Psychological Science* 14(5), 260-265.

## News

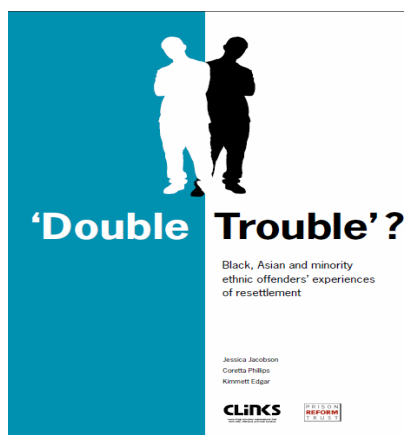
### Research

Corretta Phillips completed a report for the Howard League – Chakraborti, N. and

Phillips, C. (2011) *Stemming the Flow: Minority Groups Within the Penal System.*



The report outlines the main pressure points which contribute to, and exacerbate, the problems facing minority groups caught up in the penal system, highlighting areas which should be prioritised by researchers and policy makers. These include factors such as exploring why certain offence types (e.g. robbery and fraud and forgery) are more attractive to offenders from minority ethnic groups, critically examining the reasons for more severe criminal justice outcomes for young people from minority ethnic groups, and assessing the impact of non-co-operation (exercising the right of silence in police interview, not admitting guilt, etc.) on the criminal justice process. She has also completed a small research study for Clinks investigating the resettlement needs of minority ethnic offenders.



The funding came from the Tackling Race Inequalities Fund of the Department for Communities and Local Government. The findings were that most of the prisoner and ex-prisoner respondents complained that resettlement services were poor or lacking, while service providers gave more positive assessments of the quality and range of resettlement provision. It was notable that among the prisoner and ex-prisoner respondents, and among the service providers, views on the relevance of ethnicity to resettlement needs and provision were mixed; some regarded it as essential to successful resettlement, and requiring specialist BAME provision whilst others felt that resettlement needs were individual but generic. The study produced two reports:

Jacobson, J., Phillips, C and Edgar, K. (2010) 'Double Trouble?' Black, Asian and minority ethnic offenders' experiences of resettlement. London: Clinks.  
[http://www.clinks.org/publications/reports/double-trouble?searched=coretta&advsearch=one word&highlight=ajaxSearch\\_highlight+ajaxSearch\\_highlight1](http://www.clinks.org/publications/reports/double-trouble?searched=coretta&advsearch=one word&highlight=ajaxSearch_highlight+ajaxSearch_highlight1)

Phillips, C. (2011) Lessons for Resettlement. London: Clinks.  
<http://www.clinks.org/assets/files/PDFs/Lessons%20for%20resettlement.pdf>

## Conferences

Professor Robert Reiner presented a paper at Policing in a Time of Contraction and Constraint: Re-imagining the Role and Function of Contemporary Policing. The conference was organised by Karen Bullock (University of Surrey) and Andrew Millie (Edge Hill University) in conjunction with the British Academy.



This brought together a number of key academics on policing including Ben Bowling, Simon Holdaway and Robert Reiner. Discussants included Peter (Tank) Waddington, Betsy Stanko and John Graham. With surprisingly intertwined themes, the speakers posed a number of linked questions, albeit the answers remained elusive. The questions were

- What added value has been demonstrated as a consequence in the rise in police numbers?
- Is it so bad that police numbers are now declining?
- How do we prioritise policing tasks?
- When is policing good enough?

The conference also set out a number of truisms:

- Policing involves a diversity of tasks
- Police decision making is undertaken under conditions of tension such that error is inevitable.
- Prioritising is a permanent condition of the police.
- The police cannot do everything

- The police have never been just about crime (ever since their inception).

Two undercutting themes were discernible. One was that public expectations about policing, especially in visible police presence, is high but public engagement in terms of policing provision is low. A second was the law of unintended consequences i.e. interventions design to achieve a positive outcome may result in adverse consequences.

Ben Bowling expounded his notion of “good enough policing.” He argued that the key role of policing is making communities safe and that this involves a diversity of tasks. In policing, discretionary decision making is high and with little direct oversight on the ground such that error is inevitable. Therefore what constitutes an acceptable minimum quality? He uses Durkheim’s notion of the malady of infinite aspiration and Winnicott’s ideas of unattainable perfect parenting to suggest that police need to accept their inevitable failure and moreover efforts to attain too lofty aspirations actually interfere with performance.

If, as political rhetoric would have it (cf Theresa May’s comment at the Supt meeting) policing is centrally about crime control, then it follows that policing activity should be directed towards that end. Ben illustrated how this is patently not the case with the example of stop and search. Thus as an investigative tool, stop and search

plays a minor role in detecting offenders or indeed in maintaining public order. Rather it has harmful unintended consequences of unfairly targeting black people, leaving them under-protected and over policed as well as potentially itself being criminogenic and harmful to police legitimacy. Bowling's conclusion is that the aspiration of achieving of the optimal maxima is pointless so the question is what is good enough?

Andrew Millie made the point that there has actually been a 30% increase in policing numbers and a 10% increase in overall population and a fall in crime levels. The increased capacity has been deployed in visible patrolling, in response to populist demands for more Bobbies on the beat and a diversification of policing into supervisory and disciplining activities such as offender supervision and work in schools. This moves police into the area of producing order, rather than simply maintaining order. Again this is an aspiration that is doomed to fail.

Moreover, there is a cycle of increasing demand as numbers of police increase and that contraction is not necessarily a bad thing.



He argued that the police do not need to do everything, so the question is what should their focus be? If this focus is to limit themselves to order maintenance,

what can be dropped and which others will take up the slack?

Peter (Tank) Waddington who chaired this session took us back to the oath sworn by police officers

*"I . . . . of . . . . do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will well and truly serve the Queen in the office of constable, with fairness, integrity, diligence and impartiality, upholding fundamental human rights and according equal respect to all people; and that I will, to the best of my power, cause the peace to be kept and preserved and prevent all offences against people and property; and that while I continue to hold the said office I will, to the best of my skill and knowledge, discharge all the duties thereof faithfully according to law."*

Pointing out this is to do with the manner (i.e. process) of carrying out legal functions rather than a manifesto of duties as such. He suggested that a debate about what is good enough tends to be police -centric and his question was good enough for whom? What might be the criteria we could use to determine "good enough"? He proposed four principles: legality; necessity; proportionality; subsidiarity.

Nick Tilley thought that re-trenching by the police serves to make explicit decision making about what the police should prioritise. He drew attention to Gouldner's models of decision-making: evidence based, democratically accountable and professional judgement. Given concerns about the availability of information and the quality of analysis, his issue in times of fiscal constraint was when are the inputs to decision making good enough. Betsy

Stanko thought that the role played by research, certainly within the MPS served to make it [policing] less worse than it might otherwise have been. Her question is who should determine the responsibilities of policing?

Karen Bullock described her research into neighbourhood policing that addressed the notions of extending to the public a role in prioritising policing resources. This seemed to fall into the unobtainable optimal maxima problem. Take up of active public participation is low and police willingness to relinquish their professional judgment in resource allocation high.

The other current mechanism for increasing public accountability, the appointment of Police Crime Commissioners, was seen as misguided by Mike Hough who saw this innovation as having the unintended consequence of actually taking power away from the people.

Robert Reiner's talk also picked up the unattainable aspiration theme, when he described as quixotic the police's mission of crime control. Crime control never was the police's central mission and repeated research findings testifies to the marginal influence that police have on crime, rather it is other levers of social and economic control that play the greater role.

Simon Holdaway discussed the conceptual status of police occupational culture. It has been said, he suggested that it has been argued that notions of the

pejorative canteen culture are no longer applicable. However he cited the recent work of Bethan Loftus who finds much of the classic formulation (exaggerated sense of mission, craving crime oriented tasks, celebrating masculinity) remains intact, because the transformation in the policing landscape is incomplete and the policing task remains essentially the same. Thus culture remains a useful conceptual tool. Simon argued that the current freeze on police recruitment and the route to becoming a police officer via the special constabulary may well be seen as an extra hurdle and deter ethnic minority officers.

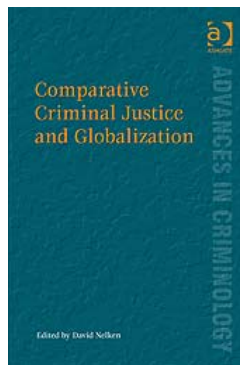
John Graham in his discussant role drew attention to the unprecedented high numbers of police and that the cuts will restore levels to that experienced in 2003/4. Andrew Millie suggested that the context of the cuts is different to the conditions prevailing previously: localism. Police and Crime Commissioners, loss of police monopoly, politicising of crime. In addition, Graham said demand from the Olympics, public disorder and cuts in other services are likely to play into the rolling back of the state and roll out of big society initiative.

### **Recent publications**

Phillips, C. (2010) 'Dear Minister' in *Criminal Justice Matters* 79

Hoogenboom, B. (2011) Policing the gap; the growing importance of gendarmerie forces in creating national and international stability in *FIEP Seminar Publication 2011 gendarmeries and the security challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.





David Nelken has recently published an edited collection "Comparative criminal justice and globalization".

Contents comprise an introduction to comparative criminal justice and the challenge of globalisation by David

Part I Studying Criminal Justice Comparatively: Making sense of punitiveness: the 2008 Wiarda inaugural lecture, David Nelken; Comparative criminology, globalization and the 'punitive turn', David Downes; Comparing criminal process as part of legal culture, Chrisje Brants.

Part II The Globalization of Crime and Punishment: Globalization and states of punishment, Joachim J. Savelsberg; On globalisation and exceptionalism, John Muncie; Exit: the state. Globalisation, state failure and crime, Susanne Karstedt. Part III New Disciplinary Agendas: Critical cosmopolitanism and global criminology, René van Swaaningen; Transnational and comparative criminology reconsidered, James Sheptyki; Comparative criminology and global criminology as complementary projects, David O. Friedrichs; Afterword: studying criminal justice in globalising times, David Nelken..

**Reviews:** 'Comparative Criminal Justice and Globalization imaginatively juxtaposes work by leading contemporary scholars of

two usually separate subjects. Editor David Nelken's incisive, nuanced opening and closing essays provide analytical and conceptual frameworks that will shape understanding, and future research and writing, for years to come.' Michael Tonry, University of Minnesota

'Globalization represents the next horizon for comparative studies of crime and justice, posing new theoretical and practical challenges but also opening up exciting opportunities for methodological innovation, policy interventions and disciplinary renewal. The contributors to this volume, all household names in the field, explore the implications of globalization for criminality, policing, criminal process and penalty, and in so doing help us to understand contemporary social realities and glimpse criminology's possible futures.' Paul Roberts, University of Nottingham,

## People

### Professor David Nelken



Congratulations to Professor David Nelken who has just been awarded the Podgorecki prize for 2011. The Prize is awarded by the International Sociological



Association (Research committee of sociology of law) every two years 'for outstanding achievements in socio-legal research to honour outstanding and exemplary colleagues who have produced guiding and inspiring work.'

Previous winner in 2009 was Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Professor at Coimbra, Wisconsin and Warwick.

### **Professor Jennifer Brown**

Jennifer attended a meeting of the Griffins Society to meet the new fellows and hear presentations of the two past fellows. Louise Sandwith gave a presentation about her research on exiting sex workers' homelessness in Manchester and Jessica Southgate presented her work on working with girls affected by gangs.



Griffin fellows for 2010/11 and 2011/12

Jennifer, together with Frances Heidensohn and Jon Jackson from Mannheim will be supervising this year's fellows: Shelly-Ann McDermott will be exploring how women engage with court ordered structured supervision or a community project; Dawn McAleenan is interested in the health and social care needs of prisoners sentenced to Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) and the types of interventions that would benefit female IPP prisoners; Matina Marougka will be seeking to understand what shapes sentencers' decisions in relation to women.



Jennifer with Mr Qi Shuzhi, Deputy General Director of the Anhui Provincial Public Security Police.

A delegation of senior police officer made a visit to Britain through the auspices of Sino Bridge, an international company brokering professional exchanges between China and the West. With the help of Dr Steve Tong from Christchurch Canterbury, Professor Jennifer Brown constructed a two day lecture programme. Steve gave four presentations: Role, responsibilities and organisational structure of British police forces; Development and reform of the British police system; Best practices in dealing with ethnic minorities or race related problems. Jennifer's lectures were on: investigating and prosecuting sexual violence; behavioural investigative advice; stress and policing; gender and policing. The feedback on the programme was positive. It was however a little disarming when members of the delegation took photographs of some of the slides from the powerpoint presentations.

### **Professor Bob Hoogenboom**



Bob has a part in the ongoing reorganization of the Dutch police. The government has put forward a new Police

Bill (which has not yet been accepted in Parliament) to nationalize the current regional 25 police forces; to introduce a national command & control structures and to create 10 subordinated units and a national unit for organized crime/intelligence and specialized services (interception/infiltration). For over 150 years the Netherlands the so called "Police Question" was (and is) fiercely debated: public prosecutors, mayors, municipal councils, local interest groups, national departments and not in the least the chiefs of police themselves all have a stake in policing and, therefore, power and influence to gain, and to lose. The Minister for Security and Justice has set in motion a process to produce by the end of the year a new blueprint for the national police. For this he has 'appointed' a new national chief of police, and three chiefs of police to form the national tier. In addition ten unit chiefs of police have been 'appointed'. The appointments are to be formalized when Parliament passes the new Bill.

In order to develop new organization structures, control & command procedures and implementation plans a period of two years is foreseen, from January 1 2012. The department of Security and Justice has asked Bob to analyze the formation of a shared services centre by and for the three Northern regional police forces between 2005 and 2011 to draw "Lessons from the North" for the ongoing integration and fusion processes. A fascinating assignment in which we encounter 'regional reflexes', 'cultural resistance',

'leadership strengths and weaknesses' and for instance ongoing political pressure from the mayors who fear a loss of local (community) policing just right around the corner. Also the North shows the realisation phase of a relatively small scale reorganization (800 men and women) facing quite a number of unforeseen obstacles in terms of ICT, the administration of personal matters, procedures that are not harmonized and financial backlashes to name but a few. On the national level one of the largest and most complicated reorganizations in Dutch public administration involves 50.000 police officers, a budget of billions of euro's and is further complicated by different (perhaps) competing goals and objectives: a new structure, efficiency measures, the implementation and steep new output goals in terms of number of criminal investigations, child pornography cases, cyber crime and for instance clearance rates for burglaries.

## Post graduate update

### Meet the crims

The LSE has a number of internationally renowned Criminologists (Staff, Emeritus and Visiting Fellows) whose work is discussed on our Undergraduate programme.

The Teaching and Learning Development Fund has kindly provided some money for a project that involves students on the SO210 *Crime, Deviance and Control* course, along with selected Ph.D. students from the Mannheim centre, conducting video

recorded interviews with approximately 7-10 Criminologists to discuss their work with them. Each Criminologist will be asked to cover material that relates to two topics covered on the course.

The undergraduate students will be responsible for:

- a) reading selected work/s of the person they interview,
- b) developing an interview schedule
- c) conducting the interview
- d) reviewing the interview and selecting three salient points on each of the topics that will be uploaded onto Moodle and the Sociology and Mannheim web-sites
- g) uploading the full interviews which I hope will become a valuable learning resource for future students as well as providing a permanent record of the contribution of some internationally renowned criminologists and their thoughts on their work

I am looking for approximately 6/7 Mannheim Ph.D. students to work alongside and support the undergraduates through the preparation, interview and analytical processes. This involves approximately 7 hours work. You will need to be available to meet them in week 7 (MT, 1hr), week 9 (MT, 1hr) and week 2 (LT, 1hr), to attend the interview with them (between weeks 3-7 in LT, approx. 1.5 hrs) and to participate in the analysis of the key points session in week 8 (LT 1hr). Darren Moon from the Centre for Learning Technology has kindly agreed to do the filming and editing so there is no need to worry about the technical side.

Apart from being an enjoyable and informative enterprise (a project *for* and done *by* students) it will give Mannheim Ph.D. students experience of managing a project, and guiding students through a number of tasks and is of course something you can put on your CVs. The added bonus is that you will also be paid for your time!

If you are interested please could you contact Dr Janet Foster in the Sociology Department, [j.a.foster@lse.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.foster@lse.ac.uk) enclosing a CV that includes an outline of your thesis topic and approach, any interviewing/teaching experience you may have had, and a short paragraph on why you would like to be involved in this project.

## Letter from... Oxford

By Jane Donoghue



Dr Jane Donoghue joined the Centre for Criminology in August 2010. She is the author of 'Anti-Social Behaviour Orders: A Culture of Control?' (Palgrave, 2010). She recently

completed an 18 month ESRC funded study of the judicial role in anti-social behaviour cases before the courts in England and Wales. She is currently researching and writing about court specialisation and therapeutic jurisprudence and is also involved in collaborative research on co-production.

I have specialised in researching anti-social behaviour for nearly nine years now. My background is actually in law and it had always been my intention to go into practise but after studying criminal law as part of my degree, I realised it was criminological research that really interested me. So I decided that I would go on to undertake a PhD in some area of criminology, I just wasn't sure which! I found criminology endlessly fascinating and there were so many possibilities for what direction I would take my postgraduate research in.

I first realised that I wanted to do my PhD on anti-social behaviour after I got talking to an elderly lady on a bus one afternoon on my way to work. There were teenagers on the bus cutting up the seats and shouting abuse at the driver. The lady told me about the anti-social behaviour in the area where she lived and how groups of youngsters had dug up her garden and posted dog mess through her letterbox. She lived alone and she told me she was frightened every time she went out to buy her milk. The youngsters would verbally abuse her and the other residents, making it a very stressful environment in which to live. When the teenagers got off the bus, they threw a stone at the bus window.

It was around this time that Tony Blair had been talking about his "Together" campaign on anti-social behaviour (later followed by the "Respect Agenda") and the "rights and responsibilities" discourse was becoming prevalent in Labour government rhetoric. I had heard about it on the news

and after my meeting with the woman on the bus I realised that this was the area that I wanted to study for my PhD.

I went to Stirling University to do my doctoral research and my supervisor was Professor Reece Walters. He was, without doubt, the best person possible to supervise me. On one of our first meetings he "warned" me that he was a civil libertarian and that he was unlikely to agree with any of my very New Labour sensibilities! It was most definitely a case of yin and yang when it came to our views on anti-social behaviour but because of that I ended up having the most thought-provoking, intellectually stimulating and entertaining discussions with him that, I hope, in the end have made me a better criminologist. Reece has been an academic inspiration to me ever since, for his strength of conviction and his willingness to engage in a good bit of intellectual sparring!

I know that my views on anti-social behaviour are quite unpopular in some quarters. While my research and writing on anti-social behaviour has been critical of some aspects of anti-social behaviour policy, I also believe that the attempts made over the last decade or so to address urban disorder and nuisance behaviour, are generally a good thing. Unfortunately, I feel that sometimes my arguments are misunderstood or misrepresented. For example, when I was in the process of having a book on ASBOs published, my editor sent me a review of one of my drafts in which a

reviewer had said that “this author’s only interest is in the greater criminalisation of the poor!” I am grateful that from the outset of my academic career, I was able to engage in some serious argumentative jousting with my doctoral supervisor as, not only does it help to develop your analytical and debating skills but I think it certainly “toughens you up” a bit to serious criticism!

This is my second year at Oxford and it has been a truly fantastic environment in which to work. I had previously been working as a lecturer at Reading University Law School and while I had very much enjoyed my time there with wonderful colleagues, one of the main reasons that I was very keen to come to Oxford was so that I could work in a department of criminology, alongside people whose work I find hugely inspiring and which has influenced my thinking since I was a student. I think I was also probably hoping that I would find another academic sparring partner to have heated debates about over the odd glass of wine. I am very lucky in that I have now found many.

Jane Donoghue

[jane.donoghue@crim.ox.ac.uk]

## Recent events

### **11<sup>th</sup> October British Government@LSE public lecture by Bill Bratton**

Bill Bratton gave a Barnumesque tour d’ force lecture. His approach to policing was encapsulated in his strap line “cops on the spots” i.e. intelligence led resource allocation. He claimed to have turned

around a crime ridden city (New York) in decline by his policing method. Reclaiming public space so that people felt safe, encouraging business partnership to make places attractive (with additional private security patrols, better lighting, specially commissioned street furniture and art) comstat analysis of crime hot spots and the additional police numbers reduced crime dramatically-40% of violent crime and 30% of all crime. His Paul of Tarsus conversion experience was the realisation that police should prevent crime rather than simply react to it i.e. police are accountable **for** crime (my emphasis). This resonates with Andrew Millie’s point about police shifting from trying to create order rather than maintain it and might thus be a symptom of the malady of infinite aspiration. Bratton’s model also chimes with John Lea’s point about shift of emphasis in solutions to the problems inherent in recent riots i.e. that individuals need to shape up and make themselves attractive to employees rather than any state structural interventions.

#### **Robert Reiner on Bill Bratton:**

“Seems to me that there are at least 3 fundamental things missing from Bratton’s argument: a) No acknowledgement of social as well as individual causes of crime/disorder b) no recognition that as well as security being conducive to prosperity, justice etc the reverse is at least as true c) no sense of injustice, inequality etc as relevant to the meaning of prosperity and the causation of crime (Adam Smith saw this!).”

#### **Tim Newburn on Bill Bratton:**

(Blog 22<sup>nd</sup> August)

“On the surface it is not difficult to understand the attraction. Bratton has held

several top jobs in difficult-to-police American cities. And he's been successful. In both New York and Los Angeles he presided over substantial crime declines and indeed in the less fashionable and newsworthy job as chief of New York's transit police he also oversaw a major clean-up of the subway system. He's a charismatic and persuasive individual who appears to be popular both with his own officers and, for the most part, with the politicians with whom he works. ...And outside America nowhere does his name feature more regularly than in Britain. From Michael Howard and then Jack Straw in the mid to late-1990s, all the way through to giving evidence to the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee last year, Bratton has been a regular visitor to these shores. And yet despite all this it is clear that few British politicians have any real grasp of the policing philosophy that Bratton espouses, or of what happened in New York in the 1990s and subsequently."

## 12<sup>th</sup> Oct BSC/Mannheim Seminar

'Riots and the crisis of neoliberal state'



John Lea ( University of Brighton)

John began with a Hobsbawm quotation that "no other European country has so strong a tradition of rioting as Britain"

He then presented an analysis of riots that occurred in the 1980s (Bristol, Brixton, Birmingham and Dewsbury); 1990s (Poll tax, Newcastle, Bristol and Birmingham); 2000s (Bradford and Bristol) with the most recent spate occurring in August this year. The earlier riots he argued, were characterised by people fighting the police (82 arrests) with a negotiated response; The Bradford riots in 2001 involved

community members fighting each other where the response was attempts at reconstruction (297 arrests); whilst the August 2011 riots involve 'taking stuff' (3,007 arrests) resulting in repressive measures. Professor Lea went on to propose that responses to rioting has seen a shift from; State intervention to a neo-liberal predominance of private sector capital and a retreat of the state; solutions relating to community cohesion to more individually targeted efforts to get people to learn to become more employable; thoughtful, impactful inquiries (Scarman) towards more pragmatic limited inquiries (current riots being investigated by Darra Singh head of Job Centre Plus); the involvement of a wider section of the public ( precariat). Finally he mused that a green revolution might be a longer term way out.

## Forthcoming Events

### Wednesday Seminar

9<sup>th</sup> Nov NAB 1.07 6.30-8.00pm

Joanna Gilmore, University of Manchester

"Repression and resistance in an age of austerity; protest policing and the normalisation of exceptional powers in the UK"

### What if...series

Robert Reiner will present the inaugural debate on 27<sup>th</sup> October (6.15 pm in NAB . LG . 03 ) on the topic of fire brigade policing with Sir Denis O'Connor Chief HMIC and Rt Hon Keith Vas MP as discussants.

## **Specialty Seminars**

Children of the Drug War  
seminar on November 22  
(6-7:30).  
NAB Moot Court Room

## **Hermann Mannheim quote of the month**

"The white collar criminal is neither a political offender nor a rebel. He exploits the weaknesses of society rather than rebelling against its iniquities and his interest in the reform of the legal, political and social system is normally confined to changes which might enable him to make more and more money and to get more and more influence in order to exert increasing pressure to obtain his selfish objects."

Hermann Mannheim. (1965) Comparative Criminology vol 2 p470

## **And Finally...**

A visitor to the Centre Dr Cassandra Cross from the Queensland Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch is on a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust fellowship researching online fraud. Her studies so far find victimisation cuts across all demographics, but that the more senior of us citizens are particularly targeted. Victims are unlikely to report because they are perceived as greedy, complicit and undeserving. Detection is almost non-existent, as is asset recovery. Queenslanders lose an average of A\$1,000,000 per month in on line fraud varying from inheritance or investment opportunities, charitable donation and honey traps. Be warned.

## **Durham University's Centre for Sex, Gender and Sexualities**

**Durham University invites you to an inaugural  
lecture to launch its new  
Centre for Sex, Gender, and Sexualities at the  
Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET)**

**2 Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL  
from 6.30 pm on Monday 14 November 2011**

The Centre for Sex, Gender, and Sexualities seeks to shape, inform and influence social and political communities at national and international levels. Operating without intellectual or academic boundaries, researchers from across the social sciences, arts and humanities, and sciences will explore the vital questions of equality and diversity in societies across the world, and assess the impact of research on key issues such as security, economy, justice, democracy, ethics, conflict, education and welfare provision.

The 2011 inaugural lecture is entitled  
**"Equality, Diversity, Queer Theory and Children  
in the Modern Age"**

and will be delivered by Professor Kathryn Bond-Stockton of the University of Utah

Drinks reception and canapés from 7.30

**If you have a colleague or associate you think  
would be interested in attending, please let us  
know via your RSVP and we will be happy to  
include them on the guest list.**

Please note that places are limited and the event is  
by invitation only.

RSVP to [JPhoenix.csgs@durham.ac.uk](mailto:JPhoenix.csgs@durham.ac.uk) by Friday  
28 October 2011

