

Book of Abstracts

Opening Keynote Session: *Cultural Criminological Perspectives*

Water Bodies / Human Bodies: Animating the Nonhuman in Cultural Criminology (toward a Relational Forensics)

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To reinvent cultural criminology for the Anthropocene, the space between people and the planet must be animated by the nonhuman. Granted, distributing our anthropocentric sense of agency and acknowledging the transformational powers of diverse elements and beings is still an experimental, speculative route to alternative realities. But by these means, I suggest, cultural criminologists can leverage our knowledge of crimes such as homicide to create a new materialist approach to environmental crime such as ecocide. In this talk, I shall resist the pull of narrative with its seductive closures by analyzing a difficult-to-read scene from my 2014 fieldwork: A mass-mediated First Nation ritual scraping of the Red River bottom, a symbolic search for corpses of murdered women and girls in downtown Winnipeg, sited outside of but close to the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Taking the elemental powers of river channels and currents into account, the ethnographic analysis shifts the semiotics of conventional forensics, that always assumes a passive ground, to replace it with a relational forensics that opens the stage of criminal matters to unforeseen questions.

Through Scandinavia, Darkly: a (Cultural) Criminological Critique of Nordic Noir

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Nordic noir is an emerging crime genre associated with a region (Scandinavia), a mood/atmosphere (foreboding and bleak), and a particular aesthetic look (dark/gloomy). Rooted in the 1960s 'police procedural' novels of Swedish authors Maj Sjöwall and Per Wahlöö, and renowned for its socially-engaged plots and psychologically-complex characterization, Nordic Noir now comprises not just best-selling crime fiction, but also film and most recently globally-successful television drama. A review of both popular and academic accounts of the genre suggests that much of its appeal comes from its supposed "gritty" or "realist" account of Scandinavian society. This paper, however, adopts a different perspective. Drawing on cultural and ultra-realist criminology, I argue that, rather than accurately reflecting the complex social and political problems currently confronting late modern Scandinavian welfare societies, Nordic Noir has in fact lost its grip on realism and any meaningful association with actual/established Scandinavian values. Instead, Nordic Noir is now functioning as a displacement narrative, a form of cultural expression that allows artists, producers and their audiences to push the region's social problems outside the realm even of the Imaginary.

Session 1. *Risk, Justice and Criminology*

What Unites us and What Tears us Apart? Criminology within the Periphery and its Relation to the Core

Vitor Stegemann Dieter (University of Kent, UK - ELTE University, Hungary) (vitordieter@gmail.com)

'Southern criminology' has recently contributed to the lack of debate around the differences between criminologies from developed countries and elsewhere. Instead of a 'redemptive' project of a post-colonial approach, it proposes a democratic exchange of available criminological concepts between the 'North' and 'South'. However, it does not address the contradictory underpinnings that differentiates and unites theory of the periphery to the core. Particularly, critical criminologists from the periphery have historically been engaged with theories and politics imported to their local contexts. This is not simply a result of cultural power differentials, but a product of material and hegemonic

subordination to political-economy conflicts and international dependency. In order to demonstrate my argument, I intend to relate the recent debates of dependency theory to a necessary critical response against criminal politics of Latin America's 'post-neoliberal governments'. Additionally, the 'unequal and combined development' concept allows to simultaneously understanding the material and ideological contradictory relations of crime problems in the periphery in association to the core. From this framework it is possible to harness critical substance for the call for an 'exchange' between criminologists that internationally unites forces against common harm problems without disregarding the differentiated crime issues of peripheral and core countries.

Interstellar and the Notion of Resilience

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These days resilience is a fashionable notion in the world of safety and security management. In this paper I will explore resilience by relating it to the movie *Interstellar* by Christopher Nolan. Resilience is about embracing risk and getting out of a comfort zone. In the movie *Interstellar* we find a nice articulation of what Zolli & Healy (2012) refer to as the fundamental tension between mitigationists and adaptationists dealing with risks in a potentially hostile environment. Whereas mitigation focuses on risk and loss, adaptation has more interest in considering opportunity and gain. Resilience does not shy away from risks because risks offer all kinds of opportunities and gains. With resilience we are not dealing with closure and protection for that will lead to homogeneity and paralysis. Resilient systems are much more open and dynamic and do not strive for homeostasis for they welcome change in the name of preservation. This is what I hope to illustrate by referring to the movie *Interstellar* by Christopher Nolan.

Ordinary Sense of Justice in Novels: from the 19th to the 21st Century

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This presentation focusses both on the informal and formal modes of regulation used by ordinary persons when they experience harm. It aims to capture variations of these modes throughout the history of social relations and the development of the modern nation-state. Indeed, in the process of its centralization, the nation-state has monopolized the regulation of many social relations by the means of its justice system. It has been argued that the informal modes of regulation would have withdrawn, while the formal one was progressively taking a predominant position. But how do people use and support these various modes of regulation over history? Three socio-historical contexts have been taken into account for this purpose: the second half of the 19th century, when the criminal justice system has been developed; the 1960s, at the apogee of the welfare state; and nowadays. The presentation relies on a review of 15 famous European novels. Following an ethnomethodological perspective, the novelist is seen as a member of a social group. This group is grounded in a context that contributes to the world's view of its members. When writing, a novelist actualizes the patterns of reasoning of his group. Therefore, a novel becomes a witness of what is imaginable in a specific context at a given period.

Session 2. Gender Subversion

Online Commenting about a Victim of Female-on-Male Rape: The Case of Shia LaBeouf's Sexual Victimization

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The present study explored social responses toward male victims of female-perpetrated rape by analyzing 505 comments posted on www.theGuardian.com in response to the report that Shia LaBeouf, an American actor and director, was raped by a woman. Using inductive thematic analysis, three themes were generated: Victim's Character, Victim's Behavior and Victim's Story. In addition, each comment was rated regarding its general attitude toward the victim: negative, positive, or mixed. We found that 55% of the comments expressed negative, blaming attitudes toward the victim, 35% were positive and supportive, and 10% were mixed. The findings show that negative comments depict rape as a sexual act against the victim's will, whereas positive comments portray rape as sexual acts without the victim's consent. Additionally, negative comments addressed expectation regarding "real men" and "real rape," whereas positive comments emphasized gender equality in rape comprehension and victim treatment. Our discussion addresses the findings within the context of traditional gender roles and perceptions of "real" rape and presents implications for education and training. Furthermore, we suggest that the existence of positive and mixed responses may indicate a possible change in boundaries of social responses not just regarding male rape victims, but for all rape victims.

Being Lesbian in Africa Today: the Case of Senegal

Boris Bertolt (ELTE University, Hungary - Utrecht University, NL) (borisbertolt@yahoo.fr)

In Africa, female homosexuality has received little attention in political, academic and even international LGBTI support discourses. Yet, similarly to male homosexuality, sexual relations between women have always existed on the continent. Homophobic violence against women who have sex with women is submitted to a very little media coverage. Thus, even though in general, same-sex relationships remain criminalized in most African countries, gays and lesbians don't receive the same attention. From this perspective, it could be argued that lesbians suffer from a double oppression. First, because of gender hierarchies anchored in African societies and the striking invisibility of their sexual orientation. The purpose of this article is to demonstrate that the dual oppression of lesbians on the continent must be analyzed in a perspective that integrates the entanglement between the past and the present. If recalling the existence of female same-sex sexuality in pre-colonial Africa is important, it is also necessary to study the process of sexualisation of the black woman's body during colonization, as well as the institutionalization of patriarchy and the heterosexism in Africa and the dynamics of domestication of gender hierarchies and violence inherited from colonization by the African postcolonial male elite.

Exploring the Mediated Representations of the Chemsex Subculture

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In 2015, Peccadillo Pictures released its documentary *Chemsex*. The film, which portrays gay, bisexual and queer men (GBQM) whose have been impacted by the combination of illicit drugs (e.g., crystal methamphetamine, mephedrone and GHB/GBL) and condomless sex, has been described as 'a bleak and unforgettably frank portrait of a subculture on the edge' ([emphasis added] Huddleston 2015: para. 1). *Chemsex* is not the first such mediated representation of the chemsex subculture—numerous other examples abound—from theatrical productions, to photo exhibits and even pornography. More recently, GBQM drug users have also begun to create their own self-mediated representations. These have taken the form of drug-themed 'amateur' photography, YouTube vignettes and even real-time drug ingestion experiences via webcam conference calls. Using a cultural

criminological framework, this paper examines, in particular, the mediated and self-mediated representations of GBQM drug use as crime, deviance and transgression. In this way, the paper distinguishes itself from more mainstream (i.e., orthodox) criminological enquiries in terms of the emphasis it places on cultural dynamics. The paper thus critically engages with the politics of meaning and power surrounding Chemsex as found in mainstream and 'pink media' representations.

Waiting in Drag: Masculine Performativity and Gender Subversion

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After more than two decades of scholarship attempting to discredit stereotypical characterizations of Mexican men, the allure of the Mexican macho figure persists. Scholars continue to use the macho as a reference point in their work whether or not they espouse a typological approach to gender studies. Consequently, such work has tended to privilege coherence and consistency by focusing on either profiling normative identities, leaving inconsistent or contradictory gendered subjectivities under-explored in the process. In this paper I take a different perspective and approach masculinity as a form of drag. Through the notions of performativity and iterativity, I explore the process by which masculine subjectivities are produced and consumed in a space typically associated with stereotypical masculine practices that has also become the site of drug related violence in the last decade. I argue that the interactions that take place between men in these clubs illustrate the framing of gender as a social norm and conclude by suggesting that these spaces harbor the possibility of gender subversion as a result of a symbolic interplay between associations to violence and the gendered fantasies of lap dancing club customers.

Session 3. Local and Global in Illicit Trafficking Networks

Towards a More Representative Criminology: Emphasizing the Local Contextualities of Global Illicit Trade

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This paper will discuss the local, regional and global causes and consequences of the illicit trade in Chinese cultural property trade, highlighting the need for a more local understanding of transnational criminal networks. This fits within an increased awareness within the field of criminology to engage more with and originate from the Global South. Research on transnational illicit trade is particularly helpful to uncover the areas where the criminological discipline lacks representativeness. This paper will take the illicit Chinese antiquities trade as an example to propose that such research on global networks should be grounded in local contextualities. Such local contextualities are an essential, but under-researched, facet of transnational illicit trade. In doing so, this paper challenges Western-based notions of class and social status, value and crime: for example, the divides between the illicit/licit, illegal/legal and informal/formal are not as clear-cut as often portrayed when researching the local contextualities of transnational crime. These reflections are particularly timely as the global illicit cultural property trade is changing and new epicentres of illicit trade are emerging. Through highlighting the local contextualities of the global illicit antiquities trade, it contributes to a more representative criminology of transnational criminal networks.

Drug Trafficking in Kazakhstan: Who and How Runs the Business?

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The article will explore the state and condition of drug trafficking in Kazakhstan and the ways it affects related local illicit drug trade. There are several research questions that are going to be addressed. First, given the systemic nature of corruption in Kazakhstan, who are the main actors involved into illicit drug trade and how the state anti corruption effort affects the modus operandi of the groups and individuals involved into Afghan heroin trafficking. The particular emphasis is put on the drawbacks in the legislation that create incentives for police to go after low-level drug dealers instead of large scale organized crime in the sphere of illicit drug business. Second, the article will address the involvement of Russian Mafia and local ethnic criminal communities into distribution and trafficking of marijuana, synthetic drugs from Russia and afghan heroin distribution. Besides that, it is going to be evaluated how fields of wild growth marijuana, Chu Valley, as well as economic struggles of the people create additional incentives for the local population to participate in organized crime. In order to address the above-mentioned questions, approximately 50 formal interviews have been conducted. The interview sample included police officers from six different areas of expertise, criminal authorities, drug dealers, smugglers, customs control officers, former officers imprisoned for corruption, lawyers and academics. For the purposes of methods triangulation, related mass media, governmental and international reports as well as court records content analysis have been implied. Therefore, the article will demonstrate the relationships between corruption, cultural legacies and modus operandi of organized crime in the spheres of illicit drug cultivation, distribution and trafficking in Kazakhstan.

Organ Trafficking Networks and Transnational Organized Crime

Athina Koufou (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece) (athinakoufou@yahoo.gr)

Illegal transplants, due to low risk of penal prosecution and high organ demand, constitute a lucrative activity for organized criminal groups that act as intermediaries between the donor and the recipient by taking financially advantage of their destitution. Given the complex nature of a transplant procedure, an organized criminal group usually collaborates with doctors (surgeons, nephrologists, anesthesiologists) making arrangements for accommodation, payment as well as issuing the necessary travel documents by committing various crimes (forgery, fraud, bribery, etc.). Moreover, such groups are familiar with all the existing «loopholes» (inadequate legislation, bureaucratic difficulties, corruption, etc.) avoiding, in that way, any penal prosecution. The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as the Palermo Protocol, set the necessary framework for the interpretation of trafficking of human beings for the purpose of organ removal as an organized criminal phenomenon, while the Medicus, Netcare and Rosenbaum cases constitute characteristic examples of organized criminal groups consisted of members with various tasks. Through their analysis, the globalization of organ trafficking becomes evident rendering, thus, even more crucial the need for an effective cross-border judicial cooperation.

Illegal Organ Trafficking as a Transnational Crime: Actual Issues of Organ Transplantation, Harsh Reality and the Effectiveness of Regulation

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Illegal organ trafficking as a transnational crime: actual issues of organ transplantation, harsh reality and the effectiveness of regulation. Illegal organ harvesting and transplant is one of the most well-organized crimes globally. According to international reports and academic literature, organ trafficking is a transnational crime with severe consequences. Despite European and international legislative initiatives and regulatory attempts, a flourishing black market in body parts does exist, thus challenging the effectiveness of regulatory schemes. The purpose of the paper is to present how

certain aspects of organ transplant tend to undermine legislation, producing different results than the intended ones. Our main argument is that the lack of complementary provisions concerning transplant costs, combined with the organ shortage and long waiting lists, lead patients in urgency to illegal, yet more “appealing”, alternative choices. These issues – as well as the lack of public awareness - increase the number of patients that turn to illegal choices, namely black market and human organ trafficking. This is a profound example of how non-regulated practices and shortcomings undermine the very object and the goals of regulation. Our methodology is to first conduct a brief literature review on the subject and an empirical data analysis, in order to prove (or disprove) our main arguments and hypotheses. The paper will, then, present our findings and recommendations for measures and actions that need to be taken in order to combat the phenomenon.

Session 4. *Interpersonal Violence and its Political Context*

What Happened in Charlottesville? A Cultural Criminological Analysis of the US Far Right

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On August 12th 2017, around a thousand white supremacists gathered in Charlottesville, VA under the banner ‘Unite the Right’ for what became the largest public event of the far right movement in the recent US history. The violence of the heavily armed contingent of “old” and “new” fascist groups escalated when a white supremacist intentionally drove his car into a march of counter-protestors, killing 32-years old Heather Heyer and injuring 19 others. Charlottesville received worldwide attention; the non-response of the police during the rally, president Trump’s hesitation to condemn white supremacists and his equivocation of Neo-Nazis and counter-protestors raising a controversy around the emboldening of the far right in the current political climate. This paper discusses what the events in Charlottesville tell about the newest far right movements in the US, their specific characteristics and politics, and their connection to ‘mainstream’ politics. Using a cultural criminological framework, the paper explores in particular the cultural politics of the movements; including their meta-politics orientation and the influence of internet ‘chan’ subcultures on symbolism, image production and modes of communication.

Is the Great Recession leading to Deadlier Mass Murders?

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We analyzed a whole lot of rampage killer/mass murderers and found a number of similarities that were common to those in America vs. those in Europe focusing on a number of areas: The Americas (north and south) and Europe. We found that both the quantity of mass murders and their intensity- defined by the number injured and killed- have spiked dramatically since the start of the global great recession, which is generally considered to be December 2007. However, we also found that since that time there has been and continues to be an increase in the quantity of mass murders and their intensity, with two of the five deadliest rampages taking place just last year. We hypothesize that as the Western world has grown wealthier as a whole, it has become more difficult and less attainable for men to reach the “American dream” - the attendant pressures of society in the modern world makes both the quantity and intensity of mass murders more extreme.

'When Broken Hearts are on the Mend, Fingers do the Talking': An Exploration of the Role that Peer and Intimate Partner Relationships has on Cyberbullying and Cybervictimization among Caribbean Nationals

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Cyberbullying is “a way of being cruel to others by sending or posting harmful material or engaging in other forms of social aggression using the internet or other digital technologies” (Willard, 2007). This phenomenon has existed for years and continues to advance based on the dynamism of technology but the underlying causes have been difficult to determine. While cyberbullying has been studied from a plethora of angles, including the psychological effects, the role of peer and intimate partner relationships has been tangential. This research study, pivoted on the tenets of the social bond theory investigates the influence that peer and intimate partner relationships has on cyberbullying and cybervictimization among university students in Trinidad and Tobago. A qualitative method of data collection was used and the data was analysed using thematic analysis. The results indicate that for the majority of participants, fissures in relationships were the main cause for both perpetration and victimization. These results contradict the notion that strong social bonds deter persons from engaging in deviant acts.

Session 5. Prison Governance

Learning from the Camp Bucca Experience: Strategies for Dealing with Extremism in Prisons

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While prisons are supposed to be strong partners in de-radicalisation, instead of promoting disengagement from violence, correctional institutions frequently facilitate the spread of radical ideology by providing inmates a platform to forge alliances, exchange experience and recruit new followers. The concern about prisons turning into “hotbeds of extremism” is currently one of the most pressing security issues that requires an immediate response from policy-makers. In Britain, the government has recently announced its plans to crack down on the spread of Islamist ideology in prisons by creating “separation centres” which are expected to hold the most subversive and actively proselytising extremist offenders. This paper examines strategies for dealing with Islamism in prisons worldwide and assesses the UK experiment from the point of view of its potential to tackle the spread of radicalisation behind bars.

Beyond Extra-Legal Governance: Gangs and the Unionisation of Criminals in Southern Brazil

Vitor Stegemann Dieter (University of Kent, UK - ELTE University, Hungary) (vitordieter@gmail.com)

Mainstream criminology has increasingly turned to the argument of ‘governance’ as the fundamental role of organized crime in their environments. Following that line, David Skarbek argued that the rise of prison gangs (2014; 2016) relates to forms of extra-legal governance in the illegal market. In spite its current popularity, empirical findings on gangs indicate that core motivations cannot be reduced to the economic interests or market ‘protection’ imperatives (Venkatesh, 2008; Brotherton, 2004; Biondi, 2016; Bourgois, 2003). Furthermore, the portrayal of an illegal gang governance parallel or unaffected by the State or the criminal justice system does not equates with the concrete practices and interaction of the State with criminals (Hernandez, 2012; Arias, 2009; Hernández-Anzora, 2016; Lea & Stenson, 2007). My ethnographic research will closely discuss the first argument, arguing how the Primeiro

Comando da Capital, a major prison gang from Southern Brazil, resembles less of an institutional market mechanism, but rather a form of criminal union. Thus, in order to overcome an interest-based explanation of collective behaviour, a better explanatory model of the phenomenon should encompass simultaneously (a) the imperatives that enhance individual market behaviour and (b) the need of collective forms of organisation relating to common class positions.

Encountering the Carceral State: Confinement beyond Prison in Nicaragua

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This paper follows a Nicaraguan youth as he leaves prison and becomes part of society again – only to be re-imprisoned. Through his life story, it explores the continued practices of spatial confinement in the urban environment beyond prison, and discusses Charles Tilly’s notion of states as “quintessential protection rackets with the advantage of legitimacy, [which] qualify as our largest examples of organized crime” (1985: 169). Where the Nicaraguan police and prison system project the moral high ground in the fight against “the corruption of our youth,” they namely have an ambiguous relationship with both punishment and illegality. Contrary to official discourse, the police are well-known among targeted communities for their extra-legal use of force. Similarly, Nicaragua’s prisons are characterized by overcrowding and extra-legal governance techniques, in which corruption and the use of violence weave a pattern of precarious yet systemic co-governance arrangements. Drawing on extensive ethnographic prisons research (2009-2016) and sustained contact with former prisoners for its contextualization, it is through this youth’s intimate encounters with the carceral state that I seek to understand its workings.

Session 6. Consumption & Environmental Harms

The Maker Movement, Resistance and the Right to Repair

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The maker movement is an eclectic patchwork of people who make their own electronics. Although the movement is driven more by an enthusiasm for technological experimentation than any coherent political agenda, several of its practices have started to cause some friction with powerful actors in the tech sector. This paper explores a point of mounting tension between commercial interests and a group of makers and activists calling for the ‘Right to Repair,’ resulting in a number of legislative battles in Europe and in the United States. Not only does this campaign draw attention to the toxic ecological impact of electronic waste, it also reveals the strategies tech manufacturers employ to stimulate consumption and protect their intellectual property.

A Criminological Analysis of Social Harm: the Case of Consumerism in the Garment Industry

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By employing the concept of social harm, my doctoral research addresses criminological aspects of consumerism. As a representative example of social harm resulting from consumerism, the effects of mass consumption of clothing, i.e., the phenomenon of fast fashion will be taken under scrutiny. The issue will be addressed from two angles: from the point of view of social harm, resulting from harmful practices of fast fashion in general and from the point of view of social harm resulting from

consumerism in the garment industry as a mechanism of social control. In the context of the first aspect, attention will be given to the relative nature of the notion of social harm and to three forms of social harm in particular: environmental harm, inadequate working conditions and the harm to the consumer. Within the second aspect, the angle of the »caring« nature of social control as well as the negative side of it, i.e. the opiatization of the people, will be considered. The rationale behind the research is that the gravity of social harm resulting from consumerism in the garment industry justifies the demand for a greater role that the concept of social harm should play in the context of criminology. The research question the doctoral thesis aims to answer is: "What is the social harm resulting from consumerism in the garment industry from a criminological point of view?"

Mapping the Concept of Food Crime in Italy and the UK

Alice Rizzuti (University of Essex, UK) (alice.rizzuti@essex.ac.uk)

Food is the most essential ingredient of the everyday life. It defines cultures and it is itself perceived differently by different cultures and societies. Food also represents a highly profitable market that has always attracted criminals. Over the last 30 years the spread of several scandals has increased the debate around harmful activities perpetrated in the food sector. Since it is mainly considered as a matter of public health, food crime has so far received scant criminological attention.

Through a mapping exercise that analyses the criminal activities committed along the food supply chain this paper examines the concept of food crime. First, by systematically reviewing the academic literature and the official reports from international agencies on food security and food safety published over the last 30 years, the paper highlights how these concepts are necessarily embedded within the conceptualization of food crime. Second, by looking at the data collected from in-depth interviews with experts in the field of food crime in Italy and the UK, the paper attempts to show how law enforcement and regulatory bodies from two countries which are different for food habits and culture, perceive food crime and deal with it.

Investment in Industrial Agriculture – Enabler of Environmental Injustice?

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Food production can serve as a lens for comprehending social and environmental injustices. The need to incorporate environmental justice research into criminological literature is evident. Moreover, green criminology research demands further theorisation of food production crimes as well as the expansion of the scope of food production harms. This project focuses on the connection between investment in industrial agriculture and environmental injustice. It aims to conceptualise the nature of harms resulting from industrial agriculture investment, determining contexts behind them, and study the response to harm in its capacity to reinstate environmental justice. Considering the limited attention to the role of discourse in producing and reproducing harms within green criminology, this research turns to discourse analysis when analysing the data collected during an ethnographic study and document review. Discourse analysis will reveal how investors promulgate the current food production discourse cementing foundations for harm. It will uncover power disequilibriums and hegemonic relations between discourses of the affected community and investors, and demonstrate how the affected community relate to the mainstream food production discourse. The latter will explore whether the affected community has the capacity to counter-argue the prevailing consensus in order to re-establish justice and prevent future harm.

Session 7. Security, Identity and Migrants

The Surveillance Myth: (In)securitization of Internal Migration in Contemporary China

Tina Ma (Utrecht University, NL - University of Kent, UK) (t.ma@uu.nl)

The context of post-hukou society will be firstly introduced based surveillance related to internal migrants today in urban China, which is flowing between the hukou policy and new regulatory regimes and technologies. Secondly, social sorting and the political technology surveillance based on the concept liquid surveillance, another image of digital citizen, index forging and the industrialization the registration of entertainment system has been introduced to reflect on narratives. This study provides an extended analysis of pragmatic approaches of the implementation from the frontline police officers and the industrialization of the bureaucratic digital system. In addition to illuminating the complexities, consequences and contradictions of the internal mobility control in today's China, this article enriches the understanding of social exclusion and surveillance of the post modern society.

Who is a Refugee in Israel?

Dina Siegel (Utrecht University, NL) (dina.s@uu.nl)

In the years after the Intifada, Israel became presented in the media mainly in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Other problems, however, such as on-going migration flows and ethnic tensions between different groups of population are not less urgent in the Israeli society, Based on participant observations, I will analyse how the migration from Africa to Israel in the last ten years led to complex dilemmas, including recent political decisions on deportation versus growing solidarity with the refugees in the south of Tel Aviv.

Converting to Islam: Identity Construction and Conversion Experiences in Islamophobic Times

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Islam is of growing importance in Europe as is manifested, among other things, by conversion to Islam. Every year an unknown number of Dutch individuals converts to Islam. This occurs in a period and social context in which Islam is increasingly problematized and even criminalized in the aftermath of 9/11 and more recent terrorist attacks. At the same time, a considerable number of Western foreign fighters has a non-Islamic background. These developments raise various questions. Who are these converts? What does Islam mean to them? Why do they choose to convert despite negative images of Islam? How does this affect their identity as well as their social network? And how are identity and conversion experiences related to the overrepresentation of converts in Jihadist groups? These questions will be answered on the basis of fieldwork and semi-structured interviews with converts from different Islamic movements, including converts who have been part of Jihadist groups and/or who have been to Syria or Iraq.

Session 8. After Prison

Remorse and Rehabilitation in Criminal Justice

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In this paper I argue that prisoners are expected to continue the performance of remorse and rehabilitation throughout the sentence. A major component of this is complete acceptance of the official, constructed legal and psycho- correctional narrative, no matter how inauthentic to the experience of the prisoner (Hall & Rossmanith 2016). As the sentence unfolds, the emotions engendered by the rituals of humiliation and shaming that characterize the sentence are expected to be transformed by the prisoner into willing and enthusiastic attention to fulfilling the aims of the sentence. If the task of reconciling the aims of sentencing confuses judges and lawyers, how much more difficult it is for prisoners to reconcile the feelings and emotions resulting from punishment, denunciation and exclusion, with rehabilitation, restoration and acknowledgment of responsibility for harm? In keeping with a recent resurgence in attention to the experiential aspects of imprisonment spearheaded by Jewkes (2013), Crewe (2009), Drake (2012), Schinkel (2014) and Ugelvik (2014), extracts from an ethnographic study of 30 long term prisoners in NSW, Australia are used to illustrate the barriers to the fulfillment of the aims of the sentence created by the processes of correctional managerialism (Hall 2017).

Arts Interventions and the Desistance Process: Agency Through Art Among Female Offenders During Incarceration and Upon Release

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This research focuses on a small group of female offenders in England and the ways in which engagement in the arts during incarceration can support and accelerate the desistance process. In the most recent review of the female prison estate, Robinson (2013) suggests that 'life' and 'independence' skills should be acquired in prison in preparation for release. Communication and social skills form the basis of many of the mainstream intervention programs within the Criminal Justice System (Caulfield & Wilkinson 2017:20). Expansion of independence skills would support the other skills that women learn in prison and offer a very practical response to the difficulties that they describe in their lives in the community (Robinson 2013). This research explores whether access to the arts within prison can form the basis of fostering such skills in order to motivate and engage learners. The transition from 'offender' to 'ex-offender' is considered, as are the ways in which agency acquired through the arts can be applied throughout the continuing stages of rehabilitation. By following a woman's journey upon release and her integration back into the community the study determines whether the arts can sustain to the final stage of the desistance process, when someone creates a replacement self. The case studies of six women serving sentences at the same prison between 2012 and 2014 form the basis of this research, with their stories and experiences being told through their artwork and interviews. A criminological model of desistance developed by Giordano et al. (2002) contextualised alongside Margaret Archer's (2003) theory of identity formation is critically evaluated. Links and comparison between evolving reflexive identities and transitional stages of desistance are presented in order to answer the research questions. In doing so, it is determined as to whether identity subgroups bare resemblance to specific stages in the desistance process. Critical analysis considers whether an individual can develop or re-establish an identity as a result of the creative activities they engage in during incarceration.

Criminological Views on Surveillance: a Panopticonic look into Community 'Corrections' from the Eye of a 'Monitor' and 'Supervisor' of Offenders on Probation and Parole

Micheal Taylor (Independent Researcher, Canada) (micheal@michealtaylor.ca)

Surveillance is an incessant and inherent part of penal technology and wider contemporary society. This ongoing research proposes to look at panopticism in the postmodern era and explicate 'what it's like being surveilled'. At the core of my research is an attempt to operationalize this phenomenon. Respondents consist of probationers, parolees and corrections staff who are themselves scrutinized and subjugated, especially 'clients' or 'offenders' under the 'care', 'control' and 'custody' of the state. Probation and parole is an ostensive surveillance because of its formal nature as a result of public 'criminal' 'justice' proceedings at global and local levels. With an ethnographic approach, this study intends to explore the panoptic experiences of individuals under surveillance who describe a contemporary culture of control within the community. Qualitative methods include discourse analysis, in depth interviews and participant observation. Experiences of offenders and corrections staff are considered with perspectives on culture; (in)justice; pain; victimology; social determinants to health and institutionalization. This research also has implications for the politics of grounding practice with theory.

Session 9. The Spectacle of Crime: Power in Mediated Images and Discourses

Mass Media and the Role of the Public in a Globalized, Interconnected World

Iris Steenhout (VU Brussels, Belgium) (Iris.Steenhout@vub.be)

Our globalized, highly interconnected, world is drastically changing the media landscape. We became citizens of a 'global village', where news from distant places can reach us a lot faster than before. Furthermore, the broadcasting of crime news is no longer in the hands of a few, but in the hands of many. In our research, we explore whether journalists in today's context can still maintain their position as 'the crime defining elite' on their own platform. TheGuardian.co.uk serves as a case study. We've collected journalist and non-journalist contributions related to the UK riots of 2011 (ranging from 2011 to 2015). A critical discourse analysis was then performed, and the discourses on the role of the police and the protesters were compared between both groups. While journalists are presenting a coherent, but evolving, discourse in each case, it is especially within the non-journalists contributions that different discourses see the light, continue to coexist and are often later introduced by journalists. Furthermore, the demarcation between actual news and other contributions is fading, as both are often presented nearly identical. Our research therefore suggests that non-journalists actively engage in adding and co-creating news, related to the topic, on the platform.

Countering Images, Incriminating Images and Access to Counterimages

Gabry Vanderveen (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL) (vanderveen@law.eur.nl)

New technologies have led to an increase in visuals in the legal system. Lots of footage is available; footage recorded by surveillance cameras, smartphones or by police officer's body worn cameras. In addition to such footage, 3D-animations or reconstructions of crimes and injuries are used. Visualizations of accidents, crime and injuries can be gruesome. Research shows that gruesome visualizations evoke strong emotional reactions, result in more severe moral judgments, and increase conviction rates. Visuals are powerful; they can lead to several biases and may create false memories. The possible effects of incriminating, powerful visuals require a fair balance in the access and use of visualizations. The principle of equality of arms and the right to a fair trial might be at stake when parties do not have equal opportunities to be able to create, afford and use visuals.

In two recent trials images were used and questioned. First, the defence attorney of Mark de J. asked a company to create a 3D-simulation of the murder on Koen Everink. Second, footage of better quality was delivered and interpreted by the lawyer of the family of Mitch Henriquez. The role of the images in these two cases is reconstructed and assessed critically.

The Photographic Pillory

Phil Carney (University of Kent, UK) (P.Carney@kent.ac.uk)

Today we use the word 'pillory' to indicate how we inflict abuse, humiliation or ridicule on a reputation. Thus the term seems limited to a metaphorical relationship with the pre-modern punitive tactic in which a convicted body was fixed and exhibited to a crowd. This paper will argue that an analysis of the old pillory offers considerably more than a verbal trope. Instead we discover historical continuity through the way in which images are made out of bodies for the purposes of punishment. In fact, a study of the pillory offers us a rich history of the present. The Foucauldian reference is deliberate. We were once told that we had mutated from a society of spectacle to one of panopticism – but we no longer believe it was that simple. Moreover, and even more against Foucault's intention, we can find in *Discipline and Punish* the materials for an understanding of our own pillory-spectacle. Here we go beyond the strictures of 'power-knowledge' into an exploration of the visual and affective forces that move between corporeal surfaces. We discover in today's photographic pillory a reconfigured, intensified and extended liaison between the punished body and the gaze of the crowd.

Session 10. Security and the City

Fear and Loathing in the Smart City

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The 'smart city' has become the latest urban buzzword to rethink the elementary functions of the modern city. It attracts money, corporate power, and private tech companies (e.g. Tesla, Google, IBM). An important reason why the smart city has become such a popular brand is the fact that it is presented as a value-neutral, objectivist, rational, and evidence-base concept. In this paper, we show why the phenomenon of the smart city demands a criminological response as much as a philosophical one. First, we argue that instruments that were traditionally classified as tools of surveillance and control are now rebranded as essential components of the 'smart city' package in order to increase the properness of the city. Second, we consider how the smart city oscillates within a social imaginary populated by feelings of fear and fantasy. As a consequence, the smart city not only reproduces the social order, but also produces new social categories out of new forms of smart governance.

Security Policies in their Context: the Populist Construction of Post-Truth Frame in Barcelona

Amadeu Recasens i Brunet (Municipality of Barcelona, Catalunya)

The contribution will try to provide some ideas for a debate concerning the lack of security model and security policies in the culture of left policies, and in the other hand, the implementation of post-truth frames by populist movements. The construction of post-truths is not a new phenomenon, it exist since long time; but the growth of populism or neo-populism in the Europe of today clearly indicates how the

rightist culture of security and crime is moving from classical conservative arguments to a post-reality policies.

Through the analysis of the struggle for the government/governance of the city of Barcelona we will try to develop the major issues of the discussion and the strategies of the populism to create a discourse (in the nets, the social media, the public opinion...) based on the repetition of an oversized alarmism to create a culture of fear and primal panic to obtain political aims/benefits.

Olympic Legacies Unlocked: (In)Security, Spectacle and Camouflage in Rio de Janeiro

Dennis Pauschinger (University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland) (dennis.pauschinger@unine.ch)

Securing Rio de Janeiro's sport mega-events, organisers transformed the city into a militarized fortress, promoted surveillance and communication technologies and promised a long-lasting security legacy. Yet, looking at post-Olympic Rio highlights the drama of an unprecedented insecurity legacy: Rio's citizens live under spectacular military intervention, daily killings in the favelas by and of police officers feed the vicious circle of violence and, lately, the symbolic execution of Afro-Brazilian human rights activist and city councillor Marielle Franco called many out to mourn and protest in the streets. This paper puts forth that Foucauldian notions of a security apparatus and disciplinary regimes have rightly been outlined as dominant modes of how security has played out at European versions of sport mega-events (Fussey, 2015; Klauser, 2013, 2017), nonetheless are insufficient to understand the dynamics in Rio de Janeiro. Drawing upon ethnography with security forces at Rio's World Cup and Olympics this paper adds to the discussion by highlighting that forms of sovereign power through 'spectacular security' (Boyle and Haggerty, 2009) were equally important and necessary to secure the Games. Using Jusionyte's (2015) concept of 'states of camouflage' the paper argues that a 'security of camouflage' made specific aspects of security visible and, simultaneously, produced insecurity to make intentionally invisible the city's public security drama.

Security, Citizenship, and Legal Imaginaries in Miami

Thijs Jeursen (Utrecht University, NL) (t.j.jeursen@uu.nl)

This paper discusses the ways citizenship is experienced and practiced in the context of everyday security provision in Miami, US. Through neoliberal policies, state institutions made their constituents increasingly responsible for responding to their own security needs. At the same time, citizens claimed and used their rights in order to keep the state institutions and police involvement at an arm's length. In analyzing private gun ownership, mobile camera use, and the policing of secrets, I argue that citizen-state relationships and interactions are best understood in terms of 'legal imaginaries': how ordinary people experience, navigate, and employ the law as it shapes and reflects their forms of agency. As a result, people shift their focus onto individual accountability, rendering the structural nature of issues such as police violence and racial profiling further invisible. My work draws from eleven months of ethnographic fieldwork in Miami, during which I worked primarily with local police officers and residents in three different neighborhoods.

Session 11. Securitization, Crime Control and Rights

Neo-Colonial Crime Control: European Security in Mali, Niger and Senegal

Eva Stambøl (Aalborg University, Denmark) (stambol@socsci.aau.dk)

The main objectives of the EU's policies in and relations with West Africa have increasingly become to combat criminalized 'security threats' such as terrorism, irregular migration and transnational organized crime – issues traditionally pertaining to the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) area of EU policy. While the former colonies have all inherited criminal laws and criminal justice systems from their colonizers, certain parts of these systems are now being massively bolstered by European aid to fight off particularly those 'security threats' which due to their cross-border mobility allegedly pose a danger to Europe. Based on four months of fieldwork in Mali, Niger and Senegal, this paper explores EU internal security aid as it hits the ground, resulting in a patchwork of crime control transplants from a number of mostly European countries. This recent upsurge in external intervention in matters of internal security, I argue, could be seen as a new form of 'penal colonialism'. So whereas criminological literature has given some attention to the US' role as a global hegemon in the field of policing and crime control, this contribution seeks to disentangle the particularities of European penal neo-imperialism.

Security and the Rule of Law: a Criminological Reflection on the Global Risk Society

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What do the features of a 'reflexive modernity' reveal about present level of global insecurity? And what do these imply for the existing law of armed conflicts? Legal systems are extensively concerned with the organization of 'risk', i.e. a probability or threat of any negative incident that is caused by vulnerabilities and which, through pre-emptive action, is avoidable. In international law for example, rights and responsibilities are set out in legal norms as means of preventing or resolving disputes primarily between states. There is, as a result, the perception of risk as a negative feature of social life. But the fact that risk is also crucial to social life is also being acknowledged by criminologists. This study will be 1) revisiting what sociologists label a 'risk society' with the purpose of 2 a) appreciating context, nature and extent of insecurity as well as b) outlining possible implications of such for the law of armed conflicts.

A Critical Analysis over the Normative Conundrum of Rights Discourse: From 'Securitization' towards 'Social Security'

Nilay Kavur (Utrecht University, NL) (n.kavur@uu.nl)

'A paradox that owes its existence to its absence!' is how Türe (2014) defines the conundrum of human rights discourse, addressing its normative character; which obstructs critical thinking. Since the 1970s, this discourse has prevailed to express remonstrations over injustice and inequality. Ironically, the more it is expressed, the more violations occur around the globe. Considering the praxis of rights discourse for children in the margins, like children in high security prisons or asylum-seeking children, both in Turkey, I aim to discuss the normative, so-called 'universal' character of this "utopia" (Moyn, 2010) by, ascertaining its compatibility with the securitization stream, that it advocates, in fact, fight against. I will argue that compatibility of the human rights discourse with the securitization stream arises because the praxis of rights is not analyzed in relation to the political economy that it is embraced; the state's (neo-liberal) political economy. Hence, human rights "promises to penetrate the impregnability of state borders, replacing them with the authority of international law... by working in

alliance with states when possible but naming and shaming them when they violate the most basic norms” (Moyn, 2010). I will discuss the essential role of political economy in the praxis of human rights.

Session 12. *Tijdschrift over Cultuur & Criminaliteit* Special Issue on Theoretical Innovation

Theoretical Innovation in Criminology

René van Swaeningen (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL) & **Marc Schuilenburg** (VU Amsterdam, NL) (vanswaeningen@law.eur.nl; m.b.schuilenburg@vu.nl)

This article starts off with an exposé of what ‘theoretical innovation’ means in the social sciences. The development of criminology is considered to be a result of (1) historical and cultural developments, (2) political-economic developments, (3) developments in other academic disciplines and (4) reactions to or specifications of other theoretical perspectives in criminology itself. Paradigm shifts in criminology are characterised by an individualistic and positivist aetiological turn in its early days; a sociological turn towards a ‘criminology of the lawmaker’ from the late 1950s on; and a return to positivism in the neoliberal and neoconservative turn of the 1990s. The new century ushers in a new epistemological break in criminology, in which globalisation, global warming, migration, human rights and the implications of cyberspace ‘force’ criminologists to overcome their anthropocentric and colonial character biases.

The ‘Cyborg Crime’ Perspective. Theoretical Innovation in the Digital Age

Wytske van der Wagen (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL) (vanderwagen@law.eur.nl)

This study departs from the notion that current high-tech crime developments bring various new challenges for the rather anthropocentric, instrumental and dualistic theoretical repertoire of criminology. The article reflects on these challenges and proposes the alternative ‘cyborg crime’ perspective. This concept is the result of an explorative research on the theoretical potential of the actor-network theory (ANT) for cybercrime. The study concludes that ANT and the ensuing cyborg crime perspective enables to grasp certain dimensions of cybercrime more profoundly. ANT can move us (criminologists) beyond the classical novelty debate surrounding cybercrime and stimulate theoretical innovation.

Towards a Non Anthropocentric Criminology

Daan van Uhm (Utrecht University, NL) (d.p.vanuhm@uu.nl)

Changing ecological conditions in a globalizing world pose new challenges for human societies. Global warming, large-scale pollution, deforestation and species extinction have increasingly become topics on the international agenda. Even though many of these harmful activities are criminogenic, criminology pays rather little attention to environmental crimes and harms. This presentation discusses the anthropocentric perspective within criminology and argues that a non-anthropocentric criminology can lead to new theoretical insights.

The Anomie of Power Illusions. Infinite Ambitions in the 'Risk and Win' Corporate World

Bas van Stokkom (Radboud University Nijmegen, NL) (b.vanstokkom@jur.ru.nl)

Generally, large listed companies and banks immersed in a 'risk and win'-culture do not have to deal with 'deprivation of resources' which may trigger violations of the law. The anomie-theory of Merton does not seem to fit in this context. It is more obvious that the pressure to realize lofty ambitions is the trigger for potential violations of the law. I therefore work out a 'post-Mertonian' anomie-concept using the 'European Durkheim' to examine some excessive tendencies of an originally American 'risk and win'-culture. The aim is to work towards an anomie-theory of power illusions that makes sense in the context of corporate crime. The leading question is: which anomic attitudes prevail in an over-ambitious corporate culture and which aspirations and rationalizations can be distinguished? It is argued that an approach focused on CEO-personality traits is too limited and that the sociological approaches of Durkheim and Shover offer many points of departure to construct a plausible anomie-theory. The dimensions of that theory have been taken from studies which focus at two criminogenic norm-systems: an 'ethos of winning at any price' and an 'ethos of entitlement'.

Session 13. Global Governance, Institutional Violence and Human Rights Violations

The Greek 'Polis' under Attack: Unrevealing Top-Down and Bottom-Up Political Violence in Times of Crisis

Marilena Drymioti (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL) (drymioti@law.eur.nl)

Despite growing interest on different forms of political violence, most studies in Europe tend to focus on one specific type (from above, from below) or analysis level (micro, macro). This project examines the most prominent forms of political violence that emerged in the period of acute economic recession and political upheaval in Greece (since 2009), showing how these forms of violence developed and interacted in the urban space of Athens. More specifically, attempting to connect the dynamics at macro and micro levels, this research aims to further understand how institutional violence (coming from above) and anti-institutional violence (coming from below) emerge, fluctuate and interact in times of crisis. Through an ethnographic methodology, focusing on observations, content analysis of visual materials, media reporting and document analysis as well as open interviews with stakeholders and experts, I wish to analyse and present eloquent examples and possible theoretical explanations of the violent interaction between the Greek state and its citizens.

Global Governance and Mass Atrocities: Analysing the ICC and R2P

Maartje Weerdesteijn (VU Amsterdam, NL) (m.weerdesteijn@vu.nl)

In 2005 the international community accepted the responsibility to protect (R2P) populations from mass atrocities. The International Criminal Court (ICC) is often referred to as a "tool in the toolbox" of the responsibility to protect. It is not clear, however, how the ICC functions as a tool for the implementation of R2P. Some scholars argue that the relationship between the two is strained and

their association brings forth a risk of politicizing the ICC. Others note that they complement each other because the ICC is tasked with holding perpetrators accountable after episodes of mass atrocity while R2P is focused on preventing mass atrocities and bringing them to a halt. It will be argued here that the relationship between the two mechanisms can be usefully analysed from a global governance perspective. The aim is to assess the extent to which each can be considered part of a global governance regime that facilitates the protection of populations from atrocity crimes. It will be argued that scholars should not only investigate the formal rules, but also the less explicit forms of interaction, at all stages of a conflict.

The Search for Individual Criminal Responsibility in International Fact-Finding: A Welcome Development or Antithetical to its Goals?

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Over the last decades individual criminal responsibility has started to gain a prominent role in many different fact-finding commissions, starting after the Yugoslavia Commission and culminating in the recently set up International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Those Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011. It has been questioned how beneficial a focus on individual criminal responsibility in fact-finding is. Fact-finding commissions as they currently exist do not constitute something that could be considered close to a criminal investigation and generally aren't seen as sufficient basis for prosecution. This raises the question of whether fact-finding commissions should continue further on the path to approximate an actual criminal investigation or whether the focus on individual responsibility has moved fact-finding commissions away from their original aspirations. This paper will look at how fact-finding commission came to adopt this approach and how it has influenced their investigations, reports and especially the acceptance of their reports, thereby determining whether this is a beneficial development.

Session 14. *Researching Crimes of the Powerful*

Comparing Causes of Corruption: the Limits of Conventional Quantitative Methods and a QCA Alternative for International Comparative Research

Alex Stevens (University of Kent, UK) (a.w.stevens@kent.ac.uk)

The aim of this paper is to explore how we can analyse causes of socially harmful behaviour across countries, using the example of corruption. It will discuss how the social causes of corruption (including income inequality, democratic institutions and cultural value orientations) have been analysed through the use of conventional quantitative methods (CQM), including multivariate regression. This will provide an example of the limitations of CQM in analysing complex social process in which causes are likely to be contingent and configurational, rather than independent and additive. The paper will present an alternative, using the methods of qualitative comparative analysis (QCA). This approach is applied to a dataset of 77 countries using Transparency International's corruption perception index with economic and social indicators (including inequality, democracy and value orientations) as potential causes. The QCA results support a 'new institutionalist' understanding of the contingent, configurational effects of inequality, democracy and cultural values as being sufficient to cause high or low levels of perceived corruption (in contrast to the methodologically produced independent effects of variables in CQM). The paper will also discuss remaining problems in the measurement and comparison of corruption and its potential causes, and the continuing importance of detailed, within-case qualitative analysis alongside systematic comparison of complexity across cases.

The Intricacies of Pharmaceutical Industry Influence and the Institutional Corruption of the Medical Profession

Anna Laskai (Utrecht University, NL - ELTE University, Hungary) (a.e.laskai@uu.nl)

Pharmaceutical companies and the industry as a whole are gargantuan in size, multi-national in activity, successful in business, and vital to the global healthcare delivery structure, but these companies are as insidious as they are indispensable. The pharmaceutical industry possesses monopoly over a product of immense value – medication, and ‘Big Pharma’ as a particularly criminogenic enterprise has become less conspiracy and more axiom. Much attention has been paid to crimes of pharmaceutical companies, but some authors claim that were it not for the contribution of doctors, these crimes could not be committed. Being the gatekeepers of human health, the profession of medicine is mandated by social contract, specialized knowledge, authority, and autonomy to promote patient interests in the face of industry financial gain, thereby acting as a countervailing power to pharmaceutical company interests. Not only has medicine failed to do so, but explanations are few and far between, tending to suggest that the abandonment of patient interests is an individual departure from codes of proper medical conduct. This paper will discuss the findings of a 3 year doctoral research conducted in Hungary and the Netherlands, which sought to investigate industry medicine relationships along the pharmaceutical product delivery chain, and explain how undue pharmaceutical industry influence had institutionally corrupted the medical profession by weakening its professional authority and autonomy over medical knowledge production, interpretation, and application.

Researching the Powerful: the European Investment Bank

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This paper aims to contribute to the debate recently proposed by Alvesalo-Kussi and Whyte (2017) on the need to reconstruct social science research ethics in order to undertake meaningful research on the powerful. Drawing on my own fieldwork experience of researching the European Investment Bank in Luxembourg, I will discuss the techniques the Bank uses to avoid scrutiny and reflect on the ethical dilemmas that are presented by researching an institution that attempts to subvert the research process.

Session 15. Eco Crimes

The Crimes of Climate Change Deniers: ‘Global Warming Policy Experts,’ Cultural Hegemony, and the Diffusion of Denial across the Globe

Ruth McKie (De Montfort University, UK) (ruth.mckie@dmu.ac.uk)

As Carter and Woodworth (2017) argue climate change denial can be recognised as one of the most ‘unprecedented crimes’ in history. One specific set of denial actors important to consider are the role of deniers that spread the messages of a hegemonic support for counter movement knowledge. This presentation looks closer at this network of individuals or ‘global warming policy experts’ that spread a cultural hegemonic narrative across countries. They operate and are cited by climate counter movement organisations across several countries. It provides a preliminary empirical analysis of the global spread of these denial actors and how they have infiltrated counter movement organizations across countries. Additionally, it looks at how these organizations adopt specific messaging that may

be guided by the narratives of these global warming policy experts. These messages are explored through a crime and deviance framework connected with the framework of cultural hegemony. The spread of a cultural narrative that is challenged by the dominant shift towards addressing climate change, continues to be disseminated by actors across the globe. Consequently, the actions of such denial actors help minimize and undermine the impacts of climate science, potentially failing to address one of the greatest challenges facing the world.

'This Used to be an Old-Growth Forest': Prison, Ecology, and the Biopolitics of Disposability

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Prisoners, as a 'disposable population' (Giroux 2008), and the unique environmental harms they face still remain under-theorized and empirically under-explored within green criminology (Jewkes and Moran 2015). This paper seeks to draw theoretically on the bio- and necro-political work of Agamben, Mbembe, and Giroux's (2008) conceptualization of the 'biopolitics of disposability' to explore the interconnected ways in which racial capitalism constructs both prisoners and non-human nature as disposable, as literal and figurative 'waste' made to inhabit, drawing from Gilmore (2015), extractive geographies that are both invisibilized and often overlapping. Anecdotally we have evidence that the 'deadly symbiosis' (Wacquant 2001) between the prison-industrial complex and racially constructed American ghettos extends to issues of environmental concern with dozens of prisons built directly atop and adjacent to environmentally toxic land. Thus, in the vein of empirically-grounded environmental justice research this paper will also present the findings of the first environmental-focused geo-spatial and demographic analysis of the United States' prison infrastructure.

Representing Environmental Harm and Resistance in Twitter: The Case of the TAP pipeline in Italy

Anna Di Ronco (University of Essex, UK) (a.dironco@essex.ac.uk)

This research explores a new methodological path for doing green cultural criminological research via social media. It provides original case-study data and aims to stimulate further empirical and theoretical debate. In particular, the study explores how Twitter users have represented the harms related to an ongoing pipeline project in Italy (referred to as TAP), and the resistance to those harms. To these ends, it offers a virtual and visual ethnography of Twitter posts and posted images.

Murdering Animals

Janine Janssen (Avans University of Applied Sciences, NL) (jhlj.janssen@avans.nl)

In this contribution the killing of humans and animals is compared. For the killing of humans we have different categories, for example: homicide, infanticide and femicide. Criminologist Piers Beirne came up with the concept of 'theriocide' for diverse human actions that kill animals, such as factory farming, hunting and blood sports, the trade in wild life, vivisection, militarism and war, pollution and climate change. The aetiology of the concept will be explained and next to that these questions will be addressed: What does this concept of theriocide add to the further development of a non-speciesist criminology? Why do we need such a special concept? What are the advantages? And what about criticism?

Session 16. Innovative Research Methods: Gaining Embodied Knowledge

The Value of Using Arts-Based Methods in Criminological Research with Young People

Thomas Dodsley (University of Derby, UK) (t.dodsley@derby.ac.uk)

This paper presents a philosophically, theoretically and empirically informed rationale for promoting the use of arts-based methods in criminological research with young people. Contextualised within critical and cultural criminological perspectives and underpinned by interpretive phenomenological approaches to social research, the paper discusses the value of performative drama in unearthing rich and meaningful data, fostering democratic research processes and limiting social distance. The paper traces the emergence of performative drama within criminology, before outlining the benefits of its application to criminological issues connected to young people. The substantive discussion promotes the use of performative drama to develop embodied and contextually situated knowledge in the interests of social justice, harm reduction and methodological advancement. The paper positions the discussion within the broader methodological parameters of the discipline of criminology and considers the potential wider application of performative drama and arts-based methods, alongside the challenges and tensions which are commonly associated with such approaches to criminological research.

'Being-in-the-Crime': Reflections on the Use of Phenomenological Research Methods in Criminology

Leá Massé (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL) (masse@law.eur.nl)

Criminology since its inception has primarily been concerned with quantifying facts about crime and findings policy solutions to regulate it. Attempts to formulate theories of crime have thus largely relied on a set of causal explanations that see criminal behavior as either determined by structural contexts or overtly opportunistic. However, such formulations of deviance often seem to ignore one of the most fundamental aspects of criminal transactions: that is, why people commit crime at this specific moment. As Jack Katz observes, "many who do fit the background categories [identified by positivist criminology] and later commit the predicted crime go for long stretches without committing the crimes to which theory directs them". (Katz, 1988:4). Moreover, many types of crime often seem to involve more than mere instrumental motivations. Addressing these limitations, this contribution examines the added value of a methodology of 'being-in-the-crime'. Drawing on interpretive phenomenological work, 'being-in-the-crime' implies an active and compassionate engagement with offenders' meanings of criminal events, an engagement that requires to get as close as possible to the experience itself through immersive research methods that attempt to reconstruct the event as it unfolds through emotions, thinking and actions. Such an orientation aims to look beyond causal explanations of crime to question what it feels, tastes, sounds, and looks like to be caught in the seductive, and sometimes irrational, nature of criminal everyday life.

(Visual) Storytellers in Kosovo: Challenges and Gains Springing from the Cooperation between an Anthropologist and Documentary Photographer

Roos de Wildt (Utrecht University, NL) & **Willem Poelstra** (Independent Documentary Photographer, NL) (R.deWildt@uu.nl; wp@willempoelstra.nl)

We are a documentary photographer and a criminologist who have jointly published a photobook on the aftermath of war in Kosovo that, according to *De Volkskrant*, belongs to one of the fifteen best photobooks published in The Netherlands this year. The images and texts at the core of this book have been shown to a wider public through an exhibition on one of the central squares of Kosovo's

capital Pristina. Finally the images have been integrated in the PhD dissertation of De Wildt on post-war prostitution in Kosovo. This paper shortly introduces our cooperation and subsequently explores the advantages and challenges experienced by the both of us. An example of such an advantage lies in the observation that highly symbolic and stereotypical images of victims of trafficking are often at the core of posters and brochures warning about the dangers of migration and prostitution (Andrijasevic 2007: 42). Together with other empirical studies, the ethnographic work of De Wildt in Kosovo shows that such images rarely correspond with lived experiences but nonetheless impact the ways in which sex industries worldwide are imagined. We challenge such imaginations by portraying respondents in their own accounts and on their own terms. The women decided on their visual representation. This approach feeds into a more visually attuned anthropology, which is accessible to a wider public. These and other gains and challenges will be discussed at the hand of five images.

Session 17. Qualitative Research on Drug Use and Trafficking

Navigating Risk in East Africa: Responses to Injecting Drug Use

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The construction of 'risk' around people who inject drugs (PWID) is built on the intersection of public health concerns and criminalised realities, and is often translated into monitoring the population through various 'responses'. The documentation of and response to injecting drug use in East Africa varies considerably over the region. Kenya and Tanzania have established population estimations on PWID, which has been useful for securing funding and resources for public health interventions including harm reduction initiatives, as well as changes to national policies and legislation in an attempt to respond to, monitor and reduce risk. Until recently, official and community-based acknowledgement of potential risk and response for PWID has been limited or non-existent in Burundi and Uganda. Influential public health donor The Global Fund supported a multi-country grant to develop harm reduction in the region of East Africa in policy, practice, research and advocacy. Drawing on mixed methods research conducted in Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, this presentation will consider the criminological implications of the findings from these four studies. This includes an exploration of PWID's experiences of police violence and corruption, barriers to accessing health and social services, as well as service providers and advocates' challenges and successes developing and delivering harm reduction initiatives under largely resistant or hostile political and legal environments. This presentation is framed within a consideration of how global public health surveillance narratives of 'risky' populations shapes the development, implementation and monitoring of PWID and related services, responses, and research.

Questioning the Symbolic Boundaries between Drug Users

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In cultural, media, academic, treatment and policy discourses, drug users are generally categorized into distinct groups such as recreational, medical, problematic or addicted users. While actively spreading, shaping and creating knowledge, discourses can be seen as discursive practices that establish or maintain unequal power relations. The division between user-groups is institutionally functional and users experience 'morally justified' consequences connected to these assigned identities. Moreover, when substance users reflect on one's own personal identity, they too rely on assumed separating characteristics between different types of users. In a society where substance use is an illegal and still stigmatized practice, a 'proper self' is largely created by narrative means of 'othering' from less acceptable drug using. Formula stories and stigmata about substance use are thus (re)produced by various actors on several levels. This paper tackles the issue of how criminological research has contributed to the affirmation of this widely agreed upon idea, even when (empirically) focussing on the personal experiences and narratives of drug users. Additionally, this paper reflects on

conceptual and methodological opportunities (such as PAR) and puzzling difficulties of challenging the existing symbolic boundaries between drug users.

The Eagles of Mancunia: An Ethnographic Study of Albanian Cocaine Retailers in Manchester

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The National Crime Agency voiced an increasing concern about violent Albanian criminal gangs in its annual assessment of organised crime, warning that “The threat faced from Albanian crime groups is significant having established a high-profile influence within UK organised crime and exercising considerable control across the UK drug trafficking market, their main focus being the violent trade in trafficking cocaine to London” (NCA, 2017: 32). The overall purpose of this study was to conduct ethnographic fieldwork amongst Albanian cocaine entrepreneurs in Manchester, to ascertain the nature of their involvement in its cocaine supply and examine their entrepreneurial and operational conduct. The study found that the geopolitical situation of Albania during its transition from communism constituted a liminal environment in which organised crime became normalised for many of the population. Despite experiencing a high degree of violence and political instability in Albania during this time, the research respondents were in fact averse to any form of operational violence whilst conducting their illegal cocaine retail operation in the UK, and instead demonstrated considerable levels of social versatility by integrating into native friendship circles and establishing social supply networks. The prevailing reputation of a violent Albanian criminality thus appears ill-founded and was also observed to bestow upon our respondents’ considerable social capital with which they could manipulate for their own operational benefit. This study concludes that is imperative for any future research into Albanian cocaine entrepreneurs operating in the UK to acknowledge their capacity to integrate socially and establish themselves amongst native networks as more than anonymous drug suppliers.

‘I Know How You Can Pay Off Your Debt’. The Involvement of Rotterdam Harbour Employees in Drug Trafficking

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Occupational crime by harbour employees and drug-related crime by illegal entrepreneurs in the Rotterdam harbour have been part of the port environment for decades. Since 2001, these two phenomena have become increasingly connected, with harbour employees helping drug entrepreneurs in cocaine smuggling operations. Based on recent qualitative research conducted in the port, this contribution aims to highlight the main factors and developments that have shaped these growing forms of corruption and criminal connections between harbour employees and drug entrepreneurs. Their links have been mainly explained from a ‘rotten apple’ perspective, strongly focusing on negative individual circumstances leading to ‘strain’, like gambling addictions, costly divorces or criminal friends. After presenting an overview on the kind of harbour employees and activities usually linked to occupational crime in the port, we will focus on the factors at micro and macro level that influence or stimulate their involvement in drug operations. A wide range of opportunity structures are found around these employees beyond negative personal circumstances, including professional skills and knowledge, learning opportunities, social pressures and loyalties, and social control deficits. Paradoxically, the port itself stimulates criminal involvement of employees in drug smuggling operations (particularly in the form of corruption) by becoming more ‘secure’ for outsiders: the securitization of the port might imply more criminal involvement of employees in drug trafficking.

Session 18. Sex & Commerce and Its Mediated Representation

Trafficking 2.0. Analysis of Mediated Representation of the Loverboy/CSE Phenomenon

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The issue of trafficking in human beings is complex and there are numerous debates in the field that continue to divide both professional and academic public. Giving voice to advocates of different perspectives, the media has been seen as a facilitator of these debates. This essential function, however, gives the media great power to influence the debate and set the agenda by what they choose to report on, and how. This presentation reflects on the differing mediated representation of human trafficking for sexual exploitation of domestic and foreign citizens in the UK and Dutch media. Drawing upon my doctoral research, it identifies framing devices that position domestic survivors of trafficking as more deserving of pity and intervention. While the Dutch public rhetoric remains focused on the loverboy issue, the discourse in the British public arena introduces a 'new' phenomenon labelled child sexual exploitation. From a legal perspective, both fit the definition of human trafficking. In practice, however, they serve to distinguish between trafficking of domestic underage population and that of adults of foreign origin. The reinvented Trafficking 2.0. rests on hierarchy of pity and stereotypical portrayals of both victims and offenders of human trafficking. The presentation discusses characteristics and implications of such representation and situates it in the socio-political context of migration anxieties and nation state crisis.

A Decriminalized Voluntary Sex Industry Policy in New Zealand; Sex Workers' Perspectives on its Effects and the Influence of the New Zealand Prostitutes' Collective

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In 2003, The New Zealand Parliament accepted the Prostitution Reform Act (PRA) by which the entire voluntary sex industry in this country was decriminalized. The implementation of the PRA marks a significant turning point in the New Zealand's sex industry. Prostitution became recognized as legitimate service work. Moreover, the sex branch became able to operate under the same legal rights as any other occupational service group. This decriminalization policy distinguishes from sex industry policies in other countries in that morality and emotions about prostitution – within its policy-making – have been replaced with pragmatism and rationality. A central focus has been placed on human rights improvements for sex workers – promoting their welfare and occupational health and safety, and protecting them from exploitation – as well as on harm minimization, de-stigmatization, and on promoting public health. In addition to a substantial improvement of the sex workers' working and living conditions, this new sex industry legislation appears to have a material positive impact on mental aspects such as their self-esteem and self-respect. My research particularly investigates the important role of the New Zealand Prostitutes' Collective (NZPC) in the policy making process and gives the floor to the New Zealand sex workers themselves to share their experiences regarding the effects of this unique sex industry policy.

The Silence of the Cams

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At the same time as the legislation pertaining to sex work becomes increasingly abolitionist, an entirely postmodern form of sex work has become economically mainstreamed. I theorise, that a triumvirate of conditions; corporate interest, lack of legislation and its entirely mediated nature forms a boundary, behind which adult content webcamming thrives. I will use the theorising of Deleuze and Guittari to

explore how the creation of a smooth space boundaried by a lack of legislation has seen the development of a multi-billion-dollar corporate sex industry which has attracted only very muted legal, academic and feminist discourses. I will draw on the data that I have analysed from over 40 interviews with female webcam performers and industry executives to explore the notion of boundary and how it is experienced by female webcam performers participating in a post modern form of sexual commerce.

Sense8: Aspiring for 'a Different Story about Difference'

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Through their work in the past two decades, the Wachowskis have repeatedly alluded to issues of sexuality and gender, focusing on the persecution of difference as well as the fight for freedom and diversity. This article attempts to analyze the creators' gaze as revealed in the representations of sexual expression and diversity; and the implications for the construction of a postmodern erotic identity based on the Wachowskis' ambitious television show, Sense8. The premise of the show centers around a cluster of eight deeply connected individuals (the 'sensates') – with vastly different sexual, ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds – who are, nevertheless, able to experience each other's lives and feelings, posing as the ultimate intersectional agent. The significantly ambitious attempt of the Wachowskis to canvass a world with a multiplicity of diversities stumbles upon a number of essentialisms in the process of character building and development, pinpointing to the subjectivity and blind-spots of the creators. Inevitably, matters of sexual diversity and difference hold a pivotal role in the show. The centrality and particularities of the sexual connection and experiences between the sensates marks a point of demarcation from digital connectivity - potentially implying an attempt to circumvent the disembeddedness and fragility of post modernity. This centrality can also be viewed through the lens of a carnival of sexual deviance, supposedly allowing the protagonists and the audience - to revel in the 'second life' of obscenity and celebration. The main quest is to explore the role of sexual expression in Sense8 in order to understand how sexuality and eroticism are negotiated in the series from a cultural and sociological point of view, paying significant attention to the processes of commodification of sexual diversity and freedom in the postmodern scenery.

Session 19. Violent Social Exclusion

Crime and the Social Bond: the Politics and (Dis)Trust in Lagos, Nigeria

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Criminological theorists have overwhelmingly concentrated on why people commit crime; in addition, attention has been called to its economic impact. But is that all the problem with crime? This presentation seeks to explore the often-overlooked effects of crime on the social bond. Concretely, it asks the following question: what happens in a community (neighbourhood, clan, village, etc.) when most crimes committed are not investigated, and when they are, yield no or non-satisfactory conclusions? Based on fieldwork research carried out in populous neighbourhoods of Lagos, Nigeria, from October 2017 to March 2018, I argue that scores of non-investigated crimes often set in motion intra group suspicions and accusations that may precipitate embattled communities further into crisis. In addition, the presentation contends that such reactions have many consequences, including communities-backed lynching of suspected offenders. Complementing Durkheim's insights that collective punishment aims at reaffirming shared norms, the paper further suggests that it also offers many the opportunity to publicly and unequivocally demonstrate their innocence.

In the Thick of Struggle: Violence, Seclusion and Social Suffering in Guatemala City

Timo Peeters (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL) (peeters@law.eur.nl)

In Guatemala, within the space of a few decades, a civil war largely driven by military authoritarian forces has made way for a democracy in which violence diffused into the hands of the masses and gained an increasingly criminal and urban character. Much of the violence roots in poverty, inequality, and exclusion. I have conducted eight months of ethnographic fieldwork on how people in Guatemala City give shape and meaning to their lives in the midst of high levels of violence and structural violence. My research centralizes around five narratives, the protagonists of which all belong to a different level of the city's hierarchical spectrum, ranging from a group of indigents living together on the streets to a wealthy family with a bodyguard at its disposal. In this paper, I will introduce my five narratives and highlight some of the main themes of my research.

Pixação and Police Violence in São Paulo

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In July 2014, two pixadores were murdered by military police officers in São Paulo, Brazil, while they were trying to perform pixação in a residential building. The doorman trapped Ailton and Alex on the top of the building and called police, saying that he suspected a robbery. Police officers came in, and Alex and Ailton were dead a few minutes later. While most of the criminological discussions analyze police violence in Brazil as emanating from a specifically Brazilian context: fragile democracy, relic of military dictatorship, effect of the newly established democratic condition, I argue that while specificities of regional, national and local contexts are key points to understand police violence, it is also important to contextualize critical analysis of police violence in Brazil in the early twenty first century on a macro scale within the political-historical conjuncture of globalized neoliberalism. Drawing upon ethnographical fieldwork conducted in 2014 amongst pixadores in São Paulo, the paper discusses police violence in São Paulo by suggesting that repressive policing of pixação should be critically analyzed taking into account not only local perspectives, but also with regard to similar practices on a global scale.

Session 20. Gendered and Racialised Perceptions on Crime and Justice

On Usual Suspects & Ideal Victims: Gendered and 'Racialised' Perceptions of Trafficking in Minors for Exploitation of Criminal Activities

Brenda Oude Breuil (Utrecht University, NL) (b.oudebreuil@uu.nl)

Trafficking minors in order to profit from their criminal activities – pickpocketing, burglary, shoplifting, drugs production/distribution related activities, or door-to-door scams – is under researched in the Netherlands and abroad. In general, academic study on human trafficking for sexual exploitation far exceeds research on other forms of trafficking (e.g. for labour exploitation, organ harvesting or other forms of slavery or servitude). Moreover, cases of exploitation of minors in criminality oftentimes remain unidentified as forms of human trafficking. Minors being perceived as itinerant, delinquent street youth, 'little scumbags' (Bos *et al.* 2016) or 'criminal vagrants' Terrio (2008) often evoke a penal reaction instead of being recognized as trafficking victims, including receiving the protection measures that go with that label. In this research, conducted in 2015, the phenomenon of trafficking in minors for exploitation of criminal activities in the Netherlands was investigated through a systematic literature review, five case studies of (potential) cases of trafficking in minors for exploitation of criminal activities, and over 50 interviews with social workers, policy makers, law enforcers, prosecutors, NGO

and Child Protection Board employees. The results show that not only is this form of trafficking understudied and under-identified but, moreover, that those cases that are identified are subsequently treated in a biased way. Social workers and law enforcers have stereotypical, 'raced' and gendered images of both perpetrators and victims. These images stigmatize certain (ethnic, itinerant) groups, prevent other groups of victims from being identified, and, finally, may cause minor victims of trafficking to end up completing prison sentences where they should have been legally protected. In conclusion, this study emphasizes a much needed, renewed focus on the characteristics of the phenomenon, instead of the characteristics of offenders and victims.

An Integrated Moral Panic Approach of the Stigma 'Moroccan' in the Netherlands

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This PhD-study presents a reassessment of moral panic theory that has led to the development of a holistic and integrated moral panic approach. This new approach revives the classic moral panic theory as described by Stanley Cohen and Jock Young and enriches it with Goffman's stigma theory. This study also applies this new approach to the societal reactions to Moroccan Dutch youngsters in the Netherlands. First, this approach reveals how incidents involving Moroccan Dutch youngsters are followed by negative societal reactions (from the public, media, government, politicians and other moral entrepreneurs) in public discourse, bearing all signs of a 'classic moral panic' as described by Stanley Cohen and Jock Young in the sixties and seventies. Second, this holistic and integrated approach also shows us how Moroccan Dutch youngsters flexibly, resiliently and creatively use different strategies to cope with the mass stigmatisation caused by moral panics in their daily lives, such as ignoring, adapting, reforming, retreating and resisting.

Hybrid Justice Systems in Fragile States

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This paper aims to explore how citizens navigate hybrid justice systems within fragile states. The focus is on women in Lebanon, including Lebanese and Syrian women, particularly looking at how their experiences of gender-based violence are shaped by multiple security and justice providers, and a plural legal system based on religious sectarianism. The study is qualitative in nature and uses a mixture of purposive and snowball sampling to derive a range of perspectives. Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with a sample that includes female survivors of GBV, power-holders including police, judiciary, and policy-makers, and experts including lawyers and social sector practitioners. This study explores the interaction between religious sectarianism and the justice system in Lebanon with a gendered dimension. Justice-seekers navigate between complex options based on various considerations such as religious affiliation. Experiences of these processes contribute to perceptions of the actor's legitimacy and shape the population's relationship with the given power-holder. Fragile states are understood as "facing particularly severe development challenges: weak institutional capacity, poor governance, and political instability. Often these countries experience ongoing violence as the residue of past severe conflict" (Woolcock, 2014: 3). In hybrid justice systems, the justice sector is a 'hybrid' of state and non-state, or alternative, actors with "overlapping dimensions of governance, authority and power" (Baker and Scheye, 2009: 172). The paper's primary contribution will be to effectively grapple with the empirical reality of hybrid justice systems in fragile states with a religious perspective, and convincingly demonstrate why strategies need to be refitted to address the plural realities of access to justice in the global South.

Closing Keynote Session: *Global Perspectives on Punishment*

New Thinking about Prisons: Global Perspectives on what Constitutes a 'Well-Designed' Prison

Yvonne Jewkes (University of Kent, UK)

Against a backdrop of prison expansion and modernisation in many countries in Europe and around the world, the subject of prison design has never been more salient. More than at any time since the mid to late nineteenth century, prisons are purposefully being designed to be statements of penal philosophy and intent. They remain 'scripted', but their designs communicate a very different narrative to that found in the archetypal nineteenth century gaol. Some governments are using prison architecture and design to denote that they do punishment differently to their near neighbours – in some cases to demonstrate that they are more enlightened and progressive, in others to underline that they remain "tough on crime". In the light of these developments, this lecture will consider some of the most imaginative prison designs that have emerged over the last decade. It will describe the prison design competitions that are held in many countries; how prison architects view the ethical dimensions of the briefs; how prison design commissions work in practice; and why prison designs fail.

Neoliberalism, Post-Neoliberalism and Punishment in South America: Comparative and Southern Perspectives

Máximo Sozzo (National University of the Littoral, Argentina)

In recent years, there has been an important punitive turn in South America that has materialized in important increases in the incarceration rate. For example, in Brazil in 1992 there were 74 prisoners per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2017 that rate reached 317 prisoners per 100,000 inhabitants, a growth of 328% in two and a half decades, which makes it the country with the highest level of incarceration in the region. In other national contexts the growth during this period has been a little less marked, but equally dramatic. One way to explain this punitive turn in South America has been to resort to the "neoliberal penalty thesis" (Lacey, 2013; O'Malley, 2015) as it has been developed by some authors with respect to certain jurisdictions of the Global North, especially the United States (Wacquant, 2009; 2013). It is a narrative of an epochal change that identifies a 'profound cause' in 'neoliberalism' as a political project that limits state intervention in the social field and changes its logic (from welfare to workfare) and expands -in a 'causal and functional' connection - state intervention in the penal field and changes its logic (from rehabilitation to retribution and incapacitation) that is uniform across time and space, within the framework of a globalization that is interpreted as a process of convergence. In this paper I intend to discuss this type of explanation departing from the detailed exploration of national cases of the region that experienced during the last 25 years important processes of political change as a result of the rise of post-neoliberal governmental alliances (Argentina, Venezuela, Brazil and Ecuador) (Sozzo, 2016; 2017; 2018a). The results of this exploration erect, from my point of view, an insurmountable obstacle, for this type of analytical scheme. And it highlights, in more general terms, the need to avoid the old tradition of the acritical adoption of concepts and arguments developed in the Global North to think about the scenarios of the Global South - even if they have a 'critical' orientation - and claims the need for a kind of 'thick' analysis that accounts for the embeddedness of punishment in the history and present of each scenario as a route for its understanding and at the same time for the construction of a more equitable scientific exchange between the Global North and South (Melossi, Sparks and Sozzo, 2011; Carrington, Hogg and Sozzo, 2016; Carrington, Hogg, Scott and Sozzo, 2018; Sozzo, 2018b).