Physical Security Observatory Report *

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http://uctcriminologypolicing.wordpress.com

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**Abstract:** This article will illustrate, by means of three empirical research examples conducted in South Africa, that private security operating in public spaces simultaneously retains ‘traditional’ private security mentalities of loss prevention as well as ‘traditional’ state policing mentalities of crime control and coercion. This adoption of either state or corporate mentalities and technologies is fluid, interchangeable and by no means mutually exclusive, befitting the nature of daily security activities as well as the expectations generated from policing that space. In this way, private security is evolving in its application of diverse policing mentalities in its management and interpretation of public ‘space’; in its ability to wield power both symbolically and actually and; in its tendency to adopt a variety of crime control and social ordering techniques.

Available at: [http://crj.sagepub.com/content/10/3/287.abstract](http://crj.sagepub.com/content/10/3/287.abstract)


**Abstract:** Accepting that there is much confusion in current debates about the use of public-private partnerships for public infrastructure projects, the article begins by considering the emergence of the ‘PPP phenomenon’ as a ‘governance scheme’ and as a ‘language game’. The existence of several types of so-called PPPs, and motives for them, is noted, as are criticism of loose assumptions about them in the debates. The argument then focuses on private finance initiative (PFI) schemes as one branch of cross-sectoral mixing arrangements, and examines the benefits and costs of using this mechanism. The conclusion is a pessimistic one: in the PFI arrangement, the potential for the interests of the advocating government and the business partners to dominate over the public interest has been palpable. There is an urgent need to explore further the merit of these infrastructure ‘partnerships’ to ensure that they do advance the public interest.

Available at: [http://www3.interscience.wiley.com](http://www3.interscience.wiley.com)


**Abstract:** Efforts to analyse and describe the ever more salient phenomenon of private security have promoted the creation of certain neologisms, such as ‘parapolice’ and ‘quasipolice’, to capture the notion that this privatized, commodified variant of uniformed social control is not ‘police’ and must be contrasted with legitimate sources of governance. However, even though such critical insights are often accompanied by or in service to empirical investigations of private security, the focus of these has rarely been the perspectives of workers in
private security, and their own specific orientations to themselves vis-a-vis police. Through inspection of open-ended interviews with 29 security officers, all employed in Canadian shopping malls, as well as analysis of narratives from online forums, this paper seeks to uncover how security personnel construe themselves relative to police. Findings suggest that interviewees recognize and appreciate fundamental differences between police and security, but also that they report, in nuanced and unanticipated ways, import overlaps and even interdependencies between their tasks and those of the police.


Abstract: Over the past four decades, the Mozambican capital city of Maputo has undergone rapid changes. Although still governed by the (formerly socialist) party that inherited the city from a collapsing Portuguese colonial state in 1975, postsocialist Maputo recasts disparities in class and power. This paper negotiates these fractures, based on two walking transects through the central areas of the city conducted by the coauthors. Initially informed by ‘psychogeography’ literatures on negotiating and representing cities, these were supplemented by and enacted through a focus on security and policing. While the state uses police to secure vital interests, other sites and spaces experience limited policing. To bridge this security gap, commercial and ad hoc security providers are contracted to secure private homes and enterprises. We describe an increased and uneven commoditisation of security. The security landscape of central Maputo thus comprises a complex patchwork of privately secured micro enclaves that relay and rework enclaving on larger scales.

Available at: http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=a43122


Abstract: This article investigates uniformed patrols called ‘ambassadors’ that are increasingly providing security in the cores of western cities. An analysis of texts and interviews with key institutional actors in three cities reveals ambassador operations and practices are shaped and made possible by relations with police that entail exchanging knowledge for limited training and tacit tolerance. Ambassadors are imagined remaining distant from police and private security self-designations, operations and appearances to the benefit of police and downtown business-oriented associations, but not so remote as to lose vital benefits of these links. Ambassador practices include acting as police ‘eyes and ears’ and governing ‘nuisance’ using indirect and unauthorised strategies. In these arrangements ambassadors are not so much ‘steered’ by police as they are ‘anchored’, suggesting notions of ‘networked governance’ and government ‘at a distance’ while otherwise valuable approaches are inappropriate here. Making sense of ambassador practices
and relations with police is better accomplished through reference to a lower level 'clean and safe' rationality that constitutes ambassadors as both its agents and targets.

Available at:
http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a924805847~db=all~jumptype=rss


**Abstract:** The employment of private security guards has increased in many European countries in recent decades and the Netherlands is no exception. However, despite large increases in the growth of the private security industry, little is known about how the public perceives agents of private policing and their role in crime prevention and enhancing the public’s sense of safety. In this paper we examine public perceptions of private security personnel. More specifically, we examine citizens’ attitudes toward the nature of security guards’ work, their relationship with public police, and their level of satisfaction with private police services. Findings suggest that, on the whole, Dutch citizens have mixed opinions about private security guards. Nonetheless, contrary to what is often assumed about the public image of private security, findings also suggest that respondents tend not to view the nature of security guards’ work and their professionalism in purely negative terms. Contact with security guards was a key predictor of satisfaction with guard services.

Available at:
http://euc.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/7/3/214
Community Policing


Abstract: In the present paper we examine the operation of a community policing programme that facilitates reporting of victimisation by homeless victims of crime through the assistance of local community service providers. Using data from two sources our original study of Homeless Remote Reporting in 2003 and a follow-up evaluation conducted in 2008 we examine the extent to which this programme offers a viable model for policing outreach to homeless communities. Based on stakeholder feedback, we conclude that despite positive endorsements of the programme, this is a programme that is largely defunct because of a lack of leadership. The police have abdicated responsibility for its operation and community groups are unable to assume the responsibility. What we draw from the example that this programme provides is that innovative collaborative modes of governance must take into account 'the unbearable lightness of community' and thus the necessity of state actors maintaining active leadership roles.

Available at: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a921248081~db=all~jumptype=rss


Abstract: Community policing and Compstat are two of the most popular policing reforms in the USA and abroad, but little attention has been paid to how these reforms work together when implemented in the same police organization and whether they could be more fully integrated. Using fieldwork data from site visits to seven police agencies in the USA, this paper addresses this issue. Our principal finding that these reforms operated largely independently suggested to us that there were opportunities for making them work more closely with one another in ways that promise greater benefits than having them operate separately. We provide an empirical basis for the paper’s major purpose, namely to make four key recommendations for integration. The primary purpose of our proposals is to challenge policy makers, practitioners, and scholars to reconsider the current relationship between Compstat and community policing and conceive of more innovative approaches to their co-implementation.

Available at: http://policing.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/4/2/182
Police-Academic Collaboration


**Abstract:** There has been increasing recognition in Australia of the potential for collaborative research relationships between police and academics. Despite significant improvements in partnership arrangements and research outcomes, however, it would be naïve to suggest that the working relationship is always smooth. Drawing on the author’s personal experiences and understanding of working with police, this article considers the views of both police and academics working together. It suggests that continuous communication, negotiation, and understanding where the other party sits are crucial to productive working relationships.

**Available at:**
http://policing.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/4/2/139


**Abstract:** In this article, the authors outline their experiences of working together on a major change programme in Norfolk Constabulary that required radical re-structuring and cultural change. They describe why police/academic collaborations are beneficial, the critical tensions inherent in such partnerships, and what they regard as the prerequisites for academics and police successfully ‘joining forces’.

**Available at:**
http://policing.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/4/2/95


**Abstract:** In this article, the authors argue that collaborations between police practitioners and academic researchers are challenging due to differences in perspective, method and culture. Consequently, such collaborations are infrequent and tenuous, thereby inhibiting knowledge sharing between the two fields. The authors’ experience is that while these relationships can prove innovative and rewarding, they can also occur in unplanned ways and may have unexpected outcomes. The methodology of action research, which equally values the perspectives of practitioners and researchers as they jointly analyze and address problems, can be a useful tool for managing the inherent challenges of collaborative inquiry. This paper describes a case study that used this approach for a police organizational development project and serves as an illustration of its implementation and outcomes.
Available at:

http://policing.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/4/2/104


Abstract: In this article, Sue discusses her experiences with ANZPAA and its aims. The article acknowledges that police and the research community do not always work well together, and there are a number of cultural, process, and contractual issues that can get in the way of effective partnerships. However, research, policy, and practice in policing are dependent on one another. Through engaging in collaborative research, policing can learn from the outcomes and also potentially evidence and underpin its legitimacy. This paper examines the issues and makes suggestions for future partnerships with the research community.

Available at:

http://policing.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/4/2/146
Policing Mega-Events


Abstract: South Africa’s hosting of the 2010 FIFA World Cup has raised critical debates relating to the ability of developing countries to successfully host events of this magnitude. Yet some cities in South Africa have indicated an interest in bidding for the Olympic Games in the future, including Cape Town, which was one of the cities that bid in 2004. This article examines the opportunities and challenges that a South African city willing to bid for and host the Games is likely to face. Furthermore, current experiences linked to South Africa’s preparation for the 2010 FIFA World Cup are considered, and these relate to political aspects, infrastructural considerations as well as developmental and legacy imperatives.

Available at:
http://ajol.info/index.php/ai/article/view/51215


Abstract: In Discipline and Punish Foucault famously declares that “our society is one not of spectacle, but of surveillance.” Our theoretical aim in this paper is to problematize Foucault’s strict demarcation between spectacle and surveillance through an analysis of urban mega events. In the process, we detail emerging features of contemporary mega-events that shape and are shaped by shifts in the field of security and surveillance more broadly. Three dynamics in particular warrant consideration: the move toward a precautionary logic among security planners, a “semiotic shift” wherein security iconography is integrally bound up with the production of contemporary urban spectacles, and various forms of security and surveillance legacies that circulate beyond the spatial and temporal frame of the event itself. While mega-events support Foucault’s assertion of the dispersal of discipline across the social field, they also suggest that this dispersal occurs in concert with, not in spite of, the power of the spectacle in contemporary society.

Available at:
http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/bpl/ips/2009/00000003/00000003/art00001

**Abstract:** One of the key challenges for the 2010 World Cup Local Organising Committee and the national government is to provide adequate safety, security and policing to the expected 350,000 international football tourists who are likely to attend the event. Numerous policy frameworks have been put in place. These are briefly discussed as background to empirical findings from a survey among 171 foreign visitors to the country in July 2007. The survey investigated visitors' opinions and perceptions about the safety of South Africa as a tourist destination, prior to and after a visit to South Africa. This was set against the global perception of the country as crime-ridden. The prospects for hosting the World Cup within a climate of fear of crime and in the context of a high-risk perception of safety and security present significant challenges. This paper argues that the 2010 World Cup is an ideal opportunity to address the situation regarding crime in the country and that it may have positive (or negative) spin-offs beyond 2010. The survey found that foreign visitors to South Africa did have a negative perception about safety and security prior to their visit. However, at the end of their visit this perception changed somewhat for the better. Visitors are also keen to recommend the country to other people. Perceptions and opinions on crime in South Africa and fear of crime tend to be fuelled in an environment of highly ambiguous and politicised crime reporting and the compilation of crime statistics.

Available at:

[http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a792242671~db=all~jumptype=rss](http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a792242671~db=all~jumptype=rss)


**Abstract:** In the post-9/11 context, security issues have become increasingly central to the hosting of sport mega-events (SMEs). Security budgets for events like the Olympic Games now run into billions of dollars. This article seeks to advance the emerging field of SME security research in substantive and analytical terms. We identify three sets of issues and problems that are taking shape within this field: first, comparative issues in relationship to the Global North and Global South, notably given the growing number of SMEs set to be staged in the Global South; second, various risks and security strategies that are specific to different SMEs, including perceived terrorist threats, spectator violence, and broader risks associated with poverty, social divisions, and urban crime; and third, the security legacies that follow from SMEs, such as new surveillance technologies, new security-focused social policies, and security-influenced urban redevelopment. We argue that future research into SME security governance should be underpinned by a synthetic theoretical framework.

This framework brings together three particular strands: first, a sociological approach that explores the “security field,” drawing in part on Bourdieu; second, critical urban geographical theory, which contextualizes security strategies in relationship to new architectures of social control and consumption in urban settings; and third, different strands of risk theory, notably in regard to reflexive modernization, governmentality, and cultural sociological questions.

**Abstract:** Of primary concern to the Local Organising Committee (LOC), and other associated 2010 FIFA World Cup partners, is the safety and security of local and international tourists attending 2010 FIFA World Cup football games in South Africa. For this purpose, place-specific stadium precinct plans are proposed per identified concentric ‘zone’ around each stadium. But what is the theoretical and informational base of this strategy? Moreover, can this strategy be sustained after the tournament or utilised in future sporting events at these stadiums? In this paper the authors argue that such a safety and security strategy should be informed by a comprehensive localised theory on crime and crime management in the country. Three important crime-related issues are investigated in this paper that we believe should form the backbone of such a strategy and associated theory: the location and propensity of crime, the location of offenders in the city, and the perceptions of local residents and users. The authors demonstrate the compilation of such an information triad with reference to the Loftus Versfeld stadium in Tshwane.

**Available at:**
http://www.springerlink.com/content/x4687287155m3074/

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**Abstract:** This paper reflects on the trajectory that urban development associated with the 2010 Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup has taken in South Africa. The argument suggests that a unique moment has been lost regarding the ability of the World Cup to serve as a catalyst for urban development. This notion is supported by a digest of the international literature which takes a cautious stance in its assessment of the benefits of mega-events. Hence, this paper posits that it is unlikely that poverty alleviation, as a result of fast-tracking South Africa’s urban development impetus, will constitute a significant outcome of the World Cup. Rather, development benefits in cities are likely to be fairly circumscribed. Legacy, the paper argues, should therefore advance beyond an exclusively pro-poor language. In this regard, vigorous public debate is required to arrive at a national consensus of what kind of legacy the 2010 FIFA World Cup is realistically able to achieve.

**Available at:**
http://www.springerlink.com/content/921022r6706111i17/

**Abstract:** The FIFA World Championships 2006 in Germany have been praised for their positive atmosphere and described as a ‘fairy tale’. Yet, more than 9000 persons were arrested. This paper presents an analysis of police tactics and deployments and their relation to the frequency of incidents and the group relations between fans and between fans and police. Data collection was carried out within three host cities in North Rhine-Westphalia in relation to 10 games of the tournament, drawing on a combination of structured and qualitative observational methods. The outcomes are mixed. Group relations were mostly positive, indicated by positive interaction between fan groups; however, frequency of incidents and arrests suggest that the tournament was not as peaceful as the media coverage may have implied. Deeper analyses suggest that legitimate group relations and positive fan behaviour were associated with differentiated policing, carried out in relation to the situational context and the actual risk present.

Available at: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a921996858~db=all~jumptype=rss

Steinberg, Johnny. We Could be Each Other’s Safety Zones. *Times Live*. Jul 31, 2010 (10:10 am).

**Extract:** Staging the World Cup triggered all sorts of fantasies. Before the tournament began, some people imagined that visiting soccer fans would be knifed and shot and robbed blind. When our streets, instead, became carnivals, filled with laughter and goodwill, we imagined that they could always be this way, if only the police and other officials tried this hard all the time. Both of these visions were based on misjudgments, and both made precisely the same error. Those who thought that soccer fans would be picked off the streets by predators did not think hard enough about their own lives. In our daily existence, the moments in which middle-class South Africans feel unsafe are, in fact, very rare.

Available at: http://www.timeslive.co.za/sundaytimes/article578935.ece/We-could-be-each-others-safety-zones
General


Abstract: In this article we explore how much state is necessary to make governance work. We begin by clarifying concepts of governance and the “shadow of hierarchy” and we follow this clarification with a brief overview of empirical findings on governance research in developed countries. We then discuss the dilemmas for governance in areas of limited statehood, where political institutions are too weak to hierarchically adopt and enforce collectively binding rules. While prospects for effective policymaking appear to be rather bleak in these areas, we argue that governance research has consistently overlooked the existence of functional equivalents to the shadow of hierarchy. We assert that governance with(out) government can work even in the absence of a strong shadow of hierarchy, we identify functional equivalents to the shadow of hierarchy, and we discuss to what extent they can help overcome issues of legitimacy and effectiveness in areas of limited statehood.

Available at:
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/117994570/home?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0


Abstract: In the latter half of 2008, proposals emerged from the Home Office for the creation of a completely new elected office in England and Wales, the Crime and Policing Representative. These were to be directly elected and would chair Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) in England and Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Wales, as well as automatically become members of the police authority. However, before the proposals were even debated in parliament they were dropped because of concerns extremist parties may win them. This article presents findings from interviews with a range of councillors, police officers and other officials working with or for CDRPs/CSPs in a representative mix of authorities. It shows that although extremist parties winning were a concern there were many more compelling reasons to reject this policy. The article ends with a brief discussion of alternative proposals that could be considered.

Available at:

Abstract: The shooting of Jean-Charles de Menezes at Stockwell tube station in 2005 raised acute issues about operational practice, legitimacy, accountability and policy making regarding police use of fatal force. It dramatically exposed a policy, amounting to “shoot to kill”, which came not from Parliament but from the non-statutory ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers). This vital and timely book unravels these complex and often misunderstood matters with a fresh look at firearms practice and policy in a traditionally “unarmed” police service. It is essential reading for all those interested in the state’s role in defining coercion and in policing a democracy.

Available at:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Books/s?ie=UTF8&rh=n%3A266239%2Cp_27%3A Maurice%20Punch&field-author=Maurice%20Punch&page=1


Abstract: The decision to establish a continental peacekeeping capability in Africa is linked to the United Nations Protocol on Peace and Security, which requires regional economic communities to have peacekeeping forces. A 15-member Peace and Security Council (PSC) was established in July 2004 and given responsibility for decisions on conflict prevention. The PSC was to be complemented by an African Standby Force (ASF) consisting of five brigades, one for each of the five regional economic communities (RECs). As envisioned, each of the five brigade-level forces of the ASF will be supported by police and other civilian capacities. This chapter focuses on the police component. After discussing the importance of initial and ongoing training of police for peacekeeping, the chapter examines recent development in the peacekeeping role of African police. The expansion of the peacekeeping capacity of police in African countries has led to new opportunities for cooperation and interaction among police agencies. The international community provides technical assistance through advice, support, expertise, and financial resources. The international rules, principles, and operational strategies linked to peacekeeping provide the template for developments in policing in African countries. The degree to which professional policing is institutionalized with respect for human rights and due process will depend on a variety of political, economic, and institutional factors. At the current stage, it is clear that peacekeeping has become the context within which Africa’s police have a role to play that is likely to influence the predisposition of police institutions at national levels.

Available at: