„Violence against the police“ – Police Culture – Citizen‘s Rights

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Content

• Preface
• Learning the use and the avoidance of coercive force
• „Violence“ as violence of the others
• Police Violence and the victim-discourse
General Hypotheses

- Police have not enough professional knowledge on how to deal with exhausted or „strange“ people respectively with unexpected or „new“ situations except of force.
- Thus, I see the „violence-against-the–police“-campaign as a avoidance) of learning new ways of interaction and to rest in traditional behavior.
Learning coercive force

- Police-education, i.e. theory as part of the official police-culture, aims to avoid the use of physical force as long as possible.

- Real contact and handling with „violence on the street“ is part of the cop culture – which takes place in real work and which is (more or less) part of the physical training
Era of smart policing

• Improving the relationship between police and public („Bürgerpolizei“)
• „Community Policing“
• New Police Guidelines („Leitbilder“)
• Gender-Relations and criticism of „male“-policing (repression-paradigm; dominance and submission, bi-polar policing)
• Victim-oriented policing
• It was not the era for „real cops“ but for „smart cops“
Change in policing?

• „Atmosphere“ in the Police gets more „rough“ since several years (?)

• Police unions called police officers as „victims“ not as „professionals“ much less as „heros“.

• If the public have pity on a „victimised police-force“ – this leads to an de-professionalisation of the police
Conclusion

- The dominant “victim-discours“ avoids to analyse the mechanisms of the dynamics of violence.
- Self-awareness changes from „professional calmness“ to „defensive solidarity“ (Ohlemacher)
- More violence among the police
Thank you for listening