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Session: Public perception of police and police work 11. September 2013

POLICE USE OF FORCE

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Images
Die Polizisten tragen im Kampfmontur.
Illegitimate Use of Force

Situations and Standard Explanations
Typology of Violence
Confrontational tension, Escalation and Violence
Standard Explanations

- Personality
- Broken Home
- Biographies of violent offenders
- Discrimination/ migrant background
- Masculinity/ Male Violence
- „The Society“: Desintegration, Individualization, Modernization
Violence: Differences

Typology: Situations of Violence (Collins)
Violence as Entertainment
Ritual and Rules: Martial Arts Confrontations
Incompetent Violence
Attacking the Weak
Violence: Enjoy!
Stage, Sports et cetera
Methodology

- Technology of recording (digicams)
- In combination with skill of „analyst‘s view“
- Recordings
- Reconstructions
- Observation
- Best findings: combination of methods
Police Violence

• “Police violence... is like other kinds of violence“...“...most of the people avoid violence.“ (Randall Collins)
• Use of Force (US Studies): 5-8%
• Excessive Use of Force: less than 2%
Code (Wall) of Silence

- Loyalty
- Isolation
- Consequences of Whistle blowing for colleague(s)
- Police is a professional culture based on secrecy and keeping of secrets
- Transparency in case of abuse
- Inside/Outside?
Control/ reduction of illegitimate use of force by police officers

- Transparency without dobbing in (treason)
- „Secrecy“/Isolation results in WoS
- Tranparency is prevention of violence
- Delagation of reporting; letters to superiors: „We feel obliged to inform you about an incident...“
- H. Omer: Ecology of Violence is changed