

# Abstracts

## **Entangling Intentionality: Reflections on Torture and Structure**

Ergün Cakal

Torture, as structural violence, can be inflicted slowly, routinely, and undramatically. It implicates, instrumentalizes, and entangles both individual and institutional agents, and must be viewed as emerging from a complex apparatus responsible for its instigation and infliction. Failing this, we fail to attend to torture's totality, particularly for the purposes of its socio-legal analysis. Leaving directness or explicitness of torturous acts of the individual behind (although equally important), a focus on the insidious and structural is warranted. This requires looking beyond individual and toward institutional logics, thus turning to systemic and systematic aspects. This article will discuss the implications emerging from such doctrinal individual centrality, as epitomized by the element of intentionality, a constitutive element of torture under Article 1 of the UN Convention against Torture. Then, it will endeavor to shift perspective from perpetrating individuals to perpetrating institutions, taking the denial of health care in Egyptian prisons as a case study through which to illustrate these dynamics.

## **Carving the Terrain of Freedom: The Multidimensionality of Youth-Focused Abolition Geography**

Kaitlyn Selman

Ruth Wilson Gilmore describes abolition as “a plot against racial capitalism, which is all capitalism, not just some of it.” Inspired by such an articulation, this article draws on the ideas and efforts of abolitionist youth organizations across the US to “plot” the dimensions, narratives, and geographies of abolitionist work. Here I focus on the horizontality, verticality, and depth of the abolitionist project: abolition is horizontal as it requires and facilitates solidarity across people and communities, vertical as it deftly navigates multiple scales, and it is deep as it seeks to transcend the temporal limitations of linear progress. In exploring these dimensions, I demonstrate how abolition embodies the complexity required for the creation of new worlds.

### **Violent Symbiosis: The History of CCJ's Role in Legitimizing Racialized Police Violence**

Ryan Phillips, Brian Pitman & Stephen T. Young

The protests fueled by the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor during the summer of 2020 provided another catalyst for conversations about racialized police killings in the United States. For at least the second time in a decade, the nation's attention shifted toward calls for police reforms. However, any real conversation about resolving racialized police violence must contextualize the role of Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCJ) in legitimizing police and perpetuating harm. Through a historical analysis we seek to demonstrate the symbiotic link between CCJ and police. By tracing August Vollmer's early role in the development of the field to the current state of funding and research, we demonstrate that CCJ is inextricably linked to racialized police violence.

### **"Oscar Did Not Die in Vain": Revelous Citizen Journalism, Righteous/Riotous Work, and the Gains of the Oscar Grant Moment in Oakland, California**

César "che" Rodríguez

This article examines the first month of the Oscar Grant moment in Oakland, California—January 2009—as the first episode in a broader pattern of popular mobilizations within the United States during the past decade against police violence. This moment disrupted the cultural and juridical strategies that law enforcement officers and agencies who harm, maim, and kill people use to produce impunity. Revelers turned citizen-journalists broke the cultural production of police impunity, as they produced and shared impromptu video footage that neutralized the information management and narrative framing strategies that law enforcement officers and agencies normally deploy to exonerate themselves. In turn, people resisted via mass mobilizations, direct actions, and rebellions, which broke the juridical production of police impunity, as government officials in local and federal government reacted by conceding the historic arrest and incarceration of a law enforcement officer for an on-duty murder. Furthermore, this intense period of activism forced rare modicums of transparency and reforms of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) police department. Ultimately, this manuscript aims to intervene in journalistic and popular repudiations of popular struggle, particularly rebellions, as well as despondent analytical

tendencies within academia by illustrating how people in struggle broke police impunity through a litany of actions, from impromptu citizen journalism, mass mobilization, and community organizing to open rebellion.

**Unraveling the School Punitive Web: The School-to-Prison Pipeline in the Context of the Gendered Shadow Carceral State**

Andrea Román Alfaro & Jerry Flores

Education researchers and policymakers popularized the school-to-prison pipeline metaphor to understand the connection between school failure and youth incarceration in the United States. However, the metaphor has been criticized for simplifying schools' role in creating and enlarging the carceral state. Based on Latina girls' experiences attending a community day school in California, this study shows how alternative education programs facilitate the annexation of schools within the criminal justice system, enclosing Latina girls in a gendered web of punitive threads. Alternative education and its programs are best understood as shadow carceral innovations that expand the carceral state beyond prison walls.